
SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING STATEWIDE SUPPORT FOR TRAFFIC SAFETY LEGISLATION TO
REDUCE MOTOR VEHICLE FATALITIES AND INJURIES.

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation supports all
2 efforts to reduce motor vehicle fatalities through legislation;
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5 WHEREAS, during the calendar years of 2013-2017, Hawaii
6 tallied five hundred seventeen motor vehicle fatalities, which
7 is unacceptable as these deaths were preventable if all roadway
8 users followed Hawaii's laws; and
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10 WHEREAS, a strong multifaceted approach using enforcement,
11 education, and legislation is necessary to reduce the number of
12 motor vehicle fatalities and injuries; and
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14 WHEREAS, statewide support is needed for traffic safety
15 measures that increase public safety, including measures that:
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17 (1) Appropriate general funds to establish an in-state
18 drug testing lab to test blood samples of persons
19 involved in motor vehicle crashes for alcohol and
20 drugs, as currently blood samples need to be sent out
21 of the State, which results in unnecessary delays and
22 costs;
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24 (2) Allow county police departments to receive a portion
25 of the fines for the citations they issue to be used
26 for increased county enforcement efforts, equipment
27 purchases, and training;
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29 (3) Strengthen Hawaii's child passenger restraint law by
30 extending the age requirement for children riding in a
31 booster seat because child safety seats, when
32 correctly installed and used, are extremely effective
33 in saving children's lives, reducing the risk of death



1 by as much as seventy-one percent for infants and
2 fifty-four percent for toddlers;

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4 (4) Provide stronger penalties for persons who violate
5 Hawaii's universal seat belt law because research has
6 found that seat belts reduce the risk of fatal
7 injuries by forty-five percent and the risk of
8 critical injuries by fifty percent;

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10 (5) Establish a universal helmet law that requires all
11 motorcycle, moped, and bicycle riders to wear a helmet
12 while riding on public roadways to reduce a rider's
13 chance of traumatic brain injury or paralysis after an
14 accident;

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16 (6) Prohibit persons from riding in the cargo area of a
17 pickup truck to reduce preventable fatalities and
18 injuries; and

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20 (7) Establish a marijuana education program to help the
21 public understand the perils of edible marijuana,
22 especially the dangers of driving while impaired to
23 prevent an increase in drug impaired driving
24 fatalities; and

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26 WHEREAS, full consideration and robust discussion on these
27 issues and other traffic safety legislation in the current and
28 future legislative sessions to address roadway safety are
29 necessary so that all of Hawaii's residents and visitors arrive
30 alive; now, therefore,

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32 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
33 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018,
34 that this body urges statewide support of traffic safety
35 legislation to reduce motor vehicle fatalities and injuries; and

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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
38 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Chief Justice,
39 Attorney General, Director of Transportation, Director of
40 Health, Director of Public Safety, mayors of each county, and
41 Chief of Police of each county.

