
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that it is critical for
2 the safety, health, and well-being of residents of rural areas
3 in the state, particularly those areas where access is
4 restricted to single-lane roads served by numerous bridges, that
5 transportation be maintained, especially in anticipation of
6 catastrophic events such as earthquakes and flooding. Hawaii
7 experienced two sizeable seismic events on October 15, 2006,
8 that caused electrical blackouts and disruption to
9 transportation in various areas of the State. On the island of
10 Maui, especially on the road between Hana and Kipahulu on the
11 southeastern side of the island, several bridges on the one-lane
12 road were damaged when the earthquakes fractured rock
13 foundations beneath the bridges. Paihi bridge on the Hana
14 highway had to be closed and replaced with a temporary bridge.
15 Military helicopters had to make deliveries of food, water, and
16 fuel to residents affected by the shutdown of the bridge.
17 During the summer of 2007, a landslide and heavy rains caused
18 flooding that closed that temporary bridge for two months.



1 The legislature finds that, according to a 2006 federal
2 Department of Transportation assessment, 46 per cent of Hawaii's
3 bridges (513 of 1,110) are classified substandard, of which 156
4 are classified structurally deficient and 357 are classified
5 functionally obsolete, ranking the State as the third worst in
6 the nation. Although a substandard classification does not
7 necessarily mean those bridges are unsafe, certain bridges will
8 never be brought up to current federal standards. For example,
9 there is no practicable way to provide two-lane access to the
10 more than 50 bridges along the one-lane Hana highway. However,
11 as experience with the earthquakes of 2006 and the landslide and
12 heavy rains during the summer of 2007 has shown, the Maui County
13 civil defense agency needs to take precautionary measures in
14 terms of anticipatory disaster contingency planning to maintain
15 continued access to the numerous communities served by the Hana
16 highway and its many one-lane bridges in the event of a
17 catastrophic event.

18 The purpose of this Act is to require Maui County Civil
19 Defense to prepare a disaster contingency plan to maintain
20 access to communities served by the Hana highway, including its
21 numerous one-lane bridges.

1 SECTION 2. (a) The administrator of the Maui civil
2 defense agency shall prepare a disaster contingency plan to
3 maintain continued transportation access along the Hana highway,
4 including the one-lane bridges along the highway, in the event
5 of catastrophic events such as earthquakes, landslides, or heavy
6 rain and flooding. The plan shall include at least:

- 7 (1) Identification of potential catastrophic events that
8 may impair transportation access along Hana highway;
- 9 (2) Feasible plans and actions that can be implemented in
10 preparation and anticipation of each type of
11 catastrophic event, such as seismic retrofitting work
12 to strengthen the one-lane bridges and procurement of
13 Federal Emergency Management Agency funds for such
14 work, plans for alternate routes, and plans for state-
15 county liaison and interagency cooperation;
- 16 (3) Actions to be taken during a catastrophic event; and
17 (4) Follow-up actions to be taken after a catastrophic
18 event.

19 (b) The mayor and the council of the county of Maui shall
20 cooperate with the administrator of Maui civil defense agency on
21 the preparation of the disaster contingency plan, as requested
22 by the administrator.



1 (c) The administrator shall submit the disaster
2 contingency plan, including findings, recommendations, and any
3 necessary proposed legislation to the legislature no later than
4 20 days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2009.

5 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
7 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 to the
8 county of Maui for the Maui civil defense agency to prepare the
9 disaster contingency plan pursuant to section 2.

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

12 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval,
13 except that section 3 shall take effect on July 1, 2008.



Report Title:

Disaster Contingency Planning; Bridges; DOT Report;
Appropriation

Description:

Requires the administrator of the Maui County Civil Defense Agency to develop a contingency plan to maintain transportation access along Hana highway, including its many bridges, on the island of Maui in the event of catastrophic events such as earthquakes, landslides, or flooding. Report to legislature. Appropriates \$ (HB2577 HD1).

