

MAR 12 2021

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE STATE TO ADOPT A ZERO NET VEHICLE GROWTH POLICY TO  
REDUCE TRAFFIC CONGESTION.

1           WHEREAS, traffic congestion is a major issue that costs the  
2 State millions of dollars annually and negatively contributes to  
3 the health and welfare of residents; and

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5           WHEREAS, Honolulu consistently ranks among the worst cities  
6 nationally for traffic congestion; and

7  
8           WHEREAS, the average commuter on Oahu spends sixty-four  
9 hours each year sitting in traffic congestion; and

10  
11           WHEREAS, the Department of Business, Economic Development,  
12 and Tourism estimates the cost of traffic congestion, including  
13 time lost and the excess fuel consumed sitting in traffic, at  
14 more than \$753,000,000 annually; and

15  
16           WHEREAS, there are currently more than 1,275,000 motor  
17 vehicles registered in the State, including cars, trucks,  
18 motorcycles, and scooters; and

19  
20           WHEREAS, as of December 2019, there are only 944,159  
21 residents with a valid driver's license, which means there are  
22 approximately 330,841 more vehicles than drivers in the State;  
23 and

24  
25           WHEREAS, there are only 4,476 miles of roads, paved and  
26 unpaved, in the State; and

27  
28           WHEREAS, the State spends on average \$82,000,000 annually  
29 on road repairs; and

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31           WHEREAS, between 1995 and 2017 Oahu added one hundred  
32 ninety miles of new roadways and during that same time period



1 Oahu added 190,000 more registered vehicles while the population  
2 on Oahu only grew by approximately twelve percent; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, between 1993 and 2017, the nation's one hundred  
5 largest urbanized areas added 30,511 new freeway lane-miles, an  
6 increase of forty-two percent, and over that same time period  
7 the population in those regions increased by thirty-two percent  
8 while traffic delays and congestion exploded by one hundred  
9 forty-four percent, proving that "widening the freeways" won't  
10 solve the traffic problems in the State; and

11  
12 WHEREAS, the only guaranteed way to reduce traffic in the  
13 State is to reduce the number of vehicles on the roads; now,  
14 therefore,

15  
16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first  
17 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the  
18 House of Representatives concurring, that the State is  
19 encouraged to establish a zero net vehicle growth policy, which  
20 would ensure that the total number of vehicles in the State does  
21 not exceed the vehicle threshold for the State based on the  
22 number of registered vehicles in the State as of January 1,  
23 2022; and

24  
25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of  
26 Transportation is requested to convene a working group to  
27 determine the feasibility and best course of action for the  
28 State to adopt a zero net vehicle growth policy; and

29  
30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be comprised  
31 of the following members, or their designees:

- 32  
33 (1) The Chairperson of the Senate Committee on  
34 Transportation, who should serve as co-chair of the  
35 working group;  
36  
37 (2) The Chairperson of the House of Representatives  
38 Committee on Transportation, who should serve as co-  
39 chair of the working group;  
40  
41 (3) The Director of Transportation;  
42



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1 (4) The Director of Business, Economic Development, and  
2 Tourism;

3  
4 (5) President of the Hawaii Automobile Dealers  
5 Association; and

6  
7 (6) Any other members as may be necessary, as invited by  
8 the co-chairs; and  
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the working group  
11 serve without compensation; and  
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested  
14 to submit a report of its findings and recommendations,  
15 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later  
16 than twenty days prior to the Regular Session of 2022; and  
17

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following categories of  
19 vehicles should be exempt from counting towards the zero net  
20 vehicle growth policy threshold:  
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22 (1) Emergency vehicles;

23  
24 (2) Military vehicles; and

25  
26 (3) Official federal, state, and county vehicles; and  
27

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of  
29 Transportation, to the extent possible, should coordinate State  
30 efforts to develop markets for recycled vehicles; and  
31

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that every vehicle dealership should  
33 be required to submit proof of compliance with the zero net  
34 vehicle growth policy in their monthly reports required under  
35 section 238-9.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and  
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director  
3 of Transportation; Director of Business, Economic Development,  
4 and Tourism; and President of the Hawaii Automobile Dealers  
5 Association.

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OFFERED BY: 

