## S.R. NO. 112

## MAR 0 9 2018

## SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE NEEDS AND COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNOLOGY TO PROVIDE ACCESS FOR ALL STATE RESIDENTS TO TESTIFY IN-PERSON ON LEGISLATION.

WHEREAS, legislative rules and practices encourage robust debate provided through testimony from members of the public; and

WHEREAS, many important legislative issues may disproportionately impact citizens on the neighbor islands; and

WHEREAS, the constrictive and fast-paced legislative timetable can place a severe financial hardship on neighbor island residents wishing to actively participate in the democratic process; and

WHEREAS, modern audio and video technology and the Internet make it possible for individuals to virtually attend and provide testimony in legislative hearings; and

WHEREAS, the public and its ability to engage lawmakers and participate fully in the democratic process would greatly benefit from safe, stable, and secure Internet-based telecommunications access; and

WHEREAS, there are operational and technical issues that must first be worked through in order to implement such a program; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to conduct a study on the needs and costs associated with the implementation of audio and video technology to provide all state residents with the opportunity to provide oral testimony at all legislative hearings; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than December 1, 2018; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau.

OFFERED BY: / KEN E