
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES AND THE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT TO EVALUATE
SUBSIDIZING PUBLIC TRANSIT FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYEES.

1 WHEREAS, it is a policy and goal of the State to
2 decarbonize our economy by 2045 and to achieve zero fossil fuel
3 emissions in the transportation sector; and
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5 WHEREAS, vehicle miles traveled, or VMT, is a proxy for
6 measuring ground transportation emissions and the robustness of
7 transportation options; and
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9 WHEREAS, the reduction of VMT improves health,
10 environmental, and economic outcomes for all residents, and is
11 an integral part of reaching the State's zero emissions goal;
12 and
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14 WHEREAS, reducing VMT requires support for alternative
15 forms of transportation and a reduction of private vehicle
16 usage; and
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18 WHEREAS, emissions per passenger mile on public transit,
19 such as buses or rail, are far lower than private vehicles, and
20 even lower when ridership is higher; and
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22 WHEREAS, support for public transit also has other net
23 positive benefits including better land use and improved air
24 quality; and
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26 WHEREAS, the State should lead by example and incentivize
27 multimodal public transportation for its employees; and
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29 WHEREAS, there is an existing pilot program for full-time
30 employees of the executive branch to deduct the cost of bus
31 passes pre-tax, which could be expanded to offer more generous



1 incentives and include temporary and part-time state employees;
2 and

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4 WHEREAS, subsidies are already provided to some state
5 employees who drive private vehicles, in the form of workplace
6 parking in state facilities at rates that are far below market
7 rates for dedicated parking; and

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9 WHEREAS, providing free or subsidized public transportation
10 access would greatly incentivize state employees to utilize
11 options like bus or rail transit systems; now, therefore,

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13 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
14 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
15 Session of 2024, that the Department of Accounting and General
16 Services and Department of Human Resources Development are urged
17 to collaboratively evaluate options to encourage the use and
18 subsidize the cost of public transportation for state employees;
19 and

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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
22 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor,
23 Comptroller, Director of Human Resources Development,
24 Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Director
25 of Transportation, Chief Energy Officer, Director of the Office
26 of Planning and Sustainable Development, and Co-Chairs of the
27 Hawaii Climate Change Mitigation and Adaption Commission.

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OFFERED BY: *Michelle E. L.*
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