

MAR - 6 2020

SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR A MOTOR VEHICLE RACETRACK OR RACEWAY PARK ON OAHU AND REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY; DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM; AND THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU TO FACILITATE AND APPROVE ITS DEVELOPMENT.

1 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that auto racing has a rich
2 history in the State, with drag racing on the island of Oahu
3 dating back to the early 1950s; and
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5 WHEREAS, Hawaii Raceway Park provided motor sports
6 enthusiasts a legal venue to race from 1962 until its closure in
7 2006; and
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9 WHEREAS, in the past thirty years, the State and City and
10 County of Honolulu, through the use of state and county capital
11 improvement funds, have subsidized and supported the development
12 of recreational facilities such as multi-purpose gymnasiums,
13 arena venues, skateboard parks, swimming pools, a commercial
14 driver's license training area, soccer fields, basketball
15 courts, shooting ranges, archery ranges, baseball fields,
16 football fields, a football stadium, tennis courts, dog parks,
17 volleyball courts, beach volleyball courts, botanical gardens,
18 and golf driving ranges and courses; and
19

20 WHEREAS, for the past forty years, county parks programs
21 from the County of Hawaii, County of Maui, and County of Kauai
22 have provided raceway park facilities at closed airfield land
23 granted to the various counties by the military; and
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25 WHEREAS, through the use of such lands, the public has at
26 least one raceway park or racetrack to provide drivers a legal
27 and controlled alternative to racing on public streets and
28 highways; and
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1 WHEREAS, the Honolulu City Council unanimously approved
2 Resolution No. 18-73, which finds that the need for an Oahu
3 raceway park or racetrack is urgent, longstanding, and a matter
4 of public safety; and

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6 WHEREAS, Resolution No. 18-73 directs the City's
7 Administration to take certain actions to facilitate development
8 of a racetrack or raceway park on Oahu, including but not
9 limited to making a determination on whether there are city-
10 owned properties that may be a suitable site; and

11
12 WHEREAS, no alternative site for a racetrack or raceway
13 park has been identified on Oahu since the closure of Hawaii
14 Raceway Park in 2006; now, therefore,

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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature
17 of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that this body
18 urges the Department of Parks and Recreation of the City and
19 County of Honolulu to enter into a public-private partnership
20 with a credible, well-vetted, non-profit organization in good
21 business standing, with a verifiable history of positive
22 community benefit and service to develop a proposal for the
23 design, financing, construction, and operation of a racetrack
24 facility; and

25
26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public Safety
27 and Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
28 are requested to facilitate and approve the development of a
29 motor vehicle racetrack or raceway park; and

30
31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
32 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Public Safety;
33 Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Mayor
34 of the City and County of Honolulu; Chairperson of the Honolulu
35 City Council; and Director of the Department of Parks and
36 Recreation of the City and County of Honolulu.

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OFFERED BY: _____



S.R. NO. 185

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