
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE RELEVANT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES TO AMEND THE LAW TO ALLOW THE COUNTY SURCHARGE ON STATE TAXES TO BE USED FOR PROJECTS THAT HAVE A POSITIVE IMPACT OR DECREASE IN COSTS OF A TRANSIT CORRIDOR PROJECT SO AS TO INCLUDE HOT LANES AS A CONCURRENT SOLUTION TO TRAFFIC CONGESTION.

1 WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu's Department of
2 Transportation Services (DTS) and the Federal Transit Authority
3 (FTA) have prepared an alternative analysis (AA) and are
4 preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for a proposed
5 project to provide high capacity transit service; and
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7 WHEREAS, the alternative analysis was never seriously
8 explored because of the city Administration's conclusion that it
9 would not be eligible for sharing in the tax surcharge revenue;
10 and
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12 WHEREAS, as a consequence, the alternative of HOT, or for
13 including HOT within the mix of technologies to generate a best
14 transit corridor solution, was handicapped and its technical
15 advantages masked by a lower financing evaluation score; and
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17 WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu Corporation
18 Counsel in a October 30, 2006 written statement concluded that
19 the statute does allow, as currently written, that "in the case
20 of building bus stations used to connect riders from locations
21 off the transit route with transit stations, ... the revenues ...
22 can be used to build such stations"; and
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24 WHEREAS, HOT lanes combine rolls of facilitating
25 connections of riders to transfer and parking sites, as well as
26 being a principle component of a transit project; and
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28 WHEREAS, additional structures and technology developments,
29 such as those embodied in HOT lane descriptions in the



1 literature, and successfully built in cities elsewhere, have
2 been demonstrated to be valuable and low cost components
3 essential to overall transit improvement; and
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5 WHEREAS, it is to the advantage of the State to have a mix
6 of component transport ideas, such as rail, bus, ferry, transit
7 management, and private mobility services for example, that can
8 be judged on the same footing, one to another, and composed as a
9 unified, best-performing and cost effective project; and
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11 WHEREAS, Hawaii Revised Statutes 46-16.8 states that the
12 "county surcharge on state tax shall not be used to build or
13 repair public roads or highways, bicycle paths, or support
14 public transportation systems already in existence prior to July
15 12, 2005"; and
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17 WHEREAS, the state economy, the shape of development on
18 Oahu, energy conservation, congestion relief, and tax burden
19 should not suffer as a result of a financing evaluation criteria
20 unnecessarily prejudiced by this law; now, therefore,
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22 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
23 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
24 Session of 2007, the Senate concurring, that the House standing
25 committee on Transportation and the Senate standing committee on
26 Transportation and Government Operations are requested to
27 revisit Hawaii Revised Statutes section 46-16.8 by including
28 language stating the county surcharge may be used to build or
29 repair public roads that will have an anticipated positive
30 impact or decrease in costs of a transit corridor project, so as
31 to include HOT lanes as a concurrent solution to relieving
32 traffic congestion; and
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
35 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted Mayor of the City and
36 County of Honolulu, the Honolulu City Council, chairperson of
37 the House committee on Transportation, chairperson of the Senate
38 committee on Transportation and Government Operations, the
39 Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Senate
40 President, the state Department of Transportation, the city
41 Department of Transportation Services, and the Governor.
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H.C.R. NO. 151

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OFFERED BY:

Collen May

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