

JAN 17 2025

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 Act 242, Session
2 Laws of Hawaii 2023, amended the name, composition, and duties
3 of the state highway safety and modernization council to make
4 the council an independently led group of expert stakeholders to
5 review the department of transportation's efforts to ensure
6 transparency and provide guidance to the department and
7 legislature to help achieve state transportation goals and
8 outcomes.

9 However, removing the director of transportation as chair
10 and from the council has inadvertently severed the council's
11 administrative attachment to the department of transportation,
12 leading to a loss of essential administrative support.
13 Additionally, the council has historically faced challenges in
14 achieving quorum due to the absence of explicit authorization
15 for certain members to appoint designees, thereby limiting
16 flexibility in attendance and impeding the council's ability to
17 conduct official business.



1 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to:

2 (1) Administratively attach the state highway safety and
3 modernization council to the department of
4 transportation;

5 (2) Clarify the law to allow members to appoint their
6 designees to serve on the council; and

7 (3) Update membership to facilitate meeting of quorum and
8 legislative intent.

9 SECTION 2. Section 286-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

11 "(a) There is established the Hawaii highway safety and
12 modernization council~~[,]~~ that shall be administratively attached
13 to the department of transportation. The council shall be
14 chaired on an annually rotating basis by a member appointed by
15 the president of the senate and a member appointed by the
16 speaker of the house of representatives. In addition to the
17 member appointed by the president of the senate and member
18 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, the
19 following ~~[or their designated representatives]~~ shall be members
20 of the council: ~~[the]~~

21 (1) The chief justice~~[, the]~~ or their designee;



- 1 (2) The director of transportation~~[, the]~~ or their
2 designee;
- 3 (3) The attorney general~~[, the]~~ or their designee;
- 4 (4) The director of health~~[, the superintendent of~~
5 ~~education, the executive director of the state public~~
6 ~~charter school commission, the president of the~~
7 ~~University of Hawaii, the]~~ or their designee;
- 8 (5) The chairperson of the [~~University]~~ university of
9 Hawaii at Manoa department of urban and regional
10 ~~planning[, the co-chairpersons of]~~ or their designee;
- 11 (6) The co-chairpersons of the Hawaii climate change
12 ~~mitigation and adaptation commission[, the]~~ or the co-
13 chairpersons' designees;
- 14 (7) The director of the office of planning and sustainable
15 ~~development[, the chief energy officer of the Hawaii~~
16 ~~state energy office, an additional two]~~ or their
17 designee;
- 18 (8) Two additional members appointed by the president of
19 the senate and speaker of the house of
20 representatives, respectively~~[, the chairperson of]~~



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1 ~~each of the county highway safety councils established~~
2 ~~under section 286-6, and not];~~

3 (9) One member from each county agency with jurisdiction
4 over transportation or a designee appointed by each
5 county mayor; and

6 (10) Not more than [twelve] ten other persons who shall be
7 appointed by the governor for a three-year term as
8 follows:

9 ~~[(1)]~~ (A) One member from an organization representing
10 senior citizens;

11 ~~[(2) One member from an organization representing~~
12 ~~bicyclists;~~

13 ~~[(3) One member from an organization having a focus on~~
14 ~~micro-mobility;~~

15 ~~[(4) One member from an organization having a focus on~~
16 ~~transportation, planning, and improvement;~~

17 ~~[(5)]~~ (B) One member from an organization representing
18 active transportation riders;

19 (C) One member from an organization [having a focus
20 on reducing the cost of transportation for]



1 representing low-income or other vulnerable
2 communities;

3 ~~[(6)]~~ (D) One member from an organization representing
4 labor and construction;

5 ~~[(7)]~~ (E) One member from an organization representing
6 trucking and cargo carriers;

7 ~~[(8)]~~ (F) One member from an organization having a focus on
8 the electrification of transportation;

9 ~~[(9)]~~ (G) One member from an organization having a focus on
10 expanding trees and foliage and reducing urban
11 heat;

12 ~~[(10)]~~ (H) One member from an organization representing the
13 automobile ~~[manufacturing]~~ industry; and

14 ~~[(11)]~~ (I) Up to two members on the basis of their interest
15 in transportation safety and related state
16 goals."

17 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
18 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

19 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: 



S.B. NO. 1122

Report Title:

DOT; State Highway Safety and Modernization Council; Membership

Description:

Administratively attaches the State Highway Safety and Modernization Council to the Department of Transportation. Allows council members to appoint their designees. Updates membership of the Council.

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