

MAR 11 2016

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO COLLABORATE WITH  
COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENTS TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ABOUT  
VEHICULAR LOLLYGAGGING AND TO ENFORCE HAWAII'S KEEP-RIGHT  
DRIVING LAW.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that vehicular lollygagging,  
2 or the problem of slow drivers in the far-left lane of roadways,  
3 creates dangerous situations, starts traffic jams, incites road  
4 rage, and persists despite state law requiring drivers traveling  
5 slower than the normal speed of traffic to use the right-hand  
6 lane; and  
7

8 WHEREAS, commonly referred to as the keep-right driving  
9 law, section 291C-41(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes, generally  
10 requires drivers to use the right-hand lane if they are going  
11 slower than the normal speed of traffic; and  
12

13 WHEREAS, drivers in the left lane who do not yield the way  
14 to faster-moving traffic may create dangerous situations and  
15 exacerbate traffic congestion by forcing faster-moving vehicles  
16 to pass them from the right; and  
17

18 WHEREAS, Florida and Georgia have recently enacted laws to  
19 address slow drivers who linger in the left-hand lane and impede  
20 traffic; and  
21

22 WHEREAS, the legislature finds that police in several  
23 states such as Washington, Texas, and Ohio issue citations to  
24 slow drivers in the left lane; and  
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26 WHEREAS, slow drivers in the left-hand lane, who force  
27 drivers going the normal speed to pass from the right, may cause  
28 accidents because passing on the right is often unexpected for  
29 other drivers, vehicles approaching from the right may be less



1 visible to a driver, and it forces accelerating vehicles into  
2 slower-moving traffic; and  
3

4 WHEREAS, while State law permits drivers to overtake a  
5 vehicle by using the right-hand lane under specific situations,  
6 such as when the vehicle overtaken is making or about to make a  
7 left turn, it is in the best interest of public safety for  
8 drivers to use the left-hand lane to overtake a vehicle in  
9 accordance with section 291C-43, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and  
10

11 WHEREAS, the goal of improving public safety on Hawaii's  
12 roads is reflected in the Highway Safety Improvement Program,  
13 which is a core federal aid program Hawaii participates in that  
14 aims to achieve a significant reduction in traffic fatalities  
15 and serious injuries on all public roads, and is also reflected  
16 in Hawaii's keep-right driving law, which was enacted in 1971 to  
17 bring Hawaii into conformance with the Federal Highway Safety  
18 Program Standard on Codes and Laws; and  
19

20 WHEREAS, a study commissioned by Expedia revealed that slow  
21 drivers in the left-hand lane are the third-ranked reason,  
22 behind texting while driving and tailgating, for road rage and  
23 the aggressive driving behaviors that often result from it; and  
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25 WHEREAS, the legislature finds that traffic jams may result  
26 from a small number of people driving slowly in the left-hand  
27 lane with the ensuing ripple effect clogging the roadways and  
28 creating crowded driving conditions; and  
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30 WHEREAS, a recent online survey by the Honolulu Star-  
31 Advertiser revealed that nearly 1,000 of 1,530 respondents  
32 favored a stronger law against slow drivers that are  
33 lollygagging in a highway's left lane; now, therefore,  
34

35 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth  
36 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016,  
37 that the Department of Transportation is requested to  
38 collaborate with the county police departments to:



- 1 (1) Create a driver education program or public awareness  
2 campaign regarding the problem of vehicular  
3 lollygagging, the importance of the requirements of  
4 drivers to move to the right when going slower than  
5 the normal speed of traffic, and educating drivers on  
6 the "rules of the road", specifically reminding  
7 drivers to only pass using the left-hand lane and  
8 drive casually in the right-hand lane;  
9
- 10 (2) Enforce the keep-right driving law and all traffic  
11 laws of the State that address vehicular lollygagging  
12 by issuing warnings or citations to violators; and  
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- 14 (3) Submit a report of proposed activities, plans, and  
15 recommendations regarding vehicular lollygagging and  
16 the keep-right driving law, including any proposed  
17 legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty  
18 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of  
19 2017; and  
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of  
22 Transportation is requested to install more signage displaying  
23 the words, "Slower Traffic Keep Right" or similar language  
24 alongside roadways that have high incidents of slow-moving  
25 vehicles travelling in the left lane; and  
26

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
28 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation and  
29 the police chiefs of the City and County of Honolulu, and the  
30 counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui.  
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OFFERED BY:   


