

JAN 24 2018

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO COASTAL HIGHWAYS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the erosion and
2 inundation of the Honoapiilani highway on the island of Maui has
3 created a critical situation for access to one of the largest
4 visitor destinations in Hawaii. Moreover, it has created a
5 public safety hazard for the residents of west Maui, as well as
6 many of the residents of Maui who commute daily to work in the
7 area.

8 The legislature further finds that a strategic plan is
9 needed to proactively develop a managed retreat of the most
10 critical sections of the Honoapiilani highway while creating a
11 plan for coastal rehabilitation of the area. The development of
12 a strategic plan to address the effects of coastal erosion will
13 help to create an environmentally sound interface between
14 coastal highways and the ocean and coastal areas. It is
15 imperative that such a strategic plan not only include the
16 restoration of beaches but also the removal of existing sea
17 walls that have caused massive erosion problems and damage to



1 the nearshore environment and have exacerbated local erosion of
2 the areas along coastal highways, including the Honoapiilani
3 highway. The legislature finds that to undertake and execute a
4 strategic plan of this magnitude, the department of
5 transportation must work cooperatively with the department of
6 land and natural resources and relevant Maui county and federal
7 agencies, as well as with scientific experts of the school of
8 ocean and earth science and technology of the University of
9 Hawaii.

10 The legislature finds that this cooperative planning effort
11 among these agencies, as well as input from the west Maui
12 community, will allow for the efficient and effective
13 development of a strategic retreat and restoration plan. The
14 legislature further finds that the strategic plan must include a
15 redundant plan for the conversion of cane haul roads into county
16 roads along the Honoapiilani highway and other coastal highway
17 routes to preserve, protect, and restore the critical nearshore
18 environment while preserving and protecting access to west Maui
19 in the face of rising sea levels.

20 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
21 transportation to work in conjunction with the department of



1 land and natural resources, the school of ocean and earth
2 science and technology of the University of Hawaii, the county
3 of Maui, and relevant federal agencies, to develop a strategic
4 plan to address the effects of coastal erosion on coastal
5 highways.

6 SECTION 2. Chapter 264, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately
8 designated and to read as follows:

9 "§264- Coastal highways; strategic plan. Beginning in
10 2019, the department of transportation shall, in conjunction
11 with the department of land and natural resources, the school of
12 ocean and earth science and technology of the University of
13 Hawaii, the county of Maui, and relevant federal agencies,
14 develop a strategic plan to address the effects of coastal
15 erosion on coastal highways and shall update and revise the plan
16 as necessary every five years. At a minimum, the plan shall
17 include any strategies and necessary actions, including any
18 proactive strategies and actions, to:

- 19 (1) Prevent or reduce coastal erosion affecting coastal
20 highways including the replenishment of sand and
21 removal of sea walls;



1 (2) Relocate coastal highways; and

2 (3) Determine and create alternative routes for coastal
3 highways that are further inland.

4 The department of transportation shall, after consultation
5 with the department of land and natural resources, the school of
6 ocean and earth science and technology of the University of
7 Hawaii, the county of Maui, and relevant federal agencies,
8 submit a copy of the strategic plan to the governor before
9 January 1 of the year after which the plan was drafted, updated,
10 or revised.

11 For the purposes of this section, "coastal highway" means a
12 state highway as defined in section 264-1 that is located within
13 five hundred yards of any coastline."

14 SECTION 3. The department of transportation shall submit a
15 report on the progress of the development of a strategic plan to
16 address the effects of coastal erosion on coastal highways,
17 including any findings, recommendations, and any necessary
18 proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty
19 days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2020.

20 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
21 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much



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1 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2018-2019 for the
2 development of a strategic plan to address the effects of
3 coastal erosion on coastal highways.

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

6 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

7 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2018.

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Report Title:

Highways; Coastal Highways Preservation; Strategic Plan

Description:

Requires the Department of Transportation to work in conjunction with the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology of the University of Hawaii, the county of Maui and federal agencies to develop a strategic plan to protect coastal highways from the effects of coastal erosion and update the plan as needed every five years. Requires a report to the legislature. Appropriates funds.

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

