

# Act 244 (2023) - Safe Routes to School

Purpose: prioritize the safety of keiki by fixing and simplifying the Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program, re-engaging community stakeholders, and appropriating funds to move priority projects and save lives by:

- Enhancing the SRTS program by developing strategies and facilitating projects that ensure keiki are able to safely walk, bike, or roll to common destinations through the Vision Zero policy, the ground transportation facilities plans, and the SRTS program (HRS pursuant) (see link)
- Establishing a SRTS advisory committee of government and community stakeholders to advise the State
- Authorizing the SRTS advisory committee to develop an application process for projects under the SRTS program and determine awards for selected projects
- Appropriate funds for priority projects

HRS pursuant = specific HRS citations in Act language.

[https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/slh/Years/SLH2023/SLH2023\\_Act244.pdf](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/slh/Years/SLH2023/SLH2023_Act244.pdf)

# Act 244 (2023) – Safe Routes to School

The SRTS Advisory Committee shall:

- Develop a comprehensive, statewide SRTS plan
- Ensure distribution of monies accrued in the SRTS special fund, prioritizing continuity of existing programming
- Review project proposals and select priority projects within 1 mile of any school or place of learning to be funded through the SRTS program or otherwise be prioritized and implemented by the department (HRS pursuant)
- Submit annual reports on the activities and recommendations of the SRTS program to the governor and legislature no later than December 31 of each year
- Meet no less than monthly

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Develop a comprehensive, statewide SRTS plan that shall include:

- Goals, strategies, and performance metrics that ensure accountability for improving safety, active transportation mode share, community investment in supportive programming, and infrastructure quality (HRS pursuant)
- Methods to ensure stability and consistency of SRTS program special fund, which shall provide for infrastructure projects and continuity of existing programmatic (non-infrastructure) work
- Recommendations to streamline and facilitate efforts by communities to apply for and implement projects (HRS pursuant)
- Identification of, and recommendations for, additional funding, planning, and programming that are inclusive and equitable (HRS pursuant)

# Act 244 (2023) – Safe Routes to School

Updates to state and county SRTS programs, coordinators, grants, and reports (291C-3) (for DOT)

- DOT SRTS program that shall, among other things, enhance traffic safety around Hawaii's schools, enable and encourage children to walk and bicycle to school, and making bicycling and walking a safe and more appealing transportation alternative.
- DOT coordinator as the central point of contact for the program
- DOT shall expend funds from the special funds in coordination with the Committee for the implementation of the program plan and projects. (HRS pursuant)

# Act 244 (2023) – Safe Routes to School

Updates to state and county SRTS programs, coordinators, grants, and reports  
(291C-3) (continued) (for Counties)

- County designated office...shall provide SRTS funds for school-based and community-based workshops and infrastructure and non-infrastructure projects.
- Counties shall submit to legislature an annual report on the status and progress of its county SRTS program, including an accounting of all grants provided through the program and a timeline for future grant awards.
- Implementation of county programs shall take into consideration the need to: fill a permanent SRTS coordinator position, maximize the participation of school officials and stakeholder groups, work with county stakeholders and train volunteer facilitators for school-based workshops and community-based workshops; training potential grant requestors and stakeholder groups in federal and state requirements necessary for procurement, contracts, design and construction; and allocate 10-30% of SRTS funds for non-infrastructure activities.

# Act 244 (2023) – Safe Routes to School

Updates to state and county SRTS programs, coordinators, grants, and reports (291C-3) (continued) (for Committee)

- Committee shall develop a streamlined process for the SRTS program that meets federal and state requirements, simplifies the grant proposal application process, and expedites release of funding after completion of school-based and community-based projects for infrastructure and non-infrastructure
- \$10M appropriated from state highway fund for FY 2023-2024; \$10M for FY 2024-2025.
  - Support and facilitate SRTS programs, projects, and advisory committee
  - Match federal funds for costs related to sidewalk and other infrastructure planning, development, and construction.