



# CITY COUNCIL

## CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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### **COUNCILMEMBER DJOU: RAIL VOTE PROPOSAL UNANIMOUSLY SURVIVES FIRST POLITICAL HURDLE**

Honolulu City Councilmember Charles K. Djou (Waikiki, East Honolulu) reacted to the preliminary passage of his proposed charter amendment resolution to place a question on the ballot asking for voter approval of the City's rail system.

"This rail debate bitterly divides our community. There is no better way to finally bring legitimate closure to this three-decade long dispute than a direct vote of the people. Although my proposal has several more hurdles to clear, contrary to initial press reports, I am happy that my colleagues on the City Council are at least willing to listen to my idea," stated Councilmember Djou

Last week, Councilmember Djou introduced two measures to allow for a direct vote on the City's proposed rail system this fall. Djou's first proposal, Reso. 08-166, will ask voters if the city should establish a steel-on-steel rail system. Djou's second proposal, a CD1 to Reso. 07-90, ties voter approval of a transit authority to voter approval of the proposed rail system. Both proposals will be heard next week in committee on July 30.

Any charter amendment resolution must pass the Honolulu City Council by a 2/3d majority vote and be adopted before September 5<sup>th</sup> for placement on the November general election ballot. For the 2008 election, the mayor may veto any proposed charter amendment resolutions and City Council holds no over-ride powers on a mayoral veto of a charter amendment question.

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