HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ESTABLISH AN AIR SERVICE TASK FORCE TO PROVIDE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVING COMMERCIAL AIR TRAVEL TO AND FROM MOLOKAI AND LANA'I.

WHEREAS, only one commercial airline currently provides air transport services to Molokai and Lana'i; and

WHEREAS, although a luxury charter airline geared toward transporting resort guests does operate on Lana'i, there is only one commercial airline available to the general public that currently provides air transport services to Lana'i residents; and

WHEREAS, generally, the provision of air transport services for Molokai and Lana'i residents has become increasingly unreliable, with flights frequently being canceled at the last minute; and

WHEREAS, due to these transportation constraints, residents of Molokai and Lana'i lack sufficient access to emergency medical care; and

WHEREAS, commercial air travel to and from Molokai and Lana'i requires improvements; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, that the Department of Transportation is requested to establish an air service task force to provide recommendations for improving commercial air travel to and from Molokai and Lana'i; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following individuals are requested to serve as members of the task force:

(1) The United States Secretary of Transportation, or the Secretary's designee;

(2) The Regional Administrator for the Federal Aviation Administration, Western-Pacific Region, or the Regional Administrator's designee;

(3) The Director of Transportation, or the Director's designee; and

(4) The Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, or the Director's designee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the air service task force may consult with and invite to serve as a member of the task force, representatives of any relevant agencies and organizations, or any resource persons; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the air service task force is also requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the air service task force shall dissolve on July 1, 2024; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the United States Secretary of Transportation; Regional Administrator for the Federal Aviation Administration, Western-Pacific Region; Director of Transportation; and Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.