

JAN 19 2007

S.B. NO. 884

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TRAFFIC.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that it is critical for
2 Hawaii's highways and roads to accommodate traffic flows
3 efficiently, safely, and quickly. The Pali highway is a
4 critical road that serves as ingress and egress for a multitude
5 of communities bridging windward and leeward Oahu. Motorists
6 from Waimanalo, Kailua, Kaneohe, and other windward communities
7 depend on and use the Pali highway in their daily commutes to
8 and from work and for other purposes. It has become apparent
9 over the years that during peak traffic hours in the mornings
10 and afternoons, traffic backs up for miles in every direction as
11 vehicles approach the Pali highway. It is not unusual during
12 peak morning hours for town-bound traffic to be backed up miles
13 to Kailua town along Kalaniana'ole highway and Kailua road, miles
14 to Enchanted Lake and Waimanalo along Kalaniana'ole highway, and
15 miles to Kaneohe town along Kamehameha highway. It has also
16 become equally obvious that windward-bound traffic during peak
17 hours is invariably sparse. Given these conditions, it is only



1 logical to determine whether some sort of contraflow traffic
2 scheme can be implemented wherein one or more existing windward-
3 bound lanes can be reversed for town-bound use during peak
4 traffic hours.

5 The purpose of this Act is to create a one year contraflow
6 pilot project for the Pali highway and Kahekili highway and to
7 require the department of transportation to perform a definitive
8 study to determine the feasibility of implementing a permanent
9 contraflow traffic scheme for the Pali highway and for the
10 Kahekili highway between Haiku road and Hui Iwa street at the
11 Valley of the Temples during peak traffic hours.

12 SECTION 2. There is established within the department of
13 transportation a one year contraflow pilot project for the Pali
14 highway and Kahekili highway. Contraflow lanes shall be
15 established on the windward-bound lanes for the Pali highway and
16 for the Kahekili highway between Haiku road and Hui Iwa street
17 at the Valley of the Temples during peak traffic hours for town-
18 bound use.

19 During the course of the pilot project, the director of
20 transportation shall conduct a study on the feasibility of
21 setting up permanent contraflow lanes on the Pali highway during
22 peak traffic hours. The report shall review prior relevant



1 studies and shall include all factors the director of
2 transportation deems appropriate and relevant, such as:

- 3 (1) Communities and areas of Oahu affected;
- 4 (2) Population densities and growth of those communities;
- 5 (3) Existing patterns and trends in traffic flows and
6 densities;
- 7 (4) Existing peak and off-peak usage and flows under
8 varying conditions including seasonal and weather
9 considerations;
- 10 (5) Peak carrying capacity of the Pali highway and of the
11 Kahekili highway between Haiku road and Hui Iwa street
12 at the Valley of the Temples, as well as the
13 surrounding feeder highways and roads at current usage
14 patterns;
- 15 (6) All these patterns compared with patterns, trends,
16 flows, and usage while contraflow lanes are in use;
17 and
- 18 (7) Any other factors the director deems relevant.

19 The director of transportation shall submit a written
20 report of findings and recommendations to the governor and the
21 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of



1 the 2008 regular session, including any necessary proposed
2 legislation to implement the study's recommendations.

3 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$, or so
5 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, to
6 the department of transportation for the purposes of this Act.

7 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
8 transportation.

9 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

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INTRODUCED BY: Jim

John Ilee

S.S.K.
4. Kiani Egh

Greg L. Auer

Report Title:

Pali and Kahekili Highways; Contraflow Study

Description:

Creates a one year contraflow pilot project for the Pali highway and Kahekili highway, requires the department of transportation to perform a study on the efficacy of the Pali highway and Kahekili highway contraflow pilot project and report findings and recommendations to the legislature prior to the start of the 2008 legislative session.

