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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

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URGING CONGRESS TO RECOGNIZE THE INCREASING STATE-LEVEL  
OPPOSITION TO THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION'S  
REPEAL OF NET NEUTRALITY AND TO IMMEDIATELY ACT TO RESTORE  
NET NEUTRALITY REGULATIONS.

1 WHEREAS, in 2015, the Federal Communications Commission  
2 adopted net neutrality regulations to protect internet users and  
3 ensure all content over the Internet was treated equally and  
4 without preferential treatment; and

5  
6 WHEREAS, however, in 2017, the Federal Communications  
7 Commission voted to repeal net neutrality regulations despite  
8 heavy opposition by net neutrality supporters who argued the  
9 deregulation would allow internet service providers the  
10 opportunity to limit or prioritize certain access to information  
11 at their discretion; and

12  
13 WHEREAS, in February 2018, Hawaii Governor David Ige signed  
14 an executive order that required all state agencies to obtain  
15 their internet-related services from internet service providers  
16 who agree to abide by net neutrality principles; and

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18 WHEREAS, Governor Ige has joined governors from Montana,  
19 New York, New Jersey, and Vermont in signing executive orders on  
20 protecting net neutrality principles; and

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22 WHEREAS, in March 2018, Washington became the first state  
23 to pass a law making it illegal for internet service providers  
24 to manipulate their networks for money, while dozens of other  
25 states are considering similar measures through legislation and  
26 lawsuits; and

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28 WHEREAS, in context of the repeal of net neutrality  
29 regulations set to take effect on April 23, 2018, it is in the  
30 State's interest to explore the possibility of establishing a  
31 state-owned public utility company to provide high-speed



1 broadband internet service, similar to municipalities such as  
2 Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Sandy, Oregon, which have had  
3 success with public companies providing internet service; and  
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5 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that it is essential to  
6 ensure that people can access websites and information freely  
7 and fairly over the Internet; now, therefore,  
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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
10 Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
11 of 2018, that Congress is urged to recognize the increasing  
12 state-level opposition to the Federal Communications  
13 Commission's repeal of net neutrality and to immediately act to  
14 restore net neutrality regulations; and  
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Commerce and  
17 Consumer Affairs is requested to study the costs and benefits to  
18 the State to supply high-speed broadband internet service  
19 through a state-owned public utility company; and  
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Commerce and  
22 Consumer Affairs is requested to submit a report of findings and  
23 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the  
24 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
25 the Regular Session of 2019; and  
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
28 Resolution be transmitted to the President Pro Tempore, Majority  
29 Leader, and Minority Leader of the United States Senate, the  
30 Speaker, Majority Leader, and Minority Leader of the United  
31 States House of Representatives, Hawaii's Congressional  
32 Delegation, Chairperson of the Federal Communications  
33 Commission, the respective Governors and presiding officers of  
34 the legislative bodies of each of the other forty-nine states,  
35 the Governor, and the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.  
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OFFERED BY: 

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