S.C.R. NO. 146

MAR 1 1 2022

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON GREEN TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE.

WHEREAS, taxpayers repeatedly identify transportation infrastructure as one of the most significant and deserving recipients of taxpayer monies; and

WHEREAS, climate change poses a serious threat to the State's economy, sustainability, and natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the effects of climate change have made implementing sustainable design concepts more critical, as each passing year has seen increased temperatures and other impacts from climate change; and

WHEREAS, sustainable design concepts for transportation and public infrastructure incorporate green vegetation and trees to decrease urban temperatures, reduce carbon emissions, improve air quality, and capture water to replenish the water table; and

WHEREAS, Act 131, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, requires the Department of Transportation, when planning, designing, and implementing ground transportation infrastructure, to endeavor to:

- (1) Reduce carbon emissions and greenhouse gasses to meet state renewable portfolio standards established in section 269-92, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and zero emissions clean economy by 2045 pursuant to section 225P-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
- (2) Reduce urban temperatures by incorporating tree canopy and foliage over hardened surfaces; and
- (3) Beautify public infrastructure; and

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WHEREAS, understanding the landscape of international efforts to green transportation and public-infrastructure can assist the Department of Transportation and other state agencies with green infrastructure plans to combat climate change; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislative Reference Bureau, in consultation with the Department of Transportation, is requested to conduct a study on best practices and successful efforts to green transportation- and public-infrastructure in jurisdictions outside of Hawaii; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study is requested to include:

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(1) A survey of successful efforts in other jurisdictions to green transportation- and public-infrastructure; and

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(2) An analysis of the procedural steps necessary for the State and counties to green existing and planned transportation- and public-infrastructure; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2023; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is requested to provide statistics and other information as may be requested by the Legislative Reference Bureau to assist in the timely completion of the study; and

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