HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OF EACH COUNTY TO STRICTLY ENFORCE ANY APPLICABLE COUNTY REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE USE OF STICKERS OR DECALS ON MOTOR VEHICLE WINDOWS OR WINDSHIELDS AND URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO REQUIRE ALL OFFICIAL SAFETY INSPECTION STATIONS TO STRICTLY ENFORCE THESE COUNTY REGULATIONS.

WHEREAS, according to the Department of Transportation, there were one hundred three traffic fatalities in the State between January 1, 2019, and December 11, 2019; and

WHEREAS, blind spots are areas surrounding a motor vehicle where the vehicle driver's views are obstructed; and

WHEREAS, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, each year approximately eight hundred forty thousand accidents and three hundred deaths in the United States are attributable to blind spot-related issues; and

WHEREAS, although technological innovations have been developed and implemented to address the issue of blind spots, including the use of cameras and sensors to detect objects located in blind spots, universal adoption of these technologies has been slow and costly, especially in older motor vehicles; and

WHEREAS, although rear-view visibility system cameras became mandatory on all new cars, sport utility vehicles, trucks, and vans sold in the United States on or after May 1, 2018, these cameras only address blind spots directly behind a motor vehicle; and

WHEREAS, stickers and decals are widely affixed to motor vehicles throughout the State as, among other things, parking permits, decorations, and memorials for deceased loved ones; and

WHEREAS, many of these stickers and decals, especially larger stickers and decals, can obstruct a driver's view and create additional blind spots if affixed to motor vehicle windows; and

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WHEREAS, sections 24-102(a), Hawaii County Code; 15-19.30(a), Revised Ordinances of Honolulu; 16-17.29(a), Kauai County Code; and 10.20.420(A), Maui County Code, each prohibit the placement of any materials, including stickers or decals, on windows or windshields of certain motor vehicles if the materials obstruct the motor vehicle driver's view; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that the Honolulu Police Department, Hawaii County Police Department, Kauai County Police Department, and Maui County Police Department are urged to strictly enforce applicable county regulations governing the use of stickers or decals on motor vehicle windows or windshields; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is also urged to require all official safety inspection stations to strictly enforce these county regulations; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation, mayor of each county, chair of each county council, and chief of police of each county police department.

OFFERED BY:

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