

MAR 09 2018

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO STUDY THE EFFECTS OF PROHIBITING TRUCKS WITH A GROSS VEHICLE WEIGHT OF TEN THOUSAND POUNDS OR MORE FROM USING THE LEFT-MOST LANE ON CERTAIN HIGHWAYS.

1 WHEREAS, heavier trucks that are driving slower than the
2 speed of traffic can contribute to traffic congestion on
3 highways, especially if there are trucks in every lane; and
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5 WHEREAS, the left-most lane on a highway is typically
6 designated as a passing lane; and
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8 WHEREAS, several states, including California, Connecticut,
9 Georgia, Indiana, Michigan, and New Jersey, have enacted laws
10 referred to as left-lane restrictions, which prohibit larger
11 motor vehicles from using the left-most lane on highways with
12 three or more lanes except to pass or turn left; and
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14 WHEREAS, there have been studies showing benefits to left-
15 lane restrictions, such as increased average traffic speeds,
16 though some studies have found negative consequences, such as an
17 increase in accidents; now, therefore,
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19 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
20 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018,
21 that the Department of Transportation is requested to study the
22 effect of prohibiting trucks with a gross vehicle weight of ten
23 thousand pounds or more from using the left-most lane on certain
24 highways and specifically any impacts it has on traffic
25 congestion and safety; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of
28 Transportation is requested to include in the study an analysis
29 of other states that have similar left-lane restrictions and how
30 these laws affect traffic congestion and safety; and
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of
33 Transportation is requested to compare the effects of a full-



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1 time left-lane restriction and a left-lane restriction that is
2 only applicable during peak commuting times; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of
5 Transportation is requested to submit a report of its findings
6 and recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days
7 before the convening of the Regular Session of 2019; and
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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
10 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation.
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OFFERED BY: *Shirley R. Brown*

