



RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES TO WORK WITH ITS TOW CONTRACTORS TO IMPROVE CONTRACTED SERVICES FOR THE REMOVAL OF ABANDONED AND DERELICT VEHICLES FROM CITY STREETS.

WHEREAS, the problem of abandoned and derelict vehicles being left on City roadways has grown in recent months to include more communities across Oahu, resulting in threats to public health and safety due to the numerous vehicles that are stripped down to jagged frames, stored on roadway shoulders where they are not visible at night, and leak hazardous fluids; and

WHEREAS, under Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 290, the City is responsible for the removal and disposal of vehicles deemed abandoned and derelict; and

WHEREAS, the City has tasked its Department of Customer Services to investigate and tow abandoned and derelict vehicles from roadways and other public places, using dedicated funds from the "Highway Beautification and Disposal of Abandoned Vehicles Revolving Fund" to contract with qualified vendors to tow and properly store and dispose of these vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the media have recently reported that City tow vendors have resorted to illegally storing these vehicles along public roadways due to filled-to-capacity storage lots; and

WHEREAS, the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act ("SCRA"), a federal law that provides certain protections for military personnel as they enter active duty, may be a contributing factor in forcing tow vendors to resort to storing excess vehicles on public roadways rather than in their tow yards and no longer responding to new tow requests, which, may violate their contracts with the City; and

WHEREAS, the Council finds that the threats to public health and safety posed by abandoned and derelict vehicles cannot be ignored and allowed to worsen, and that steps must be taken to address the SCRA and any other factors that may be hindering the immediate removal, proper storage, and timely disposal of these vehicles; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City and County of Honolulu that it requests the Department of Customer Services to take immediate steps to enforce its current tow vendor contracts for the removal of abandoned and derelict vehicles from City streets in order to immediately reduce the number of abandoned and derelict vehicles on City roadways; and



CITY COUNCIL
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII

No. 17-165

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Customer Services is urged to work with the City's tow vendors to address all issues, including the SCRA, that may be contributing to the vendors' failure to properly tow, store, and dispose of abandoned and derelict vehicles; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Administration is requested to provide a status report to the Council regarding the resolution of these issues no later than 90 days after the adoption of this resolution; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor, the Managing Director, and the Director of Customer Services.

INTRODUCED BY:

[Handwritten Signature]

DATE OF INTRODUCTION:

MAY 30 2017

Honolulu, Hawaii

Councilmembers

SOI/HV/30 6W 3:38

FILED
MAY 30 2018
PURSUANT TO HON Sec. 1-2.5