## S.R. NO. 97

MAR 1 2 2021

## SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, TO DEVELOP A STRATEGY TO IMPLEMENT A BACK TAX WAIVER PROGRAM IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU.

WHEREAS, the problem of motor vehicles abandoned on Hawaii's roads and highways has become an epidemic; and

WHEREAS, of the 1,267,136 registered motor vehicles in the State in 2018, approximately sixty-three percent were registered in the City and County of Honolulu; and

WHEREAS, traffic congestion in Honolulu consistently ranks as among the worst in the nation and is made worse by the presence of abandoned motor vehicles on the State's highways; and

WHEREAS, the high cost of motor vehicle registration taxes and fees is a primary contributor to the abandonment of motor vehicles in the State; and

WHEREAS, a back tax waiver program to waive unpaid or partially unpaid motor vehicle registration taxes and fees would help to reduce the rate of motor vehicle abandonment and unregistered motor vehicle use in the State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, that the Department of Transportation, in conjunction with the City and County of Honolulu, is requested to develop a strategy to implement in the City and County of Honolulu a back tax waiver program to waive unpaid or partially unpaid motor vehicle registration taxes and fees that are six or more months past due; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any recommended legislation, to

the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation and Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu.

OFFERED BY: Kurt Ferella