



The House of Representatives
STATE OF HAWAII

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release
February 16, 2007

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Rep. Bertram's Bills Advance at the Legislature *Freshman lawmaker focuses on bikeways, beaches and trails*

HONOLULU. A number of bills introduced by freshman Representative Joe Bertram III have made it through a critical deadline and are advancing at the state legislature.

"My focus during my first legislative session has been on the issues that I have been working on for many years, such as bikeways, walking trails, and clean beaches," said Rep. Bertram. "I am pleased that these bills have received significant support and attention from my legislative colleagues and through public testimony. It has been very gratifying to put my experience and enthusiasm for these important issues into legislative bills, which have a good chance, I believe, to become law."

A summary of Rep. Bertram's bills are as follows:

HB497 - RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION. Earmarks 2% of federally eligible moneys from the state highway fund for bikeways.

HB1028 - RELATING TO WALKING TRAILS. Designates the Pi'ilani walking trail from Makena to Kapalua on the island of Maui as a Hawaiian coastal cultural heritage corridor and appropriates funds to improve the trail.

HB1029 - RELATING TO BEACHES. Requires the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to develop a comprehensive plan to improve lateral access between beaches, especially on the neighbor islands. Amends the definition of "trail", as used in chapter 198D relating to the Hawaii Statewide Trail and Access System, to include those that connect one beach to another.

HB1823 - RELATING TO BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY. Establishes an advisory committee within the Department of Transportation to implement the "safe routes to school" program and a bicycle and pedestrian safety program for adults and children.

(more)

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HB1825 - RELATING TO SMOKING. Prohibits smoking on public beaches and parks and certain recreational areas. Prohibits disposal of smoking waste in any place where smoking is prohibited, except in a designated waste disposal container. Subjects violators to a \$250 fine.

HB1067 – RELATING TO CERTIFICATES OF NEED (as a primary introducer). Restructures the certificate of need (CON) requirements to: (1) reverse the order that the county and State councils hold hearings and make recommendations on CON applications; (2) require that a hearing on a request for reconsideration from the denial of a CON be held on the island where the proposed medical facility is to be built or the medical activity is to occur; and (3) specify and narrow the types of medical facilities and medical activities that require a CON. Establishes a temporary blue ribbon panel to study the certificate of need process in other states and recommend changes or the abolishment of Hawaii's certificate of need process.

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