

MAR 03 2020

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO EVALUATE KUAKINI HIGHWAY BETWEEN HENRY STREET AND KAMEHAMEHA III ROAD ON HAWAI'I ISLAND AND CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY REGARDING TRAFFIC REDUCTION BY WIDENING THE HIGHWAY OR OTHER ALTERNATIVE MEANS.

1 WHEREAS, the island of Hawai'i is experiencing growth in
2 population and as an effect, an increase in difficulties
3 generated by a significant growth in traffic; and
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5 WHEREAS, vehicle traffic on Kuakini Highway between Lako
6 Street and Kamehameha III Road on Hawai'i island typically causes
7 traffic jams lasting several consecutive hours in the mornings
8 and evenings; and
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10 WHEREAS, North Kona's population spiked by almost four
11 thousand people to nearly forty-two thousand total from 2010
12 through 2016, causing additional traffic on Kuakini Highway; and
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14 WHEREAS, relieving the bottleneck where the Queen Kaahumanu
15 and Kuakini Highways merge is necessary for the community's
16 safety because of the amount of traffic that moves through that
17 area; and
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19 WHEREAS, easing traffic at one of Kona's most frustrating
20 pinch points on Kuakini Highway between Henry Street and
21 Kamehameha III Road is in the best safety and public welfare
22 interests of the State; now, therefore,
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24 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
25 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the
26 Department of Transportation is requested to evaluate Kuakini
27 Highway between Henry Street and Kamehameha III Road on Hawai'i
28 island and conduct a feasibility study regarding traffic
29 reduction by widening the highway or other alternative means;
30 and
31



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in exploring other alternative
 2 means of traffic reduction, the Department of Transportation is
 3 requested to consider repainting traffic lanes from fourteen
 4 feet to ten feet; and

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 6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 7 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation and
 8 Mayor of the County of Hawai'i.

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OFFERED BY:

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