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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO 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 it is practical, to comply  
14 with county ordinances and standards relating to outside  
15 lighting for all new installations at airports, harbors, and  
16 highways; provided that the compliance with county ordinances



1 and standards do not conflict with any safety regulation or  
2 federal law, regulation, or mandate.

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

6 "§262- Outdoor lighting. To the extent that is  
7 practical and not in conflict with any safety regulation or  
8 federal law, regulation, or mandate, if any airport rules or  
9 standards relating to outdoor lighting on ramp or apron areas,  
10 roadways, and parking lots are in conflict with county  
11 ordinances or other rules regarding the same areas, the more  
12 stringent requirement or standard shall govern all new  
13 installations."

14 SECTION 3. Chapter 264, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
15 amended by adding a new section to part III to be appropriately  
16 designated and to read as follows:

17 "§264- Highway lighting. To the extent that is  
18 practical and not in conflict with any safety regulation or  
19 federal law, regulation, or mandate, if any highway rules or  
20 standards relating to highway lighting are in conflict with any  
21 county ordinance or other rules regarding highway lighting, the



1 more stringent requirement or standard shall govern all new  
2 installations."

3 SECTION 4. Chapter 266, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately  
5 designated and to read as follows:

6 "§266- Outdoor lighting. To the extent that is  
7 practical and not in conflict with any safety regulation or  
8 federal law, regulation, or mandate, if any harbor rule or  
9 standard relating to outdoor lighting at any harbor facility  
10 conflicts with any county ordinance or other rule regarding the  
11 same areas, the more stringent requirement or standard shall  
12 govern all new installations."

13 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

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



**Report Title:**

Airports; Harbors; Highways; Outdoor Lighting

**Description:**

Requires the department of transportation, to the extent practicable, to comply with county outdoor lighting ordinances at airports, harbors, and highways. (SD1)

