

MAR 09 2018

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

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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  
32 correctly installed and used, are extremely effective  
33 in saving children's lives, reducing the risk of death



1 by as much as 71 percent for infants and 54 percent  
2 for toddlers;

3  
4 (4) Provide stronger penalties for persons who violate  
5 Hawaii's Universal Seat Belt Law because research has  
6 found that seat belts reduce the risk of fatal  
7 injuries by 45 percent and the risk of critical  
8 injuries by 50 percent;

9  
10 (5) Establish a Universal Helmet Law that requires all  
11 motorcycle, moped, and bicycle riders to wear a helmet  
12 while riding on public roadways to reduce a rider's  
13 chance of traumatic brain injury or paralysis after an  
14 accident;

15  
16 (6) Prohibit persons from riding in the cargo area of a  
17 pickup truck to reduce preventable fatalities and  
18 injuries; and

19  
20 (7) Establish a marijuana education program to help the  
21 public understand the perils of edible marijuana,  
22 especially the dangers of driving while impaired to  
23 prevent an increase in drug impaired driving  
24 fatalities; and

25  
26 WHEREAS, the Legislature supports full consideration and  
27 robust discussion on these issues and other traffic safety  
28 legislation in the current and future legislative sessions to  
29 address roadway safety so that all of Hawaii's residents and  
30 visitors arrive alive; now, therefore,

31  
32 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth  
33 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018,  
34 that the Legislature urges statewide support of traffic safety  
35 legislation to reduce motor vehicle fatalities and injuries; and

36  
37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
38 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chief Justice,  
39 Attorney General, Director of Transportation, Director of



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1 Health, Director of Public Safety, the mayors of each county,  
2 and the Chief of Police of each county.  
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OFFERED BY:

*Maureen R. Mowry*  
*[Signature]* *[Signature]*  
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