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Republican Representatives Want Residents To Have Island Hopping Options

By Michele Van Hessen, 10/11/2007 8:52:15 AM

HONOLULU, HI – "Hawaii's Superferry offers an additional venue to small businesses for transporting their goods to markets," said House Republican Leader Lynn Finnegan. "People want other options to move groups and vehicles to other islands for things like family reunions or hula halau competitions."

"A farmer in Kauai who has a crop of lettuce harvested for market was previously limited by a bi-weekly barge," added Rep. Karen Leinani Awana.

"I think everyone agrees we will be amending Chapter 343 next year," said Rep. Barbara Marumoto.

The impact to the entire specter of state commerce will be enormous; and economic growth and progress will grind to a halt if the Hawaii Superferry is not able to remain in Hawaii, stated Rep. Gene Ward.

"It is vital that the Legislature call a special session to pass a law to allow the Superferry to operate while the environmental studies are being done," said Floor Leader Rep. Colleen Meyer.

Michele Van Hessen is the Media Liaison for the Minority Caucus in the House of Representatives.

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