

MAR 08 2024

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A TASK FORCE BE CONVENED TO DEVELOP OPTIONS TO REDUCE COST AND RETURN INCREASED VALUE TO RESIDENTS FROM FUNDS MADE AVAILABLE BY THE STATE FOR PUBLIC MASS TRANSIT.

1 WHEREAS, public transit is important because it has been
2 proven to reduce the cost of transit for taxpayers, reduce the
3 cost of transit for commuters, reduce traffic, reduce greenhouse
4 gas emissions, increase efficiency, increase access to new areas
5 in the urban core for housing and mixed use communities, and
6 increase jobs; and

7
8 WHEREAS, Hawaii has appropriated funds for public mass
9 transit projects such as the City and County of Honolulu's
10 Skyline project through the general excise tax, approximately
11 two thirds of which is paid for by the general public, and
12 approximately one third of which is paid for by visitors of
13 Hawaii; and

14
15 WHEREAS, major national and global mass transit projects
16 are typically funded through mechanisms that are designed to
17 reduce project costs on taxpayers at large, including Tax
18 Increment Financing, lease renting on land, and partnering with
19 urban developments made possible by mass transit access; and

20
21 WHEREAS, the counties may find there is public benefit to
22 establishing or expanding public mass transit projects in the
23 future to serve additional areas and communities; and

24
25 WHEREAS, should state funds made available for public
26 transit be considered as a source of funding for establishing or
27 expanding public mass transit projects in the future,
28 opportunities to reduce cost and increase the value to residents
29 from funds made available by the State for public mass transit;
30 now, therefore,

31
32 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
33 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024,
34 that a task force is requested to be convened to examine
35 successful public mass transit projects in appropriate cities



1 and countries and develop options to reduce costs and return
2 increased value to Hawaii residents from funds made available by
3 the State for public mass transit; and

4
5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair of the House of
6 Representatives Standing Committee on Transportation and the
7 Chair of the Senate Standing Committee on Transportation and
8 Culture and the Arts are requested to co-chair the task force;
9 and

10
11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following members or their
12 designees are requested to be included on the task force:

- 13
14 (1) Hawaii's congressional delegation;
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16 (2) The Director of Transportation;
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18 (3) The Director of Business, Economic Development, and
19 Tourism;
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21 (4) The Coordinator of the State Transit-Oriented
22 Development Council;
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24 (5) The Executive Director of the Oahu Metropolitan
25 Planning Organization; and
26
27 (6) Any other members the chairs deem appropriate; and
28

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
30 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
31 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than
32 twenty days prior to the convening of each Regular Session; and
33

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
35 be dissolved on June 30, 2027; and
36

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
38 Resolution be transmitted to the Hawaii congressional
39 delegation; President of the Senate; Speaker of the House of
40 Representatives; Director of Transportation; Director of
41 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Executive Director



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1 of the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; and Coordinator
2 of the State Transit-Oriented Development Council.

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OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Clu', written over a horizontal line.