
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LAND USE.

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 205, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 **"\$205- Passenger ropeways; mountains; prohibited.** (a)
5 Notwithstanding sections 46-4, 205-2, 205-4.5, 205-5, and 205-6
6 or any other law to the contrary, passenger ropeways shall be
7 prohibited on mountain lands within all land use districts.

8 (b) For the purposes of this section:

9 "Aerial lift" means a ropeway on which passengers are
10 transported in cabins or on chairs.

11 "Aerial tramway" means a ropeway on which passengers are
12 transported in cable-supported carriers that:

13 (1) Are not in contact with the ground or terrain; and
14 (2) Reciprocate between terminals.

15 "Detachable grip lift" means a monocable or bicable ropeway
16 system on which carriers circulate around the system alternately
17 attaching to and detaching from a moving haul rope.



1 "Funicular" means a ropeway on which carriers are supported
2 and guided by a guideway, are propelled by means of a haul rope
3 system, and are operated as a single or double reversible
4 system.

5 "Mountain" means a natural elevation of the earth's surface
6 that rises prominently above the surrounding terrain and
7 satisfies at least two of the following criteria:

- 8 (1) The summit or highest point of the landform is at
9 least one thousand feet above the base elevation of
10 the surrounding terrain within a horizontal radius of
11 three miles;
- 12 (2) The average natural slope of the landform, measured
13 from base to summit, is fifteen per cent or greater
14 over a horizontal distance of at least one thousand
15 feet;
- 16 (3) The landform exhibits a topographic prominence of at
17 least five hundred feet, as determined by United
18 States Geological Survey topographic maps or
19 equivalent geospatial data; or
- 20 (4) The landform is formally named and classified as a
21 mountain in the United States Geological Survey



1 Geographic Names Information System or equivalent
2 federal or state registry.

3 "Passenger ropeway" means a device or system used to
4 transport passengers along a level, inclined, or declined path
5 by means of a haul rope or other flexible elements that is
6 driven by a power unit that remains essentially at a single
7 location. "Passenger ropeway" includes:

8 (1) Aerial lifts, including detachable grip lifts and
9 chair lifts;
10 (2) Aerial tramways; and
11 (3) Funiculars.

12 "Passenger ropeway" does not include elevators."

13 SECTION 2. New statutory material is underscored.

14 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

15

INTRODUCED BY: 

JAN 23 2026



H.B. NO. 1881

Report Title:

Land Use; Passenger Ropeways; Mountains; Prohibition

Description:

Prohibits passenger ropeways on mountain lands within all land use districts.

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