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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.

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

1           SECTION 1. Hawaii is home to two of the world's premier  
2 astronomy observatories, Haleakala on Maui and Mauna Kea on the  
3 island of Hawaii. Mauna Kea is considered the finest  
4 observation site in the world. One of the most critical ways to  
5 preserve the value of these sites is to reduce bright sources of  
6 light that penetrate the dark night sky. However, recent  
7 nighttime images from the international space station revealed  
8 that some of the brightest sources of light on Maui and Hawaii  
9 are the airports and harbors on both islands. Also, astronomers  
10 on Mauna Kea have detected artificial light sources from urban  
11 areas that diminish the telescopes' ability to assist with  
12 research.

13           The purpose of this Act is to require the department of  
14 transportation, to the extent that is practical, to comply with  
15 more stringent county ordinances or other regulations for the  
16 installation of new outdoor lighting at airports, harbors, and  
17 highways.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 262, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§262- Outdoor lighting. To the extent that it is  
5 practical and not in conflict with any safety regulation or  
6 federal law, regulation, or mandate, in the event that any  
7 airport regulations or standards relating to outdoor lighting on  
8 runways, ramp or apron areas, roadways, and parking lots are in  
9 conflict with any county ordinance or other regulations  
10 regarding outdoor lighting, the more stringent requirement or  
11 standard to reduce bright sources of light that penetrate the  
12 dark night sky shall govern all new installations."

13 SECTION 3. Chapter 264, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
14 amended by adding a new section to part III to be appropriately  
15 designated and to read as follows:

16 "§264- Highway lighting. To the extent that it is  
17 practical and not in conflict with any safety regulation or  
18 federal law, regulation, or mandate, in the event that any  
19 highway regulations or standards relating to highway lighting  
20 are in conflict with any county ordinance or other regulations  
21 regarding highway lighting, the more stringent requirement or



1 standard to reduce bright sources of light that penetrate the  
2 dark night sky shall govern all new installations."

3 SECTION 4. Chapter 266, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately  
5 designated and to read as follows:

6 "§266- Outdoor lighting. To the extent that it is  
7 practical and not in conflict with any safety regulation or  
8 federal law, regulation, or mandate, in the event that any  
9 harbor regulations or standards relating to outdoor lighting at  
10 any harbor facility conflict with any county ordinance or other  
11 regulations regarding outdoor lighting, the more stringent  
12 requirement or standard to reduce bright sources of light that  
13 penetrate the dark night sky shall govern all new  
14 installations."

15 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

16 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.



**Report Title:**

Airports; Harbors; Highways; Outdoor Lighting

**Description:**

Requires the Department of Transportation, to the extent practicable, to comply with county outdoor lighting ordinances that are more stringent than other laws and regulations at airports, harbors, and highways. (HB155 HD1)

