

JAN 25 2023

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO IMPROVE ACCESS OF
THEBUS IN OAHU'S RURAL COMMUNITIES.

1 WHEREAS, TheBus is the primary public transportation
2 service on Oahu, with residents using the service to take
3 approximately one hundred thirteen thousand trips each day; and
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5 WHEREAS, the important service provided by TheBus is
6 especially necessary for residents of Oahu's rural communities,
7 many of whom reside far away from schools, places of employment,
8 and locations that provide essential goods and services, and
9 rely on TheBus to access these places; and
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11 WHEREAS, for senior citizens, persons with disabilities,
12 and low-income residents living in rural areas, utilizing TheBus
13 may be the only means to obtain groceries, access healthcare
14 services, or get to work; and
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16 WHEREAS, TheBus also provides lifesaving transportation
17 services during times of disaster, allowing individuals living
18 in vulnerable areas to evacuate and access shelters and
19 services; and
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21 WHEREAS, although TheBus operates one hundred seven
22 different routes throughout the island, there are still portions
23 of the City and County of Honolulu that have limited access to
24 TheBus's services, especially in Oahu's rural communities; and
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26 WHEREAS, for example, TheBus does not currently service the
27 Kapilina Beach Homes residential community in Ewa Beach, which
28 is located within an extreme tsunami evacuation zone; and
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30 WHEREAS, currently, residents of the Kapilina Beach Homes
31 community who wish to access TheBus's services must walk two
32 miles each way to reach the nearest bus stop; and
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34 WHEREAS, this long walk may make it impossible for
35 individuals with mobility issues to access bus services; and
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S.R. NO. 5

1 WHEREAS, middle school and high school students who live in
2 the Kapilina Beach Homes community must walk four miles each day
3 along a busy road that lacks sidewalks and streetlights to get
4 to and from the bus stop, creating an unacceptably dangerous
5 situation for our keiki; and

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7 WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu can alleviate
8 these dangerous conditions by expanding TheBus service within
9 Oahu's rural communities; and

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11 WHEREAS, in addition to keeping vulnerable citizens safe,
12 expanded bus service will also help rural residents access
13 employment, schools, and essential goods and services, promoting
14 health and economically secure communities; now, therefore,

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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
17 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023,
18 that the City and County of Honolulu is urged to improve access
19 to TheBus in Oahu's rural communities; and

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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
22 Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City and County of
23 Honolulu; each member of the Honolulu City Council; the Director
24 of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu;
25 and the President of Oahu Transit Services, Inc.

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28 OFFERED BY:

Kurt Favilla

