

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 any relevant
- 6 educational institution or federal, state, or county agencies.
- 7 The legislature finds that this cooperative planning
- 8 effort, as well as input from the west Maui community, will
- 9 allow for the efficient and effective development of a strategic
- 10 retreat and restoration plan. The legislature further finds
- 11 that the strategic plan must include a redundant plan for the
- 12 conversion of cane haul roads into county roads along the
- 13 Honoapiilani highway and other coastal highway routes to
- 14 preserve, protect, and restore the critical nearshore
- 15 environment while preserving and protecting access to west Maui
- 16 in the face of rising sea levels.
- 17 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
- 18 transportation to work in conjunction with any relevant
- 19 educational institution or federal, state, or county agency to
- 20 develop a strategic plan to address the effects of coastal
- 21 erosion on coastal highways.

1	SECTION 2. Chapter 264, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2	amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately
3	designated and to read as follows:
4	"§264- Coastal highways; strategic plan. Beginning in
5	2020, the department of transportation shall, in conjunction
6	with any relevant educational institution or federal, state, or
7	county agency deemed appropriate by the department of
8	transportation, develop a strategic plan to address the effects
9	of coastal erosion on coastal highways and shall update and
10	revise the plan as necessary every five years. At a minimum,
11	the plan shall include any strategies and necessary actions,
12	including any proactive strategies and actions, to:
13	(1) Prevent or reduce coastal erosion affecting coastal
14	highways including the replenishment of sand and
15	removal of sea walls;
16	(2) Relocate coastal highways; and
17	(3) Determine and create alternative routes for coastal
18	highways that are further inland.
19	The department of transportation shall, after consultation
20	any relevant educational institution or federal, state, or
21	county agency deemed appropriate by the department of

- 1 transportation, submit a copy of the strategic plan to the
- 2 governor before January 1 of the year after which the plan was
- 3 drafted, updated, or revised.
- For the purposes of this section, "coastal highway" means a
- 5 state highway as defined in section 264-1 that is located within
- 6 five hundred yards of any coastline."
- 7 SECTION 3. The department of transportation shall submit a
- 8 report on the progress of the development of a strategic plan to
- 9 address the effects of coastal erosion on coastal highways,
- 10 including any findings, recommendations, and any necessary
- 11 proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty
- 12 days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2021.
- 13 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
- 14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
- 15 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and
- 16 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
- 17 year 2020-2021 for the development of a strategic plan to
- 18 address the effects of coastal erosion on coastal highways.
- 19 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
- 20 of transportation for the purposes of this Act.
- 21 SECTION 5. New statutory material is underscored.

1 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2019.

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INTRODUCED BY:

7. All 1000

JAN 1 8 2019

Report Title:

Highways; Coastal Highways Preservation; Strategic Plan; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the department of transportation to work in conjunction with any relevant educational institution or federal, state, or county agency 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.

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