
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
2 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read
3 as follows:

4 "CHAPTER

5 **TRANSPORTATION PERFORMANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT**

6 § -1 **Findings.** The legislature finds that the State's
7 worsening transportation problems are imposing substantial costs
8 on residents and businesses. Traffic congestion in Hawaii's
9 major metropolitan areas has worsened over time and in relation
10 to comparable metropolitan areas in other states. Traffic
11 congestion diminishes air quality and safety; undermines the
12 State's economic health, its residents' quality of life, and
13 prosperity; and perpetuates poverty. The absence of a specific
14 and concrete plan by the State to address traffic congestion
15 ensures that it will continue to worsen.

16 The purpose of this Act is to minimize traffic congestion
17 and to contribute to the economic growth of the State and to the
18 well-being and safety of all the State's residents.



1 **§ -2 Traffic congestion reduction objectives.** (a) The
2 traffic congestion reduction program shall apply to all
3 counties.

4 (b) The department of transportation shall adopt an
5 objective to provide freeway and arterial level of service E, as
6 defined in the Highway Capacity Manual 2000 edition of the
7 Transportation Research Board. Level of service E should be
8 expected at ninety-nine per cent of the intersections on all
9 islands while they operate under normal conditions during peak
10 periods of traffic. Effective use of "traffic toolbox"
11 techniques shall be made, including measures such as ramp
12 metering, freeway widening, urban underpasses, and integrated
13 traffic-signal coordination. Capital-intensive measures such as
14 new high-occupancy toll or other managed lanes and tunnels shall
15 also be considered.

16 (c) The department of transportation shall adopt interim
17 objectives that improve the level of service for at least ten
18 miles of urban arterial streets of freeways per year.

19 (d) The department of transportation shall propose a cost-
20 effective plan to achieve the long-term and interim objectives
21 at the lowest possible cost. The principal purpose of the plan
22 shall be to identify the roadway resources and strategies that



1 would need to be implemented to achieve the long-term and
2 interim traffic congestion reduction objectives. The plan shall
3 include cost estimates and the cost-per-reduced-delay-hour
4 compared to the status quo case for the achievement of the long-
5 term and interim traffic congestion reduction objectives.

6 (e) The traffic congestion reduction plan shall not
7 include the use of tolling or road pricing, except for capacity
8 expansion. No lanes currently operating without tolls shall be
9 converted to tolling or road pricing.

10 (f) To the maximum extent feasible, the department of
11 transportation shall apply a cost-per-delay-hour standard in
12 project evaluation within each of the counties. Costs shall
13 include only actual proposed monetary expenditures by the State
14 or other organizations making actual monetary expenditures with
15 respect to the projects under consideration.

16 (g) In all project planning, the department of
17 transportation shall consider the cost-per-reduced-delay-hour as
18 a factor in decision-making. The department of transportation
19 shall require the use of the cost-per-delay-hour factor in any
20 major project planning by any authority, agency, or jurisdiction
21 receiving transportation funding from the State. Major projects
22 shall include any project with a projected cost of \$10,000,000



1 or more. While the program is focused appropriately on highway
2 improvements, any improvement that is lower in cost-per-reduced-
3 delay-hour than the highway improvement in the same corridor
4 shall be fundable under this program. All major projects shall
5 be re-evaluated two years after completion to ascertain actual
6 delay improvements and actual benefits and costs.

7 **§ -3 Statewide traffic flow improvement plan.** (a) The
8 department of transportation shall provide effective incident
9 management that reduces annual incident congestion delay by at
10 least twenty-five per cent by June 30, 2016.

11 (b) The plan shall reduce delays caused by congestion on
12 roadways that are scheduled for improvement projects by an
13 average of ten per cent per year.

14 (c) The plan shall reduce delays caused by congestion in
15 construction work zones by ten per cent per year.

16 **§ -4 Statewide infrastructure maintenance and**
17 **improvement program.** (a) The program shall maintain annually
18 at least eighty per cent of the State's road surface in
19 acceptable ride quality condition as measured by the
20 International Roughness Index.

21 (b) The plan shall maintain annually all bridges
22 identified as weight restricted or structurally deficient, or



1 both, so that no adverse effect arises from their safe use by
2 emergency vehicles, school buses, and vehicles serving the area
3 economy.

4 (c) The plan shall provide for repair of all reported
5 potholes located in roadways within one day of the receipt of
6 notification ninety-eight per cent of the time, except during
7 emergencies and adverse weather.

8 **§ -5 Statewide safety enhancement program.** (a) For
9 the period until June 30, 2020, the department of transportation
10 shall reduce the:

11 (1) Injury rate, as measured by injuries per one hundred
12 million vehicle miles traveled, by an average of two
13 per cent per year; and

14 (2) Number of injuries by one and one half per cent per
15 year.

16 (b) Reduce the number of fatalities and the fatality rate.

17 For the period until June 30, 2020, the department of
18 transportation shall reduce the:

19 (1) Fatality rate, as measured by fatalities per one
20 hundred million vehicle miles traveled, by an average
21 of two per cent per year; and



1 (2) Number of fatalities by one and one half per cent per
2 year.

3 (c) The department of transportation shall develop
4 emergency preparedness plans, including regional evacuation
5 plans, to respond to natural disasters, incidents related to
6 homeland security, and serious disruption of major arteries due
7 to infrastructure failure or serious traffic accidents.

8 **§ -6 Partnership with academia.** (a) The objectives of
9 this chapter cannot be achieved if there are not enough
10 engineers to carry out the task of improving congestion and
11 transportation. The department of transportation, all the
12 counties, and engineering firms throughout the State have been
13 severely affected by the shortage of engineers for over ten
14 years. Hawaii is the only state without a university
15 transportation research center to engage academic and student
16 engineers with transportation problems.

17 (b) The department of transportation shall work
18 cooperatively with the college of engineering of the University
19 of Hawaii in the creation of a transportation research center
20 and transportation programs that integrate engineering education
21 with congestion mitigation and safety improvements in the State.



1 § -7 **Annual reporting.** The department of
 2 transportation shall submit a written annual report to the
 3 legislature, which shall be a public document that shall be
 4 posted on the department's internet website and retained for a
 5 minimum of twenty-five years."

6 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
 7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$, or so much
 8 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2011-2012, and the
 9 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
 10 2012-2013, to develop and establish a statewide traffic flow
 11 improvement plan, statewide infrastructure maintenance and
 12 improvement program, and a statewide traffic safety enhancement
 13 program.

14 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
 15 of transportation for the purposes of this Act.

16 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval;
 17 provided that section 2 shall take effect on July 1, 2011.

18

INTRODUCED BY: _____



JAN 26 2011



Report Title:

Transportation; Traffic Congestion Reduction

Description:

Requires the Department of Transportation to implement traffic congestion reduction plans, a statewide traffic flow improvement plan, a statewide infrastructure maintenance and improvement program, and a traffic safety enhancement plan. Requires partnering with academia. Requires annual reports. Effective July 1, 2011.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

