
A BILL FOR AN ACT

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE ROADS IN LIMBO PROGRAM FOR THE
COUNTY OF HAWAII.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Roads in limbo are roads that neither the State
2 nor the county of Hawaii highways divisions maintain. They are
3 roads that are typically referred to as government roads and
4 homestead roads. They were previously roads of the Territory of
5 Hawaii, jurisdiction over which is at issue between the State
6 and the county. The matter of jurisdiction has not been
7 resolved, but the State and county are currently in the process
8 of addressing roads in limbo issues.

9 Residents who reside on the roads in limbo have made
10 frequent requests to the county of Hawaii for repairs and
11 maintenance of the roads. The county has responded to their
12 requests on a very limited basis, pursuant to the direction of
13 the county civil defense agency. Other than in response to an
14 emergency situation, the county of Hawaii does not have the
15 resources to properly maintain these roads in a fair and
16 consistent manner. In the county of Hawaii, there are an



1 estimated four hundred fifty-nine miles of roads that fall into
2 the roads in limbo category.

3 The county public works department has established a
4 protocol to develop a maintenance program, which includes the
5 following:

- 6 (1) Surveying each road;
- 7 (2) Physically verifying the miles of roads in limbo;
- 8 (3) Determining the condition of each road and
9 categorizing each road;
- 10 (4) Evaluating culverts and bridges;
- 11 (5) Prioritizing the repairs of roads by district; and
- 12 (6) Considering land acquisition and realignment of some
13 roads.

14 At twenty-five miles per year, it would take the county an
15 estimated eighteen years to complete their maintenance program,
16 at a cost in excess of \$2,000,000 per year. The county of
17 Hawaii is requesting \$2,000,000 in state moneys with the
18 intention of using county funds to match the state appropriation
19 in the first year, to establish a roads in limbo program, and
20 work with the state department of transportation in the hope of
21 establishing a long-term partnership. Even if that long-term
22 goal fails, the \$2,000,000 appropriated this year would enable



1 the county to start the program and finally make a dent in what
2 has been, until now, an increasing problem.

3 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$2,000,000 or so much
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007 for a
6 grant-in-aid to the county of Hawaii for the establishment of a
7 roads in limbo program to resolve issues relating to roads in
8 the county of Hawaii where state and county jurisdiction are not
9 certain.

10 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the county of
11 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

12 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.



HB 2520

HD1

Report Title:

Roads in Limbo; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes and appropriates funds for a roads in limbo program to maintain certain roads in the county of Hawaii where state and county jurisdiction are not certain. (HB2520 HD1)

