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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE COUNTIES TO EXPEDITE THE ISSUANCE OF GOLD STAR AFFIXED DRIVER'S LICENSES TO THOSE RESIDENTS WHO HAVE NON-EXPIRED HAWAII-ISSUED DRIVER'S LICENSES.

WHEREAS, the REAL ID Act, which is administered under the federal Department of Homeland Security, established minimum security standards for state-issued licenses and identification cards and prohibits federal agencies from accepting for official purposes driver's licenses and identification cards from states not meeting the Act's minimum standards; and

WHEREAS, Hawaii has been a REAL ID compliant state for over five years; therefore, residents with valid, non-expired driver's licenses have already been required to provide each county's motor vehicle and licensing department the required documents to satisfy the residency and identity standards under the REAL ID Act; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, the counties began issuing Real ID compliant licenses and identification cards bearing a star in a gold circle, which indicates full compliance with the new Department of Homeland Security standards; and

WHEREAS, by October 1, 2020, the Department of Homeland Security will require every person traveling domestically on a commercial airline flight to present a REAL ID compliant credential or another acceptable form of identification; and

WHEREAS, residents of Hawaii often travel interisland for work, family, medical appointments, school, and various activities; and

WHEREAS, a driver's license is the most common form of identification used by Hawaii residents for interisland travel on commercial aircraft which makes a gold star identification document a necessity; and

WHEREAS, the City and County of Honolulu has made it easy for residents to obtain a gold star driver's license by applying online; however, other counties require residents to reapply in person and produce the same documents already required to obtain a driver's license to obtain a gold star driver's license; and

WHEREAS, the October 1, 2020, deadline is fast approaching and a lack of an expedited means of acquiring the gold star driver's license could result in significantly longer lines at state airports and the need for additional personnel, which could result in significant added cost for the Department of Transportation; and

WHEREAS, implementing methods to expedite the issuance of gold star licenses and identification, such as enabling residents in each county to apply for gold star driver's licenses online may help reduce the potential for unnecessary long lines at state airports and added personnel costs to the Department of Transportation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, the Senate concurring, that the counties are urged to expedite the issuance of gold star affixed driver's licenses to those residents who have non-expired Hawaii-issued driver's licenses; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, Mayor of the county of Hawaii, Mayor of the county of Maui, and Mayor of the county of Kauai.

OFFERED BY:

OFFER

lide Casamila Ankawa

MAR 0 4 2020