

MAR 10 2008

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

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ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND COUNTY  
TRANSPORTATION AGENCIES TO ACTIVELY SEEK OPPORTUNITIES TO  
CONSTRUCT MORE ROUNDABOUTS INSTEAD OF SIGNALIZED, RIGHT-  
ANGLE INTERSECTIONS IN THE STATE.

1           WHEREAS, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety reports  
2 that fatal crashes at intersections nationwide increased  
3 eighteen per cent during the period between 1992 and 1998; and  
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5           WHEREAS, modern roundabouts are designed to control traffic  
6 flow at intersections without the use of stop signs or traffic  
7 signals; and  
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9           WHEREAS, in recent years, there has been growing interest  
10 in the potential benefits of roundabouts and an increase in  
11 construction of roundabouts; and  
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13           WHEREAS, although uncommon in Hawaii, other states and  
14 countries are constructing roundabouts as a safer alternative to  
15 intersections; and  
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17           WHEREAS, California, Colorado, Florida, Maine, Maryland,  
18 Michigan, Nevada, South Carolina, Vermont, and Washington are  
19 among the states that are constructing modern roundabouts; and  
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21           WHEREAS, the absence of right angles, combined with the  
22 necessary reduction in speed, makes roundabouts safer for  
23 pedestrians and bicyclists as well as for motorists; and  
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25           WHEREAS, an eight-state study of twenty-four intersections  
26 before and after construction of roundabouts found a thirty-nine  
27 per cent decrease in crashes and a seventy-six per cent decrease  
28 in crashes that resulted in injury; and  
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30           WHEREAS, the evidence is clear that constructing properly-  
31 designed roundabouts instead of right-angle intersections in  
32 Hawaii would likely reduce the number of crashes and the number  
33 of injuries suffered by Hawaii motorists; now, therefore,



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2 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth  
3 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008,  
4 that the Department of Transportation and county agencies having  
5 responsibility for transportation are encouraged to actively  
6 seek opportunities to construct more roundabouts instead of  
7 signalized, right-angle intersections in the State; and  
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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
10 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation and  
11 to the Mayor and the Chairperson of the Council of each county.  
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OFFERED BY: J. A. Gish

