

---

# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

---

REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A TASK FORCE TO DETERMINE HOW THE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION CAN BETTER ADDRESS THE RAPIDLY  
ESCALATING COSTS OF TRANSPORTATION IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, automobile-related costs such as gas, electricity,  
2 insurance, maintenance, and vehicle ownership costs are rapidly  
3 rising, including a twenty-three percent increase in the last  
4 twelve months; and

5  
6 WHEREAS, a 2021 report by the Ulupono Initiative found that  
7 transportation costs averaged between \$8,000 and \$13,000 per  
8 individual, and \$20,000 and \$25,000 per two-car families; and

9  
10 WHEREAS, public costs from local, county, state, and  
11 federal governments to build, repair, and maintain public roads,  
12 regardless of vehicle ownership amount to \$15,000-\$24,000 per  
13 household; and

14  
15 WHEREAS, according to the United States Department of  
16 Transportation and Federal Highway Administration calculations,  
17 taxpayers pay indirect costs around \$3.3 billion annually for  
18 injuries and fatalities, in addition to other costs such as  
19 congestion, parking subsidies, and emissions; and

20  
21 WHEREAS, according to a 2022 Bureau of Labor Statistics  
22 report, households in auto-dependent communities devote twenty  
23 percent more money to transportation than those with complete  
24 streets and car-based infrastructure without other modes of  
25 transportation discriminates against youth, elderly, disabled,  
26 and others who cannot afford to drive; and

27  
28 WHEREAS, a 2021 report by the Oahu Metropolitan Planning  
29 Organization found that county and state expenditures on  
30 pedestrian and bike infrastructure result in safe bike,



1 pedestrian, and public transit infrastructure being largely  
2 unavailable for most families; and  
3

4 WHEREAS, lack of bike, pedestrian, and public transit  
5 infrastructure disproportionately hurts lower income  
6 communities, particularly in urban areas; and  
7

8 WHEREAS, if safe bike, pedestrian, and public transit  
9 infrastructure were more widely available to make commuting more  
10 flexible for families then many families with three cars could  
11 get by with two cars, and families with two cars could get by  
12 with one car, saving tens of thousands of dollars for each  
13 family per year; and  
14

15 WHEREAS, electric vehicles are cheaper than gasoline-  
16 powered vehicles to fuel and maintain, and are increasingly  
17 cheaper to buy; and  
18

19 WHEREAS, new modes of cheaper transit are now available,  
20 including e-bikes, e-scooters, and other similar modes of  
21 transportation; and  
22

23 WHEREAS, places around the world already provide free  
24 public transit; and  
25

26 WHEREAS, the lowest economic quintile in in the United  
27 States spends thirty percent of its income on transportation  
28 costs while the lowest economic quintile in Europe spends only  
29 eight percent of its income on transportation; and  
30

31 WHEREAS, Hawaii can learn from other places that have  
32 successfully modernized and reduced the cost of transportation  
33 for local residents; now, therefore,  
34

35 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first  
36 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the  
37 House of Representatives concurring, that a task force is  
38 requested to be convened to determine how the Department of  
39 Transportation can lower the cost of transportation; and  
40

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to:  
42



1 (1) Evaluate modern best practices and successful examples  
2 of transit that reduce the cost of transportation in  
3 other places;

4  
5 (2) Evaluate relevant studies;

6  
7 (3) Evaluate current Department of Transportation  
8 priorities, processes, and outcomes; and  
9

10 (4) Conclude and report findings and recommendations; and  
11

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to  
13 consist of the following members or their designees:

14  
15 (1) A member of the Senate who shall be appointed by the  
16 President of the Senate and serve as co-chair of the  
17 task force;

18  
19 (2) A member of the House of Representatives who shall be  
20 appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
21 Representatives and serve as co-chair of the task  
22 force;

23  
24 (3) The Director of Transportation;

25  
26 (4) The Director of the State Energy Office;

27  
28 (5) The Superintendent of Education;

29  
30 (6) The Director of Health;

31  
32 (7) The Chief Energy Officer;

33  
34 (8) A representative from the Appleseed Center for Law and  
35 Economic Justice;

36  
37 (9) A representative from AlohaCare;

38  
39 (10) A representative from the Hawaii Children's Action  
40 Network Speaks!;

41  
42 (11) A representative from the Ulupono Initiative;



(12) A representative from the American Association of Retired Persons Hawaii;

(13) A representative from the Hawaii Bicycling League; and

(14) One member with expertise addressing cost of transportation in other jurisdictions; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the co-chairs of the task force may invite other interested parties to join the task force; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that members of the task force are requested to serve without compensation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to submit:

(1) An initial report to the Legislature no later than December 1, 2022; and

(2) A final report to the Legislature no later than December 1, 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation, Director of the State Energy Office, Superintendent of Education, Director of Health, Chief Energy Officer, President of the AlohaCare Board of Directors, Executive Director of the Appleseed Center for Law and Economic Justice, President of the Hawaii Children's Action Network Speaks!, President of the Ulupono Initiative, Director of the American Association of Retired Persons Hawaii, and Director of the Hawaii Bicycling League.

