

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 21 2025

RE: H.B. No. 1052
H.D. 1
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Commerce and Consumer Protection and Health and Human Services, to which was referred H.B. No. 1052, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE PROGRAM,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to clarify that the Public Utilities Commission, under the Universal Service Program, may use funds from the Universal Service Fund to provide free telecommunications access to individuals with print disabilities.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Department of Human Services, State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Public Utilities Commission, National Federation of the Blind of Hawaii, and one individual.

Your Committees find that access to essential telecommunications services is vital for individuals with developmental disabilities, particularly those with print disabilities and individuals who are blind or visually impaired. Your Committees also recognize the importance of providing timely and essential information to all community members in an accessible format.



Your Committees further find, pursuant to Act 247, Session Laws of Hawaii 2023, the Public Utilities Commission administers a program called the Third Party Provider to Offer Assistive Services for the Print Disabled, also known as the Print Disability Assistance Program (PDAP). Under the PDAP, the Public Utilities Commission provides assistive services for the print disabled and expands the services offered through the Hoopono Services for the Blind, administered by the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of the Department of Human Services. Ensuring the timely delivery of crucial information such as emergency alerts, job notifications, daily newspapers, and other information pertinent to the individual helps enable those individuals to live independently. Accordingly, this measure will affirm the State's commitment to digital accessibility while ensuring equitable access to telecommunications for all individuals regardless of disability status.

Your Committees have amended this measure by inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Commerce and Consumer Protection and Health and Human Services that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1052, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1052, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Commerce and
Consumer Protection and Health
and Human Services,



JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Chair



JARRETT KEOHOKALO, Chair



The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
CPN

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB 1052 HD1	Committee Referral: CPN/HHS, WAM	Date: 3/19/25		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett (C)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol (VC)	✓			
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K.	✓			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim"				✓
AWA, Brenton	✓			
TOTAL	4			1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate
 Thirty-Third Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Health and Human Services
HHS

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB 1052, HD1	Committee Referral: CPN/HHS, WAM	Date: 3/19/25
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The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
 If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312
 Pass, with amendments 2311
 Hold 2310
 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A. (C)	✓			
AQUINO, Henry J.C. (VC)	✓			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	✓			
KEOHOKALOOLE, Jarrett	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt				✓
TOTAL	4			1

Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:

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***Only one measure per Record of Votes**