

MAR 12 2021

SENATE RESOLUTION

CONVENING A PUBLIC RACING FACILITY WORKING GROUP TO LOCATE AND ESTABLISH A PUBLIC RACING FACILITY ON OAHU TO IMPROVE SAFETY, BOOST ECONOMIC ACTIVITY, AND PROVIDE FOR RECREATION.

1 WHEREAS, automobile racing has a long and storied history
2 in Hawaii, encompassing drag racing, dirty track racing, rally
3 racing, karting, and road racing, among others; and
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5 WHEREAS, race track facilities have existed in every county
6 in Hawaii and have been used for training courses by law
7 enforcement, state and county agencies, nonprofit organizations,
8 and the general public; and
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10 WHEREAS, race track facilities can host local, national,
11 and international racing events that can create jobs, support
12 local businesses, and draw attention and visitors to Hawaii; and
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14 WHEREAS, similar public facilities have long existed for
15 numerous recreational and educational activities including field
16 sports such as football and baseball, indoor sports such as
17 basketball and volleyball, and other sports such as swimming,
18 archery, shooting, and golf; and
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20 WHEREAS, in 2006, the last racing facility on Oahu closed,
21 resulting in many people illegally racing on public streets; and
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23 WHEREAS, it is in the public interest to support the
24 establishment of a new racing facility open to the general
25 public that can serve as an alternative to illegal street
26 racing, provide for driver education and training, enhance
27 public recreation, create jobs, events, and exposure to
28 diversify and boost the local economy; and
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30 WHEREAS, a racing facility should, at a minimum, include a
31 kart track and road course that may be used for driver training
32 by law enforcement, state and county agencies, nonprofit
33 organizations, or the general public; and
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1 WHEREAS, a racing facility should be appropriately located
2 away from residential areas to mitigate traffic, noise, and
3 other issues; now, therefore,
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
6 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021,
7 that a public racing facility working group be convened to
8 identify a location and develop a plan for the establishment and
9 operation of a public racing facility on the island of Oahu to
10 improve safety, boost economic activity, and provide for
11 recreation; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be comprised
14 of the following members, or their designees:
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- 16 (1) The Chairperson of the Senate Committee on
17 Transportation, who should serve as co-chair of the
18 working group;
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- 20 (2) The Chairperson of the House Committee on
21 Transportation, who should serve as co-chair of the
22 working group;
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- 24 (3) The Director of Transportation;
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- 26 (4) The Director of Business, Economic Development, and
27 Tourism;
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- 29 (5) The Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural
30 Resources;
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- 32 (6) The President and Chief Executive Officer of the
33 Hawaii Tourism Authority;
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- 35 (7) The Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu;
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- 37 (8) A member representing the kart racing community;
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- 39 (9) A member representing a sport compact car racing
40 association; and
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1 (10) Any other members as may be necessary, as invited by
2 the co-chairs; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the public racing
5 facility working group serve without compensation; and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the public racing facility
8 working group is requested to submit a report of its progress,
9 findings, and recommendations, including any proposed
10 legislation, to the Legislature no later than December 1 of each
11 year through December 1, 2025, or until a final plan and
12 recommendations to establish a public racing facility on the
13 island of Oahu are finalized and adopted; and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
16 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director of
17 Transportation; Director of Business, Economic Development, and
18 Tourism; Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources;
19 President and Executive Officer of the Hawaii Tourism Authority;
20 Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu; and Chairperson of the
21 Honolulu City Council.
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OFFERED BY: 

