

JAN 21 2022

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Federal-Aid
2 Highway Act of 1962 required metropolitan planning organizations
3 to be established for any urbanized area with a population over
4 50,000 as a condition to eligibility for federal transportation
5 financial assistance. Congress intended metropolitan planning
6 organizations to serve as a forum for promoting collaboration
7 among local communities and government agencies and to direct
8 federal funds toward projects that increase access to
9 opportunity and prosperity through improved multimodal
10 pedestrian, bicycle, and transit options.

11 The legislature further finds that there are two
12 established metropolitan planning organizations operating in the
13 State of Hawaii, one located in the county of Maui and the other
14 in the city and county of Honolulu. According to the 2020
15 United States Census, which provides critical data that
16 lawmakers, business owners, and many others use to provide daily
17 services, products, and support for communities throughout the



1 nation, the population of the county of Hawai'i has grown to
2 200,2691; thus moving local officials to reexamine the
3 feasibility of a metropolitan planning organization to address
4 the many transportation infrastructure and connectivity
5 challenges exasperated by its growing population and topography.

6 SECTION 2. The department of transportation shall convene
7 an intergovernmental task force to assist the county of Hawaii
8 to:

- 9 (1) Form an agreement with the necessary governmental
10 entities to establish a metropolitan planning
11 organization for the county of Hawaii;
- 12 (2) Develop a transportation improvement program for the
13 urbanized areas in the county of Hawaii that is
14 consistent with the federal metropolitan
15 transportation plan;
- 16 (3) Adopt priorities and planning processes to implement
17 the highway projects of the transportation improvement
18 program; and
- 19 (4) Self-certify that the metropolitan planning
20 organization for the county of Hawaii has met all
21 federal requirements.



1 The department of transportation shall also provide the
2 intergovernmental task force with a list of highway projects to
3 be executed within the next four years from the state
4 transportation improvement program to support the development of
5 the metropolitan planning organization's transportation
6 improvement program.

7 SECTION 3. The intergovernmental task force shall be
8 comprised of the following members:

- 9 (1) The governor or his designee;
- 10 (2) The mayor of the county of Hawaii or his designee;
- 11 (3) A senator representing a district from Hawaii Island,
12 to be appointed by the president of the Senate;
- 13 (4) A representative representing a district from Hawaii
14 Island, to be appointed by the speaker of the house of
15 representatives;
- 16 (5) A member of the Hawaii county council, to be appointed
17 by the chairperson of the Hawaii county council;
- 18 (6) The Hawaii district engineer from the department of
19 transportation; and
- 20 (7) The department of public works director of the county
21 of Hawaii or his designee.



1 SECTION 4. The intergovernmental task force shall submit a
2 report of its findings and recommendations, including any
3 proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty
4 days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2023. The
5 intergovernmental task force shall be dissolved upon submittal
6 of its report.

7 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

8
INTRODUCED BY:





S.B. NO. 2095

Report Title:

Metropolitan Planning Organization; County of Hawaii; Department of Transportation; Task Force; Transportation Improvement Program; Certification

Description:

Creates a temporary intergovernmental task force to assist in the establishment and certification of a metropolitan planning organization for the county of Hawaii. Requires the Department of Transportation to provide a list of certain highway projects to the task force. Requires a report to the legislature.

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