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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that transforming  
2 Hawaii's surface transportation systems and infrastructure to  
3 prioritize walking, rolling, bicycling, and public transit is at  
4 the nexus of the State's commitments to public health, public  
5 safety, economic vitality, and environmental sustainability.  
6 The most important component of this transformation is ensuring  
7 that every child in Hawaii enjoys the infrastructure, social  
8 support, confidence, and skills to walk, roll, bike, or bus to  
9 school. The legislature further finds that ensuring safe routes  
10 to school for every keiki will not only protect our most  
11 vulnerable road users, but also serve as a long-term investment  
12 in the future of transportation in the State. However, the  
13 legislature recognizes that decades of automobile-centric  
14 planning and development have created formidable barriers to  
15 this transformation. These barriers include a lack of complete,  
16 safe, and comfortable bike and pedestrian networks; burdensome  
17 and complicated funding mechanisms for safe routes to school



1 programs and community engagement; a lack of a state safe routes  
2 to school plan that creates performance measures, goals,  
3 strategies, and accountability; and a lack of coordination of  
4 safe routes to school promotion among state and county agencies  
5 and community-based organizations.

6 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

7 (1) Establish the safe routes to school advisory committee  
8 to develop a comprehensive statewide safe routes to  
9 school plan to advise the State on strategies to  
10 ensure that each child in the State is able to safely  
11 bike, walk, roll, or bus to that child's respective  
12 school; and

13 (2) Appropriate moneys for the department of  
14 transportation to hire additional staffing, including  
15 one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) safe routes to  
16 school program coordinator, and procure facilities and  
17 equipment necessary to support the safe routes to  
18 school advisory committee.

19 SECTION 2. Chapter 291C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
20 amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately  
21 designated and to read as follows:



1           "§291C- Safe routes to school advisory committee. (a)

2           There is established within the planning branch of the highways  
3           division of the department of transportation for administrative  
4           purposes a safe routes to school advisory committee to advise  
5           the State on strategies to ensure that each child in the State  
6           is able to safely bike, walk, roll, or bus to that child's  
7           respective school.

8           (b) The safe routes to school advisory committee shall  
9           develop a comprehensive statewide safe routes to school plan  
10          that shall include:

- 11           (1) Methods to stabilize the safe routes special fund  
12                 distribution mechanism;
- 13           (2) Recommendations to streamline safe routes to school  
14                 program funding to facilitate schools and communities'  
15                 efforts to apply for, and receive, moneys;
- 16           (3) Identification of, and recommendations for, funding  
17                 mechanisms, planning processes, and programming that  
18                 are inclusive and equitable; and
- 19           (4) Recommendations to prioritize safe routes to school  
20                 programming to serve students attending schools that  
21                 receive federal funds pursuant to title I of the



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1           federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as  
2           amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act.

3           (c) The safe routes to school advisory committee shall:

4           (1) Make the comprehensive statewide safe routes to school  
5           plan developed pursuant to subsection (b) available to  
6           the public no later than November 1, 2025; and

7           (2) Submit a copy of the comprehensive statewide safe  
8           routes to school plan developed pursuant to subsection  
9           (b), including any proposed legislation, to the  
10           legislature no later than twenty days prior to the  
11           convening of the regular session of 2026.

12           (d) The safe routes to school advisory committee shall  
13           consist of the following members:

14           (1) The safe routes to school program coordinator;

15           (2) A representative of the physical activity and  
16           nutrition branch of the department of health; and

17           (3) A representative of the department of education.

18           (e) The members of the safe routes to school advisory  
19           committee shall elect one of its members to serve as  
20           chairperson, who shall invite the following individuals to serve  
21           as members of the advisory committee:



- 1        (1) A representative of the Honolulu police department;
- 2        (2) A representative of the Kauai police department;
- 3        (3) A representative of the Hawaii police department;
- 4        (4) A representative of the Maui police department;
- 5        (5) The county safe routes to school program coordinator  
6            for the city and county of Honolulu;
- 7        (6) The county safe routes to school program coordinator  
8            for the county of Kauai;
- 9        (7) The county safe routes to school program coordinator  
10           for the county of Hawaii;
- 11       (8) The county safe routes to school program coordinator  
12           for the county of Maui;
- 13       (9) One representative from each metropolitan planning  
14           organization in the State;
- 15       (10) A representative of the Papa Ola Lokahi Transportation  
16           Equity Working Group;
- 17       (11) A representative of Hawaii Bicycling League;
- 18       (12) A representative of Hawaii Public Health Institute;
- 19       (13) A representative of the Statewide Safe Routes to  
20           School Coalition; and



1       (14) Any other individuals that the safe routes to school  
2           advisory committee deems appropriate.

3       (f) The term of each member of the safe routes to school  
4 advisory committee shall be four years; provided that of the  
5 members initially appointed, members shall serve for  
6 four years, three members shall serve for three years,  
7 members shall serve for two years, and the remaining  
8 members shall serve for one year.

9       (g) The safe routes to school advisory committee shall:

10       (1) Meet no less than monthly to review the State's  
11           progress in implementing the State's safe routes to  
12           school program; and

13       (2) Make recommendations to the department of  
14           transportation no less than biannually;  
15 provided that the safe routes to school advisory committee may  
16 meet and make recommendations to the department of  
17 transportation at additional times as a majority of the members  
18 of the safe routes to school advisory committee deems necessary.

19       (h) The members of the safe routes to school advisory  
20 committee shall serve without compensation but shall be



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1 reimbursed for expenses, including travel expenses, necessary  
2 for the performance of their duties."

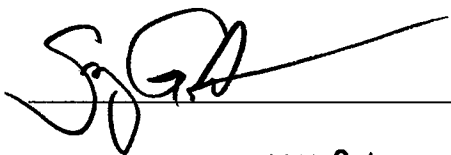
3 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for the  
6 department of transportation to hire additional staffing,  
7 including one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) safe routes to  
8 school program coordinator position, and procure any facilities  
9 and equipment necessary to support the safe routes to school  
10 advisory committee.

11 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
12 transportation for the purposes of this Act.

13 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

14 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

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INTRODUCED BY:  \_\_\_\_\_

JAN 24 2022



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**Report Title:**

DOT; Highways Division; Planning Branch; Safe Routes to School; Advisory Committee; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes the safe routes to school advisory committee within the Planning Branch of the Highways Division of the Department of Transportation. Appropriates moneys.

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

