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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

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

1 PART I

2 SECTION 1. Chapter 261E, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
3 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
4 and to read as follows:

5 "§261E- Emergency charter air services. (a) The  
6 commission shall enter into a contract with a qualified charter  
7 air service provider to ensure the availability of emergency air  
8 transportation in cases of emergency when no other air  
9 transportation service is available.

10 (b) The contract shall require the qualified charter air  
11 service provider to:

12 (1) Provide services within twenty-four hours of receiving  
13 notice from the commission;

14 (2) Provide a minimum of five flights per month for  
15 emergency purposes; and

16 (3) Maintain all certifications, licenses, and insurance  
17 required by state and federal law.



1       (c) Any department or agency of the State may utilize the  
2 qualified charter air service provider for emergency air  
3 transportation. Any department or agency utilizing the charter  
4 air service provider shall reimburse the commission for the cost  
5 of the flight services, as determined by the terms of the  
6 contract.

7       (d) The commission shall adopt rules pursuant to  
8 chapter 91 necessary to carry out the purposes of this section,  
9 including but not limited to the procedures for requesting and  
10 reimbursing the costs of charter air services."

11       SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                    or so  
13 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and  
14 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
15 year 2026-2027 for the air carrier commission to enter into a  
16 contract with a qualified charter air service provider to  
17 provide emergency air transportation in accordance with  
18 section 1 of this Act.

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

21                                   PART II



1 SECTION 3. (a) There is established an air noise and  
2 safety task force within the department of transportation for  
3 administrative purposes.

4 (b) The air noise and safety task force shall:

5 (1) Collect and review public complaints regarding  
6 aircraft noise and safety;

7 (2) Identify key aircraft noise and safety issues  
8 affecting the State;

9 (3) Make recommendations that address aircraft noise and  
10 safety issues related to the Federal Aviation  
11 Administration National Transportation Safety Board  
12 and other appropriate federal agencies;

13 (4) Make recommendations that address business practices  
14 and aircraft operators falling within state and local  
15 jurisdiction; and

16 (5) Make recommendations that address aircraft noise and  
17 safety issues of aircraft operators.

18 (c) The members of the task force shall include:

19 (1) A member of the senate appointed by the president of  
20 the senate, who shall serve as a co-chair of the task  
21 force;



1 (2) A member of the house of representatives appointed by  
2 the speaker of the house of representatives, who shall  
3 serve as a co-chair of the task force;

4 (3) The director of transportation, or the director's  
5 designee; and

6 (4) The director of the office of planning and sustainable  
7 development, or the director's designee.

8 (d) The co-chairs of the task force shall invite the  
9 following persons to join the task force:

10 (1) A representative from the Federal Aviation  
11 Administration;

12 (2) A representative from the National Transportation  
13 Safety Board;

14 (3) Not less than one representative from the helicopter  
15 industry;

16 (4) Not less than one representative from the small  
17 aircraft agency; and

18 (5) Representatives from communities impacted by aircraft  
19 noise or having safety concerns.



1 (e) The members of the task force shall serve without  
2 compensation but shall be reimbursed for expenses, including  
3 travel expenses, necessary for the performance of their duties.

4 (f) The task force shall submit a preliminary report of its  
5 findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation,  
6 to the legislature no later than December 1, of each year.

7 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general  
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
9 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and  
10 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
11 year 2026-2027 for the establishment of the air noise and safety  
12 task force.

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

15 PART III

16 SECTION 5. (a) There is established an airports advisory  
17 council to be placed within the department of transportation for  
18 administrative purposes only.

19 (b) The airports advisory council shall:

20 (1) Provide an ongoing forum for coordinating relevant  
21 stakeholders and issues as they relate to airports,



1 air transportation, and any other issues as may be  
2 appropriate; and

3 (2) Develop plans and contingencies which may be updated  
4 as necessary, for each airport that provides for a  
5 coordinated response between airport stakeholders and  
6 others as may be relevant in the surrounding community  
7 to best accommodate travelers and employees in the  
8 event of significant disruptions, emergencies, and  
9 unexpected events.

10 (c) The council shall be chaired by the deputy director of  
11 the airports division of the department of transportation, or the  
12 deputy director's designee, and shall be composed of airport and  
13 airline transportation stakeholders including but not limited to  
14 representatives invited by the chair of relevant:

- 15 (1) Airlines;
- 16 (2) Labor Unions;
- 17 (3) Concessions;
- 18 (4) Hospitality;
- 19 (5) Airport Security;
- 20 (6) Law enforcement;



1 (7) Chairs of the senate and house of representatives  
2 committees with jurisdiction over air transportation;  
3 and

4 (8) Any other stakeholders the chair deems to be relevant.

5 SECTION 6. (a) The department of transportation may,  
6 through the adoption of administrative rules, designate an  
7 airport security area within an airport property.

8 (b) A designated airport security area shall be identified  
9 by posted and visible signage at reasonable intervals, that  
10 shall include any rules specific to the airport security area.

11 (c) Within a designated airport security area, the  
12 department of transportation may:

13 (1) Restrict or limit public access, including by date or  
14 time;

15 (2) Restrict or limit the maintaining, placing, or leaving  
16 of personal property in a public right of way;

17 (3) Restrict or limit standing, sitting, or laying in a  
18 public right of way; and

19 (4) Restrict or limit public access by an individual to  
20 not more than a specified duration of time.



1 SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the general  
 2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
 3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and  
 4 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
 5 year 2026-2027 for the establishment of the airports advisory  
 6 council.

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

PART IV

10 SECTION 8. There is appropriated out of the general  
 11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
 12 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2025-2026 and  
 13 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
 14 year 2026-2027 for the establishment within the airports  
 15 division of the department of transportation of:

- 16 (1) One full-time (1.0 FTE) chief airports planner  
 17 position;
- 18 (2) One full-time (1.0 FTE) chief airports architect  
 19 position;
- 20 (3) One full-time (1.0 FTE) chief landscape architect  
 21 position;



1 (4) One full-time (1.0 FTE) planning expert position, with  
2 history and expertise in placemaking, resort and  
3 thematic experiences; and

4 (5) One full-time (1.0 FTE) branding and marketing expert  
5 position.

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

8 PART V

9 SECTION 9. New statutory material is underscored.

10 SECTION 10. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.



**Report Title:**

DOT; Air Carrier Commission; Emergency Charter Air Services; Contracts; Airports; Air Noise and Safety Task Force; Airports Advisory Council; Positions; Report; Appropriations

**Description:**

Requires the Air Carrier Commission to enter into a contract with a qualified charter air service provider to secure emergency air transportation services in cases of emergency when no other air service is available. Establishes the Air Noise and Safety Task Force. Establishes the Airports Advisory Council. Authorizes the Department of Transportation to adopt administrative rules to designate an airport security area within an airport property. Establishes positions. Requires a report to the Legislature. Appropriates funds. (SD1)

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

