HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2023 STATE OF HAWAII

H.B. NO. 715

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FLOODING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a number of roads 2 that are accessible to the public are privately owned. Many of 3 these roads are in older communities, have not been improved in 4 years, and are in dire need of upgrades. During heavy rains and 5 periods of king tides, these roads are often flooded. The 6 floods result in significant economic damage to surrounding 7 residences and businesses. The legislature also finds that the counties are often reluctant to make or provide funding for 8 9 improvements to these roads, as the counties believe that 10 assuming those responsibilities will result in county liability 11 for accidents or torts that may subsequently occur on those 12 roads.

- 13 The purpose of this Act is to:
- 14 (1) Appropriate moneys to the several counties for the 15 mitigation of flood risks on privately-owned roads; 16 and



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(2) Provide that the appropriation or expenditure of
 moneys pursuant to the Act shall not be construed to
 establish a duty of care or grounds for liability for
 the State or the several counties.

5 SECTION 2. The appropriation or expenditure of moneys
6 pursuant to the Act shall not be construed to establish a duty
7 of care or grounds for liability for the State or the several
8 counties.

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 mitigation of flood risks on privately-owned
14 roads that are open to public traffic within the island of Oahu.

15 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the city and 16 county of Honolulu for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the mitigation of flood risks on privately-owned



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1 roads that are open to public traffic within the island of 2 Hawaii.

3 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the county of4 Hawaii for the purposes of this Act.

5 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general 6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much 7 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the 8 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 9 2024-2025 for the mitigation of flood risks on privately-owned 10 roads that are open to public traffic within the islands of 11 Maui, Molokai, and Lanai.

12 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the county of13 Maui for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$\$\$ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the mitigation of flood risks on privately-owned roads that are open to public traffic within the island of Kauai.



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

SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023. 3

Jah INTRODUCED BY:) 🖛 JAN 192023



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Report Title:

Private Roads; Flood Risk Mitigation; Liability; Appropriations

Description:

Appropriates moneys to the several counties for the mitigation of flood risks on privately-owned roads. Provides that the appropriation or expenditure of moneys pursuant to the Act shall not be construed to establish a duty of care or grounds for liability for the State or the several counties.

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