WHEREAS, as the economic downturn continues to affect many state residents are looking at ways they can reduce their monthly expenses; and

WHEREAS, one way people are seeking to reduce their expenses is by reducing their daily transportation costs; and

WHEREAS, residents are increasingly turning to mopeds as their means of transportation because of their high miles per gallon fuel use and low maintenance costs; and

WHEREAS, moped registrations in the State of Hawaii continue to rise and are now over 23,000; and

WHEREAS, currently in the State no special education or training is required to obtain a license that would allow you to operate a moped; and

WHEREAS, as a result of these increased registrations and no special training moped related accidents and fatalities continue to rise; and

WHEREAS, amending the way mopeds are classified and handled within the Hawaii Revised Statutes to treat them more like motorcycles and less like bicycles could drastically reduce the amount of accidents and deaths in the state as well as improve the quality of life of all citizens by reducing the amount of illegally retrofitted mopeds that are often loud and disturbing; now, therefore,
BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2010, that a task force on mopeds be created within the Department of Transportation to explore the feasibility of treating mopeds more like motorcycles; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the moped taskforce shall meet a minimum of five times between June 1, 2010, and December 31, 2010. The task force may continue to meet beyond December 31, 2010, if necessary. The Department of Transportation shall provide administrative support to the illegal fireworks task force, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the task force shall consist of the Director of transportation Services or his designee; who shall serve as the chairperson, a representative from each of the four counties' transportation departments, a member of the moped industry; as selected by industry members, the Attorney General or his designee, a representative from each of the four counties' police department, and a representative from the Department of Motor Vehicles Budget and Finance office, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the moped task force shall submit a preliminary plan and strategy report to the legislature no later than January 10, 2011, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, the Mayor of the County of Hawaii, the Mayor of the County of Maui, and the Mayor of the County of Kauai.

OFFERED BY: