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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DIRECTOR OF TRANSPORTATION TO FORM A WORKING  
GROUP ON MOPED LICENSING AND REGULATION.

1           WHEREAS, Hawaii currently limits the use of a bicycle  
2 license to small vehicles with engines smaller than or equal to  
3 50 cubic centimeters (cc) of total combustion cylinder  
4 displacement, or as otherwise defined in the bicycle license  
5 ordinance; and  
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7           WHEREAS, a bicycle license issued by the State does not  
8 require vehicular insurance to be carried by said licensees; and  
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10          WHEREAS, the intention of the lack of an insurance  
11 requirement is to provide lower ownership costs for lower speed  
12 vehicles, such as pedal powered or small displacement engines  
13 less than 50cc in size, due to the lower risk of property  
14 damages that could be incurred by low speed vehicles with  
15 smaller engines; and  
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17          WHEREAS, Hawaii has experienced a surge in growth of the  
18 use of modified moped parts designed specifically to increase  
19 the cylinder displacement of typical 50cc or smaller engines,  
20 licensed under the bicycle license, to sizes in excess of 50cc;  
21 and  
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23          WHEREAS, such modification provides a loophole for moped  
24 users with bicycle licenses to circumvent the bicycle license  
25 requirements by increasing engine size beyond the intended limit  
26 of a vehicle with a bicycle license; and  
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28          WHEREAS, such modified engines significantly increase  
29 engine noise to above-lawful levels for street vehicles; and



1           WHEREAS, such modified engines are typically oil-burning  
2 two-stroke engines, which are banned in the State of California  
3 due to their significantly high rate of smog or toxic gas  
4 discharge; and

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6           WHEREAS, the modified, larger engine sizes and high flow  
7 after-market exhaust systems that are paired with them further  
8 increase these toxic two-stroke engine emissions; and

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10          WHEREAS, such modified engines allow for operation of  
11 mopeds at far greater speeds than their design allows for, which  
12 creates a clear and present danger to the public and the rider;  
13 and

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15          WHEREAS, owners of such modified mopeds with engines  
16 greater than 50cc displacement do not amend their vehicle  
17 licenses to the required "scooter/motorcycle" designation, as  
18 required by law, and do not purchase the required insurance for  
19 vehicles with engines over 50cc; and

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21          WHEREAS, mopeds under the bicycle license are never  
22 required to be inspected nor are additional fees ever required  
23 for such licensees; consequently, any violation of the bicycle  
24 license terms is never discovered or enforced by the State; and

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26          WHEREAS, the combined negative effects of significantly  
27 increased noise pollution, smog pollution, public health risk  
28 due to unsafe operating conditions, and the widespread violation  
29 of the bicycle license terms of the State justify an evaluation  
30 of moped licensing and registration; now, therefore,

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32          BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
33 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
34 Session of 2015, that the Director of Transportation is  
35 requested to form a working group to address the licensing and  
36 regulation of mopeds; and

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38          BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Transportation  
39 is requested to invite the following to serve as members of the  
40 working group:



- 1 (1) A representative from the Department of
- 2 Transportation;
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- 4 (2) A representative from the Honolulu Police Department;
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- 6 (3) A representative from the City and County of Honolulu
- 7 Department of Transportation Services;
- 8
- 9 (4) A representative from the urban-Oahu Neighborhood
- 10 Boards; and
- 11
- 12 (5) Any other individuals that the Director deems
- 13 appropriate; and
- 14

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Transportation  
 16 submit a report of the working group's findings and  
 17 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the  
 18 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
 19 the Regular Session of 2016; and

20  
 21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 22 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation, the  
 23 Chief of Police of the Honolulu Police Department, the Director  
 24 of Transportation Services of the City and County of Honolulu  
 25 and the Executive Secretary of the City and County of Honolulu  
 26 Neighborhood Board Commission.

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OFFERED BY: *Jaheshi Om*

MAR 13 2015

