

## **Resolution Against New Taxes or Appropriations for the Honolulu Rail Project Until An Audit and Public Hearings**

WHEREAS the cost of the City and County of Honolulu's fixed-rail project is now estimated to reach \$10 billion before completion; and

WHEREAS the island's public infrastructure of waterways, sewage lines, drainage, sidewalks, and utilities needs considerable funding; and

WHEREAS certain fees (i.e., vehicle registration and parking) already have been raised and the city administration also has mentioned increasing property taxes because no current plans exist for covering the amount for yearly, costly rail operations and maintenance; and

WHEREAS the Financial Accountability for Rail Mass Transit Association has advised Region 9 of the Federal Transit Administration to continue to withhold the remainder of federally obligated funds for the rail project until the FTA receives, reviews, and approves the financial audit required by Hawaii Senate Bill 4 (2017); therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that there should be no funding increases for rail's development and implementation or for its future operations and maintenance and further acquisition of real estate; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the legislature will not authorize any addition to the general excise and use tax, and urges the mayor and the council of the City and County of Honolulu to refrain from any further increases in service taxes and fees or in property taxes until all ramifications of the rail audit are fully understood; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that there shall be public hearings on the comprehensive audit requested by the governor and the State Legislature.

THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be posted on the Hawai'i Republican Party website, transmitted to the Governor of the State of Hawaii; members of the Hawaii State Legislature and the Mayors of all Hawaii Counties.