
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO CONSIDER MOVING TO A
DEMERIT POINTS-BASED DRIVER'S LICENSING SYSTEM.

1 WHEREAS, there were one hundred twenty-nine traffic
2 fatalities in Hawaii in 2025, the highest number since 2007; and
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4 WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation has stated that
5 more than ninety percent of crashes can be attributed to human
6 behavior; and
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8 WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation has a vested
9 interest in reducing traffic injuries and fatalities to ensure
10 the safety of all drivers on Hawaii's roads; and
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12 WHEREAS, the State currently relies on a traffic abstract
13 system to track moving traffic violations and determine
14 eligibility to maintain a driver's license; and
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16 WHEREAS, a demerit point system is a common method used by
17 licensing authorities to track driver behavior, where points are
18 added to a license for traffic violations; and
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20 WHEREAS, demerit point systems are correlated with positive
21 reductions in road traffic injuries, fatalities, and behavioral
22 risk factors; and
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24 WHEREAS, demerit point systems have been implemented in
25 approximately forty states and the District of Columbia; and
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27 WHEREAS, demerit point systems provide oversight on
28 dangerous driver behavior and continuous and clear consequences
29 for noncompliance and incentivize changes in behavior that
30 endanger other motorists; and
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1 WHEREAS, demerit point systems also provide opportunities
2 for drivers to correct dangerous behaviors and incentivize
3 driver education; now, therefore,
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5 BE IT RESOLVED that the Hawaii State Department of
6 Transportation is requested to collaborate with county agencies
7 responsible for driver licensing issuance and implementation to
8 develop and provide clear, timely, and comprehensive guidance,
9 including but not limited to guidance on funding, staffing,
10 information technology system modifications, administrative
11 procedures, staff training, and public communication needs, and
12 to work cooperatively with these agencies to establish a phased
13 and coordinated implementation approach that allows sufficient
14 time for implementing agencies to evaluate and address
15 operational requirements, ensure accurate integration into
16 statewide driver record systems, and promote consistent
17 application across all jurisdictions; and
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19 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
20 Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
21 of 2026, that the Department of Transportation is urged to
22 consider moving to a demerit points-based driver's licensing
23 system; and
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
26 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation and
27 the Mayors of each county.
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