
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATIONS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Federal-Aid
2 Highway Act of 1962 required metropolitan planning organizations
3 to be established for any urbanized area with a population of
4 more than fifty thousand as a condition to eligibility for
5 federal transportation financial assistance. Congress intended
6 metropolitan planning organizations to serve as a forum for
7 promoting collaboration among local communities and government
8 agencies and to direct federal funds toward projects that
9 increase access to opportunity and prosperity through improved
10 multimodal pedestrian, bicycle, and transit options.

11 The legislature further finds that there are two
12 established metropolitan planning organizations operating in the
13 State of Hawaii, one located in the county of Maui and the other
14 in the city and county of Honolulu. According to the 2020
15 United States Census, which provides critical data that
16 lawmakers, business owners, and many others use to provide daily
17 services, products, and support for communities throughout the



1 nation, the population of the county of Hawaii has grown to more
2 than two hundred thousand; thus moving local officials to
3 reexamine the feasibility of establishing a metropolitan
4 planning organization to address the many transportation
5 infrastructure and connectivity challenges exasperated by its
6 growing population and topography.

7 SECTION 2. (a) The department of transportation shall
8 convene an intergovernmental task force to assist the county of
9 Hawaii in:

- 10 (1) Forming an agreement with the necessary governmental
11 entities to establish a metropolitan planning
12 organization for the county of Hawaii;
- 13 (2) Developing a transportation improvement program for
14 the urbanized areas in the county of Hawaii that is
15 consistent with the federal metropolitan
16 transportation plan;
- 17 (3) Adopting priorities and planning processes to
18 implement the highway projects of the transportation
19 improvement program; and



1 (4) Self-certifying that the metropolitan planning
2 organization for the county of Hawaii has met all
3 federal requirements.

4 (b) To support the development of the metropolitan
5 planning organization's transportation improvement program, the
6 department of transportation shall provide the intergovernmental
7 task force with a list of highway projects to be completed
8 within four years pursuant to the state transportation
9 improvement program.

10 SECTION 3. The intergovernmental task force shall comprise
11 the following members:

- 12 (1) The governor or the governor's designee;
- 13 (2) The mayor of the county of Hawaii or the mayor's
14 designee;
- 15 (3) A senator representing a district from Hawaii island,
16 to be appointed by the president of the senate;
- 17 (4) A representative representing a district from Hawaii
18 island, to be appointed by the speaker of the house of
19 representatives;
- 20 (5) A member of the Hawaii county council, to be appointed
21 by the chairperson of the Hawaii county council;



1 (6) The department of transportation's Hawaii district
2 engineer; and

3 (7) The director of the department of public works of the
4 county of Hawaii or the director's designee.

5 SECTION 4. The intergovernmental task force shall submit a
6 report of its findings and recommendations, including any
7 proposed legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty
8 days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2023. The
9 intergovernmental task force shall be dissolved on June 30,
10 2023.

11 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Metropolitan Planning Organization; County of Hawaii; DOT; Task Force; Transportation Improvement Program; Certification

Description:

Creates a temporary intergovernmental task force to assist in the establishment and certification of a Metropolitan Planning Organization for the County of Hawaii. Requires the Department of Transportation to provide a list of certain highway projects to the task force. Requires a report to the Legislature. Takes effect 7/1/2050. (SD2)

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