
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the department of
2 transportation manages and spends more taxpayer dollars than
3 nearly any other state agency. Most departments of
4 transportation throughout the country have robust mechanisms to
5 ensure funds are best spent, including publicly transparent
6 processes to evaluate, select, and track projects; oversight
7 commissions of expert stakeholders to independently monitor,
8 evaluate, and provide guidance to the department and
9 policymakers; and regular robust reporting that meaningfully
10 measures and assesses overall progress toward public policy
11 goals.

12 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to help the
13 department of transportation improve transportation outcomes by
14 establishing mechanisms enabling better transparency and
15 accountability for transportation efforts by:

16 (1) Requiring transparency in transportation project
17 evaluation, selection, and tracking; and



1 (2) Adding to the membership and mission of the state
2 highway safety council to make the council an
3 independently led group of expert stakeholders that
4 may review the department of transportation's efforts
5 to ensure transparency and provide guidance to the
6 department and legislature to help achieve state goals
7 and outcomes.

8 SECTION 2. Section 286-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
9 amended to read as follows:

10 "**§286-5 State highway safety council.** (a) There is
11 established the Hawaii highway safety council. [~~The director of~~
12 ~~transportation shall serve as its chairperson.~~] The council
13 shall be chaired on an annually rotating basis between the
14 chairpersons of the respective committees of the house of
15 representatives and senate having jurisdiction over
16 transportation, or their designees. The following or their
17 designated representatives shall be members of the council: the
18 chief justice, the attorney general, the director of health,
19 the superintendent of education, the chairperson and executive
20 director of the charter school commission, the president of the
21 University of Hawaii, the chairperson of the University of



1 Hawaii at Manoa department of urban and regional planning, the
2 co-chairpersons of the Hawaii climate change mitigation and
3 adaptation commission, the director of the office of planning
4 and sustainable development, the chief energy officer of the
5 Hawaii state energy office, a representative of the University
6 of Hawaii at Manoa college of tropical agriculture and human
7 resources with expertise in landscaping, the chairperson of the
8 house of representatives standing committee having jurisdiction
9 over transportation, the chairperson of the senate standing
10 committee having jurisdiction over transportation, the
11 chairperson of each of the county highway safety councils
12 established under section 286-6; and not more than [~~twenty~~]
13 twelve other persons who shall be appointed by the governor for
14 a three-year term as follows:

- 15 (1) One member from an organization representing senior
16 citizens;
17 (2) One member from an organization representing
18 bicyclists;
19 (3) One member from an organization having a focus on
20 micro-mobility;



- 1 (4) One member from an organization having a focus on
2 transportation, planning, and improvement;
- 3 (5) One member from an organization having a focus on
4 reducing the cost of transportation for low-income
5 communities;
- 6 (6) One member from an organization representing labor and
7 construction;
- 8 (7) One member from an organization representing trucking
9 and cargo carriers;
- 10 (8) One member from an organization having a focus on the
11 electrification of transportation;
- 12 (9) One member from an organization having a focus on
13 expanding trees and foliage and reducing urban heat;
14 and
- 15 (10) Up to three members on the basis of their interest in
16 [highway] transportation safety[+] and related state
17 goals.
- 18 (b) The state highway safety council shall [advise]:
- 19 (1) Review programs, projects, plans, and strategies
20 related to improving safety in ground transportation
21 in the department of transportation;



- 1 (2) Ensure transparency and oversight in programs,
2 projects, decisions, and spending related to ground
3 transportation in the department of transportation;
- 4 (3) Establish metrics and benchmarks for the department of
5 transportation to ensure progress on state goals
6 related to ground transportation, safety, and other
7 related goals;
- 8 (4) Review projects in development and make
9 recommendations for how each might be improved, if
10 warranted, to better meet state goals, before project
11 plans and designs are finalized;
- 12 (5) Provide direction to the department of transportation
13 and make recommendations to the legislature as
14 necessary to ensure progress on state goals related to
15 ground transportation, safety, and other related
16 goals;
- 17 (6) Advise the governor, legislature, and public on
18 matters relating to the programs [and], activities,
19 projects, outcomes, and recommendations of the State
20 in the field of [highway] transportation safety[-];
21 and



1 (7) Submit an annual report to the department of
2 transportation that reflects the work,
3 responsibilities, and recommendations of the council.

4 (c) The members of the council shall serve without pay but
5 shall be entitled to reimbursement for necessary expenses while
6 attending meetings and while in discharge of their duties."

7 SECTION 3. Members of the state highway safety council who
8 are appointed and serving on the council prior to the effective
9 date of this Act shall continue to serve any remaining time left
10 in their terms; provided that their respective expertise aligns
11 with the council membership requirements pursuant to this Act.

12 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
13 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

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



Report Title:

State Highway Safety Council; Composition; Duties

Description:

Amends the composition and duties of the State Highway Safety Council. (SD2)

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

