
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SUSTAINABLE SCHOOLS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that traditional internal
2 combustion school bus engines emit exhaust, which children
3 breathe in while riding buses and sitting in traffic, and can
4 potentially increase asthma and other health problems. In
5 contrast, electric school buses provide potential benefits to
6 the quality of student health, the environment, utility
7 infrastructure, and cost savings. Additionally, electric buses
8 have lower operational, maintenance, and labor costs than
9 comparable buses powered by internal combustion engines. The
10 use and operation of green forms of transportation also align
11 with Hawaii's established goals of achieving a carbon-negative
12 economy by 2045.

13 The legislature further finds, however, that the transition
14 to zero-emission transportation cannot be accomplished
15 overnight. Any such transition must limit or avoid disruptions
16 to critical transportation services provided by or through the
17 department of education to students.



1 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the
2 department of education to conduct a feasibility study regarding
3 the transition to zero-emission transportation in Hawaii's
4 public schools by 2030.

5 SECTION 2. (a) The department of education shall conduct
6 a feasibility study regarding the transition to zero-emission
7 vehicles for all school-related transportation, including any
8 contracts for school bus services and other transportation
9 services provided or utilized by the department of education, by
10 January 1, 2030 (transition).

11 (b) No later than twenty days prior to the convening of
12 the regular session of 2023, the department of education shall
13 submit a report to the legislature that shall include the
14 following:

- 15 (1) An assessment of current transportation contracts and
16 vehicle inventory, and impacts thereon associated with
17 the transition;
- 18 (2) The financial implications of the transition;
- 19 (3) Plans and recommendations, including proposed
20 legislation, for effecting the transition;



1 (4) Any anticipated challenges or barriers to effecting
2 the transition; and

3 (5) The department of education's progress, if any, toward
4 the transition.

5 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Department of Education; Electric Transportation; Feasibility Study

Description:

Requires the Department of Education to conduct a feasibility study regarding the transition to zero-emission transportation in Hawaii's public schools by 2030. Requires a report to the Legislature. (SD1)

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