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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

CALLING FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TASK FORCE TO STUDY HOW  
MOPEDS CAN BE MADE SAFER, QUIETER, AND LESS LIKELY TO BE  
USED FOR ILLEGAL PURPOSES.

1           WHEREAS, mopeds represent an economical alternative, or  
2 supplement, to transportation by automobile or even motorcycle  
3 for students, young adults, those with limited income, and those  
4 concerned about the environment; and

5  
6           WHEREAS, mopeds and their riders are not subject to the  
7 same regulation as automobiles or motorcycles and their drivers;  
8 and

9  
10           WHEREAS, two moped riders died on Oahu's roads in 2007,  
11 seven moped drivers died on Oahu's roads in 2006, and eight  
12 moped drivers died on Oahu's roads in 2005, compared to one in  
13 2004 and none in 2003; and

14  
15           WHEREAS, parking for mopeds, especially in urban areas, is  
16 very limited and parked mopeds often obstruct all or part of  
17 pedestrian sidewalks adjacent to authorized moped parking areas;  
18 and

19  
20           WHEREAS, speed governors on mopeds can, and often are,  
21 disabled or modified such that the moped, including some in  
22 commercial rental fleets, can be operated at speeds in excess of  
23 what is safe and legal; and

24  
25           WHEREAS, the exhaust system on mopeds can, and often is,  
26 modified such that the moped is more powerful but much noisier  
27 than designed or legal; and

28  
29           WHEREAS, some moped owners, because of limited means, do  
30 not maintain the exhaust and other systems on their mopeds such



1 that the moped is noisier than designed or legal or produces  
2 more exhaust than is legal; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, mopeds, because of their relatively small size,  
5 are easily stolen and Honolulu, the nation's fifty-third largest  
6 metropolitan area, leads the nation in motorcycle and moped  
7 thefts; and

8  
9 WHEREAS, mopeds, again because of their relatively small  
10 size and affordability, are increasingly used by drug dealers to  
11 make pickups and deliveries and can be maneuvered away from  
12 police in tight spaces, or abandoned if need be; now, therefore,

13  
14 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
15 Twenty-Fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
16 Session of 2008, that the Department of Transportation is  
17 requested to convene a task force for the purpose of determining  
18 how the advantages of mopeds can be maximized, the disadvantages  
19 minimized, and necessary legislation be identified; and

20  
21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be chaired by  
22 the Director of Transportation and consist of the following  
23 members:

- 24  
25 (1) The Chief of Police and Director of Finance, or other  
26 official responsible for motor vehicle licensing and  
27 registration, from the City and County of Honolulu;  
28  
29 (2) One representative of the moped sales industry, to be  
30 appointed by the Governor;  
31  
32 (3) One representative of the moped rental industry, to be  
33 appointed by the Governor;  
34  
35 (4) One member of the Senate, to be appointed by the  
36 Senate President;  
37  
38 (5) One member of the House of Representatives, to be  
39 appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
40 Representatives; and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force report its  
2 findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
3 legislation, to the Legislature not later than twenty days prior  
4 to the convening of the Regular Session of 2009; and  
5

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
7 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation, the  
8 Mayor, the Chief of police, and the Director of Finance of the  
9 City and County of Honolulu, the President of the Senate, the  
10 Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Governor.  
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OFFERED BY:

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