

MAR 07 2025

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO COLLABORATE WITH THE
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE COUNTY OF HAWAI'I TO
CONDUCT AN INVENTORY OF BUS STOPS ON HAWAI'I ISLAND UTILIZED
BY CHILDREN TO TRAVEL TO SCHOOL AND DEVELOP STRATEGIES TO
IMPROVE SAFETY AT EACH LOCATION.

1 WHEREAS, ensuring the safety of Hawai'i's keiki as they
2 travel to and from school is a paramount concern for families,
3 educators, and policymakers; and
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5 WHEREAS, unlike other islands in the State, many students
6 on Hawai'i island face unique transportation challenges,
7 including long travel distances, limited access to school bus
8 services, and reliance on the County of Hawai'i's Hele-On public
9 transportation system through special arrangements with the
10 Department of Education; and
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12 WHEREAS, these challenges are compounded by bus route
13 limitations, road infrastructure deficiencies, and the absence
14 of safe, dedicated school bus stops in certain rural and
15 underserved areas; and
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17 WHEREAS, the availability and staffing of active bus routes
18 are critical concerns, as many school transportation services
19 struggle with driver shortages, funding constraints, and an
20 insufficient number of routes to accommodate all students safely
21 and efficiently; and
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23 WHEREAS, the need for additional bus routes has become
24 increasingly evident, particularly in remote communities where
25 children must walk long distances along unsafe roads to reach
26 their nearest bus stop or school; and
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28 WHEREAS, poorly designed or maintained bus stops, lack of
29 proper lighting, insufficient pedestrian crossings, and



1 hazardous traffic conditions pose significant risks to children;
2 and

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4 WHEREAS, a comprehensive review of existing bus stops on
5 Hawai'i island used by school-aged children is necessary to
6 identify deficiencies and develop recommendations for
7 improvements; now, therefore,

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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, the
11 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
12 Education is urged to collaborate with the Department of
13 Transportation and the County of Hawai'i to conduct an inventory
14 of bus stops on Hawai'i island utilized by children to travel to
15 school and develop strategies to improve safety at each
16 location; and

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this inventory is requested to
19 include an assessment of safety conditions at each bus stop,
20 including but not limited to:

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22 (1) The presence and condition of sidewalks and
23 crosswalks;

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25 (2) Adequate lighting and visibility;

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27 (3) Traffic patterns and congestion;

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29 (4) Proximity to high speed roadways;

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31 (5) The availability of shelters and seating;

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33 (6) The adequacy of current bus routes in meeting student
34 transportation needs; and

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36 (7) Any other potential hazards affecting student safety;
37 and

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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education, in
40 coordination with the Department of Transportation and the
41 County of Hawai'i, is requested to develop recommendations and
42 propose strategies to enhance the safety of these bus stops,



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1 including infrastructure improvements, traffic calming measures,
2 additional bus routes, and community engagement initiatives; and
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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Education is
5 requested to submit a report of its findings and
6 recommendations, including a prioritized list of bus stops in
7 need of immediate safety improvements, to the Legislature no
8 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular
9 Session of 2026; and

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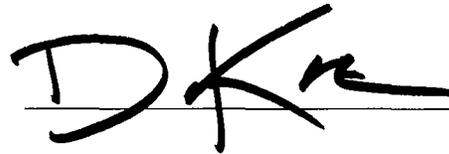
11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
12 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor,
13 Chairperson of the Board of Education, Superintendent of
14 Education, Director of Transportation, and Mayor of the County
15 of Hawai'i.

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OFFERED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Ke", is written over a horizontal line.