

MAR 11 2022

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# SENATE RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO INCREASE LOCAL FUNDING FOR METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS AND TO PURSUE FURTHER FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES UNDER THE FEDERAL BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW.

1 WHEREAS, the cost of building and maintaining  
2 infrastructure is one of the most costly annual expenses to the  
3 State of Hawaii; and  
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5 WHEREAS, the new Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will  
6 provide an injection of federal funding that creates an  
7 opportunity for the State of Hawaii to reduce the cost of  
8 building new infrastructure; and  
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10 WHEREAS, much of the new federal money will come in the  
11 form of new or expanded programs, formula funding, and  
12 discretionary grants, which will require additional resources to  
13 apply for and manage; and  
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15 WHEREAS, planning is an essential part of the federal  
16 funding process and deemed necessary by the federal government  
17 to take advantage of certain funding opportunities; and  
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19 WHEREAS, Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) are  
20 essential in the process of receiving federal funding for  
21 infrastructure projects; and  
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23 WHEREAS, pursuant to federal law, U.S. Code Title 49  
24 Chapter 5303(h)(1), MPOs have broad authority with respect to  
25 planning infrastructure; and  
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27 WHEREAS, the MPOs in the State of Hawaii have traditionally  
28 been understaffed when compared with other MPOs across the  
29 United States and in relation to the importance of their role,  
30 as such the State has lost potential opportunities to receive  
31 additional federal funding for infrastructure projects; now,  
32 therefore,  
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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first  
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022,  
3 that the Department of Transportation is requested to increase  
4 local funding for Metropolitan Planning Organizations in order  
5 to pursue additional discretionary funding opportunities  
6 resulting from the new Federal Bipartisan Infrastructure Law;  
7 and  
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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
10 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation and  
11 Executive Directors of all local Metropolitan Planning  
12 Organizations in the State of Hawaii.  
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OFFERED BY:

Bennette J. Minikawa

