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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A STUDY OF STATE AND COUNTY INTERSECTIONS TO  
DETERMINE WHETHER TRAFFIC SIGNALS PROVIDE SUFFICIENT TIME  
FOR ELDERLY PEDESTRIANS TO CROSS THE STREET.

1           WHEREAS, in 2004 SMS Research & Marketing Services, Inc.,  
2 prepared the *Elderly Pedestrian Integration Report* for the  
3 Department of Transportation (DOT) that indicated that there are  
4 approximately 560 pedestrian injuries in Hawaii each year, and  
5 that an average of 28 pedestrians die each year after being  
6 struck by a car; and

7  
8           WHEREAS, in the first few months of 2007, Oahu has already  
9 experienced ten pedestrian fatalities, compared to four  
10 fatalities for the same time period in 2006, an over two-fold  
11 increase that is a cause of major concern for all the people of  
12 Hawaii; and

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14           WHEREAS, elderly pedestrians, age 65 and older, constituted  
15 the highest number of pedestrian fatalities when compared to all  
16 other age groups in Hawaii; and

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18           WHEREAS, Hawaii's pedestrian fatality rate for elderly  
19 pedestrians is 169 percent higher than any other state in the  
20 nation; and

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22           WHEREAS, the length of time a flashing indication (hand  
23 symbol) is displayed at signalized crosswalks is calculated  
24 based on the length of the crosswalk and the nationally  
25 recognized average walking speed of pedestrians; and

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27           WHEREAS, elderly pedestrians need more time to cross major  
28 intersections due to diminishing physical abilities and,  
29 considering that an elderly pedestrian generally crosses the  
30 street at a slower walking speed, limited timeframes to cross  
31 the street safely put elderly pedestrians at risk; and



1  
2 WHEREAS, a recent "walkability survey" of many of Hawaii's  
3 busiest streets and intersections conducted by the AARP Hawaii  
4 staff, volunteers, and community partners, identified many  
5 intersections where the timeframes to cross the street safely  
6 were too short, especially for elderly and very young  
7 pedestrians; and

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9 WHEREAS, the length of a flashing indication should be  
10 sufficient for elderly pedestrians to cross the street safely  
11 and Hawaii's elderly pedestrians should not have to rush to  
12 cross the street; and

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14 WHEREAS, problem intersections and roadways need to be  
15 quickly identified and any problems corrected so that pedestrian  
16 safety for all of Hawaii's residents and visitors, especially  
17 the elderly, disabled, and very young, can be improved; now,  
18 therefore,

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20 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
21 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
22 Session of 2007, the Senate concurring, that DOT is requested to  
23 conduct a study, in conjunction with each county, to identify  
24 state and county intersections where the time to cross the  
25 intersection may be insufficient for pedestrians to cross,  
26 especially elderly and disabled pedestrians; and

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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study also include the  
29 impact that lengthening the pedestrian walk-times will have on  
30 current traffic volumes and congestion, along with remedies to  
31 alleviate negative effects of the lengthening of pedestrian  
32 walk-times; and

33  
34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DOT submit an interim report,  
35 including proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than  
36 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2008  
37 and a final report to the Legislature no later than 20 days  
38 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2009; and



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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Directors of DOT and  
 3 the transportation departments of each county.  
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