
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AIRLINES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that since January 2021,
2 only one passenger airline has provided service to the general
3 public out of Molokai airport. While the airline has done its
4 best to accommodate the needs of passengers, including adding
5 additional routes and flight times, and ordering larger planes,
6 the cost of plane tickets remains a hinderance to many Molokai
7 residents who need to travel for essential reasons, including
8 work, medical appointments, and family.

9 The legislature further finds that alleviating costs of air
10 travel, primarily for small communities reliant on air travel
11 for essential services and other needs, is a public purpose; and
12 encouraging additional airlines to provide reliable airline
13 services to and from Molokai to assist the residents who need to
14 travel for essential reasons is a public purpose. A subsidy can
15 help the airlines offset the cost of passenger tickets while
16 encouraging other airlines to also provide service at Molokai
17 airport.



1 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
2 transportation to establish a two-year pilot program to provide
3 subsidies to airlines operating out of Molokai airport.

4 SECTION 2. (a) The department of transportation shall
5 establish and implement a two-year airline subsidy pilot program
6 at Molokai airport to assist airlines that operate in and out of
7 Molokai airport in offsetting their costs of operation.

8 (b) The department of transportation shall submit a report
9 of its findings and recommendations regarding the airline
10 subsidy pilot program, including any proposed legislation, to
11 the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening
12 of the regular session of 2025.

13 SECTION 3. 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 2023-2024 and
16 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
17 year 2024-2025 for the airline subsidy pilot program.

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

20 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 3000.



S.B. NO. 784
S.D. 1
H.D. 1

Report Title:

Airlines; Subsidy; Pilot Program; Molokai Airport; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the department of transportation to establish and implement a two-year airline subsidy pilot program at Molokai airport to assist airlines in offsetting the costs of operation. Appropriates funds. Effective 6/30/3000. (HD1)

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