

JAN 26 2022

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# 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 the fastest growing  
2 contributor to the increasing cost of living in Hawaii is the  
3 rising cost of transportation. Due to the high cost of fossil  
4 fuels and a lack of cheaper transit options, Hawaii residents  
5 already pay among the highest costs to commute per capita  
6 anywhere in the country. The United States Bureau of Labor  
7 Statistics has found that between December 2020 and December  
8 2021, auto-related costs rose an astonishing twenty-three per  
9 cent, accelerating a trend of increasing transit costs  
10 contributing to a rapidly escalating cost of living.

11           The legislature further finds that because of a lack of  
12 safe pedestrian and bicycle commuting infrastructure, many  
13 Hawaii households are forced to pay for multiple cars, often one  
14 for each member of the family. On average, families spend an  
15 additional \$13,000 per year per vehicle. Access to safe, cost  
16 efficient pedestrian and bicycle commuting infrastructure can  
17 reduce the total number of cars a family must own, saving tens



1 of thousands of dollars per year and dramatically reducing  
2 living costs.

3 The legislature further finds numerous other states have  
4 prioritized the installation of cost efficient pedestrian and  
5 bicycle commuting infrastructure. At least twenty other states  
6 have established dedicated funding and staff for this purpose.  
7 The legislature recently increased overall state funding  
8 available to the department of transportation. Additionally,  
9 the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act will provide  
10 billions of dollars in competitive grant opportunities over the  
11 next five years, with ample opportunities to fund cost efficient  
12 pedestrian and bicycle commuting infrastructure. However, in  
13 recent years, millions of dollars in federal funding for  
14 infrastructure available to the department of transportation has  
15 gone unspent. Numerous state transportation projects have been  
16 constructed or improved without meeting the intent of existing  
17 laws requiring complete streets to be built with safe low user  
18 cost transit options serving all users. Finally, the department  
19 of transportation has not made potential projects a priority to  
20 qualify for federal funding.



1           The purpose of this Act is to help reduce the cost of  
2 transportation for residents and ensure the department of  
3 transportation achieves its statutory mandate of providing safe  
4 networks of cost efficient pedestrian and bicycle commuting  
5 infrastructure by:

6           (1) Increasing requirements for funding pedestrian and  
7 bicycle infrastructure;

8           (2) Providing dedicated staff within the department of  
9 transportation to focus on pursuing and maximizing  
10 grant applications through the Infrastructure  
11 Investment and Jobs Act and other opportunities; and

12           (3) Establishing a new branch within the department of  
13 transportation to plan and implement low user cost  
14 pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure.

15           SECTION 2. There is established within the department of  
16 transportation highways division the multimodal transportation  
17 branch which shall focus on:

18           (1) Planning and implementing projects with a primary  
19 purpose of establishing safe, protected networks of  
20 pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure pursuant to part  
21 X of chapter 264, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to help



1 lower the cost of transportation and improve the  
2 quality of life for local families;

3 (2) Assist other branches with incorporating safe,  
4 protected pedestrian and bicycle capacity to other  
5 department of transportation projects that have a  
6 different primary purpose; and

7 (3) Applying for and managing federal grant applications  
8 through the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs  
9 Act and other future federal grant opportunities.

10 SECTION 3. A minimum of per cent of all funds  
11 expended by the department of transportation each biennium shall  
12 be for safe, protected pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure  
13 pursuant to part X of chapter 264, Hawaii Revised Statutes, of  
14 which a minimum of per cent shall be expended on projects  
15 having a primary focus on safe, protected pedestrian and bicycle  
16 infrastructure pursuant to part X of chapter 264, Hawaii Revised  
17 Statutes, identified by the multimodal transportation branch.

18 SECTION 4. All pedestrian and bicycle facilities shall  
19 meet minimum ADA standards and be designed to accommodate  
20 unaccompanied users eight years old through eighty years old  
21 safely and comfortably.



1           SECTION 5. The department of transportation shall submit a  
2 report to the legislature twenty days prior to the convening of  
3 each legislative session, accounting for the activities of the  
4 multimodal transportation branch, summarizing its overall  
5 progress toward state goals, its expected progress toward state  
6 goals, the projects it has completed, the status of any projects  
7 it is currently working on in which pedestrian and bicycle  
8 infrastructure is the primary purpose of the project, the status  
9 of any project it is currently working on in which pedestrian  
10 and bicycle infrastructure is not the primary purpose of the  
11 project, and any other relevant information the division deems  
12 appropriate.

13           SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2023.

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INTRODUCED BY: 



# S.B. NO. 3274

**Report Title:**

Department of Transportation; Multimodal Transportation Branch;  
Pedestrian and Bicycle Infrastructure

**Description:**

Establishes the Multimodal Transportation Branch of the Department of Transportation to increase funding, pursue grants, and work on projects focusing on safe, low user cost pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure. Effective 1/1/2023.

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

