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S.C.R. NO. 72

MAR 0 3 2020

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO EVALUATE KUAKINI HIGHWAY BETWEEN HENRY STREET AND KAMEHAMEHA III ROAD ON HAWAI'I ISLAND AND CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY REGARDING TRAFFIC REDUCTION BY WIDENING THE HIGHWAY OR OTHER ALTERNATIVE MEANS.

WHEREAS, the island of Hawai'i is experiencing growth in population and as an effect, an increase in difficulties generated by a significant growth in traffic; and

WHEREAS, vehicle traffic on Kuakini Highway between Lako Street and Kamehameha III Road on Hawai'i island typically causes traffic jams lasting several consecutive hours in the mornings and evenings; and

WHEREAS, North Kona's population spiked by almost four thousand people to nearly forty-two thousand total from 2010 through 2016, causing additional traffic on Kuakini Highway; and

WHEREAS, relieving the bottleneck where the Queen Kaahumanu and Kuakini Highways merge is necessary for the community's safety because of the amount of traffic that moves through that area; and

WHEREAS, easing traffic at one of Kona's most frustrating pinch points on Kuakini Highway between Henry Street and Kamehameha III Road is in the best safety and public welfare interests of the State; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of Transportation is requested to evaluate Kuakini Highway between Henry Street and Kamehameha III Road on Hawai'i island and conduct a feasibility study regarding traffic reduction by widening the highway or other alternative means; and

10 11 12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in exploring other alternative means of traffic reduction, the Department of Transportation is requested to consider repainting traffic lanes from fourteen feet to ten feet; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation and Mayor of the County of Hawai'i.

OFFERED BY:

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Muhelle Indone

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DO De Kendi Are

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