H.C.R. NO. H.D. 2

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM TO ESTABLISH A WORKING GROUP TO RECOMMEND LEGISLATION OR CHANGES TO ADMINISTRATIVE RULES TO DEVELOP CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS BETWEEN THE STATE AND WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICE PROVIDERS AS TO THE USE OF PUBLIC LANDS FOR WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATION INFRASTRUCTURE.

WHEREAS, wireless telecommunication service providers must make substantial long term investments and continually upgrade hardware and software to facilitate the implementation of new technologies; and

WHEREAS, government entities depend on wireless telecommunication service providers to provide emergency and non-emergency communication services to the public; and

WHEREAS, state agencies independently establish protocols for the issuance of licenses, leases, and permits for wireless telecommunication services without a predefined framework, resulting in ambiguous and disparate contracts; and

WHEREAS, a predefined framework for entering into contracts with wireless telecommunication service providers would enhance predictability of returns from large infrastructure investments and reduce the risk associated with large scale business endeavors; and

WHEREAS, prudent long term contracts entered into with wireless telecommunication service providers would create greater investments in communication hardware systems, such as cell towers and rooftops that support new and developing technologies, and provide substantial revenues for the State; and

WHEREAS, the current process for the awarding of concession contracts for use by wireless telecommunication service providers is unclear, inconsistent, and may take several years of negotiations; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, the Senate concurring, that the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism is requested to establish a working group to develop standard provisions to be included in contractual agreements for the use of state public lands for wireless telecommunication hardware devices; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested to research and compile the current regulations and administrative rules on the issuance of leases, revocable permits, or any other legal contract that allows for the use of public lands for installation and operation of wireless telecommunication platforms in order to propose legislation or changes to administrative rules; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested to find ways to reduce the amount of time it takes for state agencies to process permits and provide approvals for the most modern communications technology serving the State; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism is requested to include the following individuals or their designees as members of the working group:

- (1) The Attorney General;
- (2) A member of the Senate appointed by the Senate President;
- (3) A member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- (4) Members of the wireless telecommunication community; and
- (5) Any other member deemed necessary by the working group; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation and any proposed changes to administrative rules regarding contracts with wireless telecommunication service providers, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2015; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; the Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; and the Attorney General.