

JAN 20 2017

S.B. NO. 842

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. Pohoiki bay harbor, at Isaac Hale beach park,
2 is the only harbor in the lower portion of the Puna district of
3 the island of Hawaii. The harbor includes a one-lane boat ramp
4 and a ninety-foot breakwater. The harbor can only accommodate
5 small boats, and launching them can be difficult because of the
6 harbor's small size and the rough ocean conditions that are
7 often present.

8 The legislature finds that in 2014, lava flow had
9 threatened to cross Highway 130 in the county of Hawaii,
10 possibly preventing fifteen to twenty thousand households from
11 going to school or work and denying them access to the nearby
12 hospital. A ferry from the Pohoiki bay harbor was deemed not
13 feasible because of ingress and egress dangers posed by the
14 surf.

15 The legislature further finds that Kapoho bay, near the
16 eastern tip of the Puna district, is a naturally protected bay



1 where it may be feasible to establish a harbor or port to
2 accommodate vessels that transport cargo and passengers.

3 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the
4 director of transportation to contract for a feasibility study
5 for a harbor or port at Kapoho bay.

6 SECTION 2. The director of transportation shall contract
7 for a study to determine the feasibility of establishing a
8 harbor or port at Kapoho bay to accommodate vessels that
9 transport cargo and passengers. The department shall submit a
10 report to the legislature with preliminary findings and
11 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, not later
12 than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session
13 of 2018 and a final report with findings and recommendations,
14 including any proposed legislation, not later than twenty days
15 prior to the convening of the regular session of 2019.

16 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
17 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$200,000 or so much
18 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the
19 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
20 2018-2019 for the purposes of this Act.



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

3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Russ E. Pugh

Mike Hubbard



S.B. NO. 842

Report Title:

Transportation; Harbors; Kapoho Bay; Feasibility Study;
Appropriation

Description:

Requires DOT to contract for a study on the feasibility of establishing a harbor or port at Kapoho bay on the island of Hawaii.

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