

MAR 09 2018

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING STATEWIDE SUPPORT FOR TRAFFIC SAFETY LEGISLATION TO
REDUCE MOTOR VEHICLE FATALITIES AND INJURIES.

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation supports all
2 efforts to reduce motor vehicle fatalities through legislation;
3 and
4

5 WHEREAS, during the calendar years of 2013-2017, Hawaii
6 tallied five-hundred seventeen motor vehicle fatalities, which
7 is unacceptable as these deaths were preventable if all roadway
8 users followed Hawaii's laws; and
9

10 WHEREAS, a strong multifaceted approach using enforcement,
11 education, and legislation is necessary to reduce the number of
12 motor vehicle fatalities and injuries; and
13

14 WHEREAS, the Legislature is urging statewide support for
15 traffic safety measures that increase public safety, including
16 measures that:
17

- 18 (1) Use general funds to establish a state drug testing
19 lab to test blood samples of persons involved in motor
20 vehicle crashes for alcohol and drugs because
21 currently blood samples need to be sent out of State,
22 which results in unnecessary delays and costs;
23
- 24 (2) Allow county police departments to receive a portion
25 of the fines for the citations they issue to be used
26 for increased county enforcement efforts, equipment
27 purchases, and training;
28
- 29 (3) Strengthen Hawaii's Child Passenger Restraint Law by
30 extending the age requirement for children riding in a
31 booster seat because child safety seats, when



correctly installed and used, are extremely effective in saving children's lives, reducing the risk of death by as much as 71 percent for infants and 54 percent for toddlers;

(4) Provide stronger penalties for persons who violate Hawaii's Universal Seat Belt Law because research has found that seat belts reduce the risk of fatal injuries by 45 percent and the risk of critical injuries by 50 percent;

(5) Establish a Universal Helmet Law that requires all motorcycle, moped, and bicycle riders to wear a helmet while riding on public roadways to reduce a rider's chance of traumatic brain injury or paralysis after an accident;

(6) Prohibit persons from riding in the cargo area of a pickup truck to reduce preventable fatalities and injuries; and

(7) Establish a marijuana education program to help the public understand the perils of edible marijuana, especially the dangers of driving while impaired to prevent an increase in drug impaired driving fatalities; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature supports full consideration and robust discussion on these issues and other traffic safety legislation in the current and future legislative sessions to address roadway safety so that all of Hawaii's residents and visitors arrive alive; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Legislature urges statewide support of traffic safety legislation to reduce motor vehicle fatalities and injuries; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chief Justice, Attorney General, Director of Transportation, Director



S.C.R. NO. 185

1 of Health, Director of Public Safety, the mayors of each county,
2 and the Chief of Police of each county.
3
4
5

OFFERED BY:

Wesley L. Houser

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]

