
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND KAUAI DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS TO CONDUCT A STUDY TO IDENTIFY AND RECOMMEND METHODS TO ALLEVIATE TRAFFIC CONGESTION AT CERTAIN INTERSECTIONS ALONG THE KAUMUALII HIGHWAY.

1 WHEREAS, the Kaumualii Highway is a thirty-three-mile
2 roadway in the County of Kauai that stretches from the
3 intersection of Kuhio Highway and Rice Street to Lio Road,
4 passing through the communities of Lihue, Omao, Koloa, Kalaheo,
5 and Waimea, among others; and

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7 WHEREAS, Kauai's economy is a combination of agriculture,
8 business, construction, education, state and local government,
9 technology and defense, and tourism; and

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11 WHEREAS, according to a list provided by InfoGroup of the
12 largest employers in the County of Kauai, seventeen of the
13 county's fifty-two largest employers are located in communities
14 near the Kaumualii Highway, including Koloa, Poipu, and Waimea;
15 and

16
17 WHEREAS, although not included in InfoGroup's list, the
18 Pacific Missile Range Facility Barking Sands is one of Kauai's
19 largest employers, with nearly one thousand active duty Navy and
20 government personnel, civil service and contract civilians, and
21 Hawaii Air National Guard members employed by the facility, and
22 is located approximately one-fifth of a mile south of the
23 Kaumualii Highway on the western shore of Kauai; and

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25 WHEREAS, according to data provided by Statistical Atlas,
26 Kalaheo has the fourth largest population in Kauai County; and

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28 WHEREAS, according to the United States Census Bureau, the
29 population in Kauai County increased by nearly eight percent
30 between April 1, 2010, and July 1, 2019; and

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1 WHEREAS, according to the 2018 State of Hawaii Data Book,
2 the number of vehicle registrations in the County of Kauai
3 increased by fifteen percent between 2010 and 2018, and the
4 twenty-four-hour traffic volume in certain survey sites in the
5 county increased by approximately ten percent in Waimea and
6 thirteen percent in Omao between 2012 and 2018; and
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8 WHEREAS, the County of Kauai's growing population and the
9 presence of numerous large employers near the Kaumualii Highway
10 necessitate a collaborative effort by the State and county to
11 develop methods to alleviate traffic congestion along, and
12 enhance the reliability of, Kaumualii Highway; now, therefore,
13

14 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
15 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021,
16 that the Department of Transportation and Kauai Department of
17 Public Works are requested to conduct a joint study to identify
18 and recommend methods to alleviate traffic congestion at the
19 following intersections located in the County of Kauai:
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21 (1) Kaumualii Highway and Opu Road; and
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23 (2) Kaumualii Highway and Maluhia Road; and
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study is requested to
26 include a timeline and estimated costs to implement the
27 Department of Transportation and Kauai Department of Public
28 Works' recommendations; and
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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of
31 Transportation and Kauai Department of Public Works are also
32 requested to submit a joint report of their findings and
33 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
34 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
35 the Regular Session of 2023; and
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37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
38 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Transportation and
39 County Engineer of the Kauai Department of Public Works.

