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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

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

1           SECTION 1. Hawaii is home to two of the world's premier  
2 astronomy observatories, Haleakala on Maui and Mauna Kea on  
3 Hawaii. Mauna Kea is considered the finest observing site in  
4 the world. One of the most critical needs for preserving the  
5 value of these sites is to reduce bright sources of light that  
6 penetrate the dark night sky. Recent nighttime images from the  
7 international space station revealed that some of the brightest  
8 sources of light on Maui and Hawaii are the airports and harbors  
9 on both islands. Astronomers on Mauna Kea are now detecting  
10 artificial light sources from urban areas that are diminishing  
11 the telescopes' ability to do research.

12           The purpose of the Act is to require the department of  
13 transportation, to the extent that is practical:

14           (1) To comply with county ordinances and standards  
15 relating to outside lighting at airports, harbors, and  
16 highways; and



1           (2) To provide cut-off or fully shield lens fixtures to  
2           direct artificial lighting downward and not diffused  
3           into the atmosphere.

4           SECTION 2. Chapter 262, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
5 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
6 and to read as follows:

7           "§262- Outdoor lighting. (a) To the extent that is  
8 practical and not in conflict with any safety regulation or  
9 federal law, regulation, or mandate, in the event that any  
10 airport regulations or standards relating to outdoor lighting on  
11 runways, ramp or apron areas, roadways, and parking lots are in  
12 conflict with county ordinances or other regulations regarding  
13 the same areas, the more stringent requirement or standard shall  
14 govern.

15           (b) Outdoor lighting in ramp or apron areas, parking lots,  
16 and roadways shall be equipped with fully shielded lens fixtures  
17 directing the lighting downward.

18           (c) Where airport operations cease at night, the  
19 department shall minimize outdoor lighting to the minimum level  
20 necessary for safety and security."



1 SECTION 3. Part I of Chapter 266, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
2 is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately  
3 designated and to read as follows:

4 "§266- Outdoor lighting. (a) To the extent that is  
5 practical and not in conflict with any safety regulation or  
6 federal law, regulation, or mandate, in the event that any  
7 harbor regulation or standard relating to outdoor lighting at  
8 any harbor facility conflicts with any county ordinance or other  
9 regulation regarding the same areas, the more stringent  
10 requirement or standard shall govern.

11 (b) Outdoor lighting at all harbor facilities shall be  
12 equipped with fully shielded lens fixtures directing the  
13 lighting downward.

14 (c) Where harbor operations cease at night, the department  
15 shall minimize outdoor lighting to the minimum level necessary  
16 for safety and security."

17 SECTION 4. Part III of Chapter 264, Hawaii Revised  
18 Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately  
19 designated and to read as follows:

20 "§264- Highway lighting. (a) To the extent that is  
21 practical and not in conflict with any safety regulations or  
22 federal law, regulation, or mandate, in the event of any highway



1 regulations or standards relating to highway lighting are in  
 2 conflict with any county ordinance or other regulations  
 3 regarding highway lighting, the more stringent requirement or  
 4 standard shall govern.

5 (b) All overhead highway lighting shall be equipped with  
 6 fully shielded lens fixtures directing the lighting downward."

7 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

8 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

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JAN 17 2006

**Report Title:**

Airports; Harbors; Highways; Outdoor Lighting

**Description:**

Requires DOT, to the extent practicable, to comply with county outdoor lighting ordinances at airports, harbors, and highways and to provide fully shielded lens fixtures on all outdoor lighting fixtures.

