
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that transforming
2 Hawaii's surface transportation systems and infrastructure to
3 prioritize walking, rolling, bicycling, and public transit is at
4 the nexus of the State's commitments to public health, public
5 safety, economic vitality, and environmental sustainability.
6 The most important component of this transformation is ensuring
7 that every child in Hawaii enjoys the infrastructure, social
8 support, confidence, and skills to walk, roll, bike, or bus to
9 school.

10 The legislature further finds that ensuring safe routes to
11 school for every keiki will not only protect our most vulnerable
12 road users, but also serve as a long-term investment in the
13 future of transportation in the State. However, the legislature
14 recognizes that decades of automobile-centric planning and
15 development have created formidable barriers to this
16 transformation. These barriers include a lack of complete,
17 safe, and comfortable bike and pedestrian networks; burdensome



1 and complicated funding mechanisms for safe routes to school
2 programs and community engagement; a lack of a state safe routes
3 to school plan that creates performance measures, goals,
4 strategies, and accountability; and a lack of coordination of
5 safe routes to school promotion among state and county agencies
6 and community-based organizations.

7 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

8 (1) Establish the safe routes to school advisory committee
9 to develop a comprehensive statewide safe routes to
10 school plan to advise the State on strategies to
11 ensure that each child in the State is able to safely
12 bike, walk, roll, or bus to that child's respective
13 school; and

14 (2) Appropriate moneys for the department of
15 transportation to hire additional staffing, including
16 one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) safe routes to
17 school program coordinator, procure facilities and
18 equipment necessary to support the safe routes to
19 school advisory committee, and match federal funding
20 for sidewalks.



1 SECTION 2. Chapter 291C, 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 "§291C- Safe routes to school advisory committee. (a)

5 There is established within the planning branch of the highways
6 division of the department of transportation for administrative
7 purposes a safe routes to school advisory committee to advise
8 the State on strategies to ensure that each child in the State
9 is able to safely bike, walk, roll, or bus to that child's
10 respective school.

11 (b) The safe routes to school advisory committee shall
12 develop a comprehensive statewide safe routes to school plan
13 that shall include:

- 14 (1) Methods to stabilize the safe routes special fund
15 distribution mechanism;
16 (2) Recommendations to streamline safe routes to school
17 program funding to facilitate schools and communities'
18 efforts to apply for, and receive, moneys;
19 (3) Identification of, and recommendations for, funding
20 mechanisms, planning processes, and programming that
21 are inclusive and equitable; and



- 1 (4) Recommendations to prioritize safe routes to school
2 programming to serve students attending:
- 3 (A) Schools that receive federal funds pursuant to
4 title I of the federal Elementary and Secondary
5 Education Act, as amended by the Every Student
6 Succeeds Act;
- 7 (B) Middle schools; and
- 8 (C) High schools.
- 9 (c) The safe routes to school advisory committee shall:
- 10 (1) Make the comprehensive statewide safe routes to school
11 plan developed pursuant to subsection (b) available to
12 the public no later than November 1, 2026; and
- 13 (2) Submit a copy of the comprehensive statewide safe
14 routes to school plan developed pursuant to subsection
15 (b), including any proposed legislation, to the
16 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the
17 convening of the regular session of 2027.
- 18 (d) The safe routes to school advisory committee shall
19 consist of the following members:
- 20 (1) The safe routes to school program coordinator;



- 1 (2) A representative of the physical activity and
- 2 nutrition branch of the department of health; and
- 3 (3) A representative of the department of education.
- 4 (e) The members of the safe routes to school advisory
- 5 committee shall elect one of its members to serve as
- 6 chairperson, who shall invite the following individuals to serve
- 7 as members of the advisory committee:
- 8 (1) A representative of the Honolulu police department;
- 9 (2) A representative of the Kauai police department;
- 10 (3) A representative of the Hawaii police department;
- 11 (4) A representative of the Maui police department;
- 12 (5) The county safe routes to school program coordinator
- 13 for the city and county of Honolulu;
- 14 (6) The county safe routes to school program coordinator
- 15 for the county of Kauai;
- 16 (7) The county safe routes to school program coordinator
- 17 for the county of Hawaii;
- 18 (8) The county safe routes to school program coordinator
- 19 for the county of Maui;
- 20 (9) One representative from each metropolitan planning
- 21 organization in the State;



- 1 (10) A representative of the Papa Ola Lokahi Transportation
2 Equity Working Group;
- 3 (11) A representative of Hawaii Bicycling League;
- 4 (12) A representative of Hawaii Public Health Institute;
- 5 (13) A representative of the Statewide Safe Routes to
6 School Coalition; and
- 7 (14) Any other individuals that the safe routes to school
8 advisory committee deems appropriate.
- 9 (f) The term of each member of the safe routes to school
10 advisory committee shall be four years; provided that of the
11 members initially appointed, members shall serve for
12 four years, members shall serve for three
13 years, members shall serve for two years, and the
14 remaining members shall serve for one year.
- 15 (g) The safe routes to school advisory committee shall:
- 16 (1) Meet no less than monthly to review the State's
17 progress in implementing the State's safe routes to
18 school program; and
- 19 (2) Make recommendations to the department of
20 transportation no less than biannually;



1 provided that the safe routes to school advisory committee may
 2 meet and make recommendations to the department of
 3 transportation at additional times as a majority of the members
 4 of the safe routes to school advisory committee deems necessary.

5 (h) The members of the safe routes to school advisory
 6 committee shall serve without compensation but shall be
 7 reimbursed for expenses, including travel expenses, necessary
 8 for the performance of their duties."

9 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
 10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
 11 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the
 12 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
 13 2024-2025 for the department of transportation to:

- 14 (1) Hire additional staffing, including one full-time
- 15 equivalent (1.0 FTE) safe routes to school program
- 16 coordinator position;
- 17 (2) Procure any facilities and equipment necessary to
- 18 support the safe routes to school advisory committee;
- 19 and
- 20 (3) Match any federal funds received by the State for
- 21 costs related to sidewalks.



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

3 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

4 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

5

INTRODUCED BY:  _____
JAN 20 2023



H.B. NO. 600

Report Title:

DOT; Highways Division; Planning Branch; Safe Routes to School; Advisory Committee; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes the safe routes to school advisory committee within the Planning Branch of the Highways Division of the Department of Transportation. Appropriates moneys.

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