
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, and procure facilities and
18 equipment necessary to support the safe routes to
19 school advisory committee.



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 schools that
3 receive federal funds pursuant to title I of the
4 federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as
5 amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act.

6 (c) The safe routes to school advisory committee shall:

7 (1) Make the comprehensive statewide safe routes to school
8 plan developed pursuant to subsection (b) available to
9 the public no later than November 1, 2026; and

10 (2) Submit a copy of the comprehensive statewide safe
11 routes to school plan developed pursuant to subsection
12 (b), including any proposed legislation, to the
13 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the
14 convening of the regular session of 2027.

15 (d) The safe routes to school advisory committee shall
16 consist of the following members:

17 (1) The safe routes to school program coordinator;

18 (2) A representative of the physical activity and
19 nutrition branch of the department of health; and

20 (3) A representative of the department of education.



1 (e) The members of the safe routes to school advisory
2 committee shall elect one of its members to serve as
3 chairperson, who shall invite the following individuals to serve
4 as members of the advisory committee:

5 (1) A representative of the Honolulu police department;

6 (2) A representative of the Kauai police department;

7 (3) A representative of the Hawaii police department;

8 (4) A representative of the Maui police department;

9 (5) The county safe routes to school program coordinator
10 for the city and county of Honolulu;

11 (6) The county safe routes to school program coordinator
12 for the county of Kauai;

13 (7) The county safe routes to school program coordinator
14 for the county of Hawaii;

15 (8) The county safe routes to school program coordinator
16 for the county of Maui;

17 (9) One representative from each metropolitan planning
18 organization in the State;

19 (10) A representative of the Papa Ola Lokahi Transportation
20 Equity Working Group;

21 (11) A representative of Hawaii Bicycling League;



1 (12) A representative of Hawaii Public Health Institute;

2 (13) A representative of the Statewide Safe Routes to
3 School Coalition; and

4 (14) Any other individuals that the safe routes to school
5 advisory committee deems appropriate.

6 (f) The term of each member of the safe routes to school
7 advisory committee shall be four years; provided that of the
8 members initially appointed, _____ members shall serve for
9 four years, _____ members shall serve for three
10 years, _____ members shall serve for two years, and the
11 remaining members shall serve for one year.

12 (g) The safe routes to school advisory committee shall:

13 (1) Meet no less than monthly to review the State's
14 progress in implementing the State's safe routes to
15 school program; and

16 (2) Make recommendations to the department of
17 transportation no less than biannually;

18 provided that the safe routes to school advisory committee may
19 meet and make recommendations to the department of
20 transportation at additional times as a majority of the members
21 of the safe routes to school advisory committee deems necessary.



1 (h) The members of the safe routes to school advisory
 2 committee shall serve without compensation but shall be
 3 reimbursed for expenses, including travel expenses, necessary
 4 for the performance of their duties."

5 SECTION 3. 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 department of transportation to hire
 10 additional staffing, including one full-time equivalent (1.0
 11 FTE) safe routes to school program coordinator position, and
 12 procure any facilities and equipment necessary to support the
 13 safe routes to school advisory committee.

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

16 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

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

18

INTRODUCED BY: *Sony Grand*
 JAN 19 2023

H.B. NO. 316

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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