HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary =

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Subject: Hybrid vehicles in HOV lanes

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Requires the Department of Transportation, unless prohibited by federal law or regulation, and with approval of Federal Highway administration, to:

- allow hybrid vehicles to use HOV lanes regardless of minimum vehicle occupancy requirements, if approved by Federal Highway Administration
- allow single-occupant hybrid vehicles (vehicles operated by both electricity and gasoline) to use high-occupancy vehicle lanes without fee or toll

Requires department to issue decals to hybrid vehicles on request for a \$15 fee. Makes it a misdemeanor to display the decal in a vehicle if the decal was not issued for that vehicle.

Amends the law prohibiting objects in a vehicle between the driver and the windshield to allow electronic toll collection devices.