

MAR 08 2024

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING A TASK FORCE BE CONVENED TO DEVELOP OPTIONS TO REDUCE
COST AND RETURN INCREASED VALUE TO RESIDENTS FROM FUNDS
MADE AVAILABLE BY THE STATE FOR PUBLIC MASS TRANSIT.

1 WHEREAS, public transit is important because it has been
2 proven to reduce the cost of transit for taxpayers, reduce the
3 cost of transit for commuters, reduce traffic, reduce greenhouse
4 gas emissions, increase efficiency, increase access to new areas
5 in the urban core for housing and mixed use communities, and
6 increase jobs; and
7

8 WHEREAS, Hawaii has appropriated funds for public mass
9 transit projects such as the City and County of Honolulu's
10 Skyline project through the general excise tax, approximately
11 two thirds of which is paid for by the general public, and
12 approximately one third of which is paid for by visitors of
13 Hawaii; and
14

15 WHEREAS, major national and global mass transit projects
16 are typically funded through mechanisms that are designed to
17 reduce project costs on taxpayers at large, including Tax
18 Increment Financing, lease renting on land, and partnering with
19 urban developments made possible by mass transit access; and
20

21 WHEREAS, the counties may find there is public benefit to
22 establishing or expanding public mass transit projects in the
23 future to serve additional areas and communities; and
24

25 WHEREAS, should state funds made available for public
26 transit be considered as a source of funding for establishing or
27 expanding public mass transit projects in the future,
28 opportunities to reduce cost and increase the value to residents
29 from funds made available by the State for public mass transit;
30 now, therefore,
31



S.C.R. NO. 139

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024, the
3 House of Representatives concurring, that a task force is
4 requested to be convened to examine successful public mass
5 transit projects in appropriate cities and countries and develop
6 options to reduce costs and return increased value to Hawaii
7 residents from funds made available by the State for public mass
8 transit; and
9

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chair of the House of
11 Representatives Standing Committee on Transportation and the
12 Chair of the Senate Standing Committee on Transportation and
13 Culture and the Arts are requested to co-chair the task force;
14 and
15

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following members or their
17 designees are requested to be included on the task force:
18

- 19 (1) Hawaii's congressional delegation;
- 20
- 21 (2) The Director of Transportation;
- 22
- 23 (3) The Director of Business, Economic Development, and
24 Tourism;
- 25
- 26 (4) The Coordinator of the State Transit-Oriented
27 Development Council;
- 28
- 29 (5) The Executive Director of the Oahu Metropolitan
30 Planning Organization; and
31
- 32 (6) Any other members the chairs deem appropriate; and
33

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
35 submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including
36 any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than
37 twenty days prior to the convening of each Regular Session; and
38

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force is requested to
40 be dissolved on June 30, 2027; and
41



S.C.R. NO. 139

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
2 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Hawaii congressional
3 delegation; President of the Senate; Speaker of the House of
4 Representatives; Director of Transportation; Director of
5 Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Executive Director
6 of the Oahu Metropolitan Planning Organization; and Coordinator
7 of the State Transit-Oriented Development Council.

8
9
10

OFFERED BY: 

