A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ROADS.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that roads provide
- 2 essential access to employment, health care, education,
- 3 emergency services, goods, and other services. A well-
- 4 maintained road infrastructure and a well-connected
- 5 transportation network are necessary for economic growth, social
- 6 development, and positive quality of life.
- 7 The legislature also finds that many communities in the
- 8 State, particularly rural areas and subdivisions with
- 9 substandard roads, suffer from transportation challenges and
- 10 significant road deficiencies that impede community access to
- 11 resources and services. This lack of connectivity also hinders
- 12 the ability to respond to emergencies in these communities.
- 13 The purpose of this Act is to establish a road connectivity
- 14 task force to assess and identify ways of improving road access
- 15 statewide, particularly in rural areas and subdivisions with
- 16 substandard roads.

1	SECT	ION 2. (a) There is established a road connectivity									
2	task force within the department of transportation for										
3	administrative purposes to assess and identify ways of improving										
4	road access in rural areas and subdivisions with substandard										
5	roads statewide, including:										
6	(1)	Evaluating roadways to address challenges in emergency									
7		response and access to those communities;									
8	(2)	Identifying alternate routes and improved movement for									
9		those communities, particularly in the event of road									
10		closures or emergencies;									
11	(3)	Identifying road connectivity locations to improve									
12		public safety and allow for emergency access; and									
13	(4)	Determining ways to improve road access to those									
14		communities during floods, fires, motor vehicle									
15		accidents, and other emergencies.									
16	(b)	The task force shall comprise the following									
17	individuals or their designees:										
18	(1)	The director of transportation, who shall serve as the									
19		chair of the task force;									

(2) The director of the office of planning;

(3) A member from each of the county planning departments;

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- 1 (4) A member from each of the county fire departments;
- 2 (5) A member from each of the county police departments;
- 3 (6) A member from emergency medical services in each of
- 4 the counties;
- 5 (7) A member appointed by the senate president;
- 6 (8) A member appointed by the speaker of the house of
- 7 representatives; and
- **8** (9) Any other members as deemed necessary by the task
- 9 force.
- 10 (c) The task force shall submit a report of its findings
- 11 and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
- 12 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
- 13 the regular session of 2024.
- 14 (d) No member of the task force shall be made subject to
- 15 section 84-17, Hawaii Revised Statutes, solely because of that
- 16 member's participation on the task force.
- 17 (e) The task force shall be exempt from chapter 92, Hawaii
- 18 Revised Statutes.
- 19 (f) The members of the task force shall serve without
- 20 compensation but shall be reimbursed for any necessary expenses
- 21 incurred in the performance of their official duties.

1	(g)	The	task	force	shall	cease	to	exist	after	it	has
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- 2 accomplished the purpose of this Act or twenty days prior to the
- 3 convening of the regular session of 2024, whichever occurs
- 4 first.
- 5 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY:

JAN 2 5 2021

Report Title:

Road Connectivity Task Force

Description:

Establishes a road connectivity task force to assess and identify ways of improving road access in rural areas and in subdivisions with substandard roads. Requires a report to the legislature.

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