

MAR 09 2018

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING HAWAIIAN TELCOM TO ADDRESS THE LACK OF FIBER OPTIC
BROADBAND CABLE REDUNDANCY ON THE ISLAND OF HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, fiber optic broadband cable is critical
2 infrastructure needed to ensure Hawaii's public health and
3 safety, as well as the continuous provision of education and
4 other public services; and
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6 WHEREAS, fiber optic broadband cable is also critical to
7 the State's advancement in research, innovation, and economic
8 diversification; and
9

10 WHEREAS, Hawaii's fiber optic broadband cable needs are
11 primarily serviced by two wired carriers, Hawaiian Telcom and
12 Spectrum, and by a number of wireless providers, such as Verizon
13 Wireless, AT&T Wireless, and Sprint; and
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15 WHEREAS, according to the Hawaii Broadband Strategic Plan,
16 fiber optic broadband cable communications systems are used in
17 almost all of the telecommunications network systems operated in
18 Hawaii to provide both the interisland and on-island backbone
19 for the State's telecommunications infrastructure; and
20

21 WHEREAS, the bulk of the Island of Hawaii's fiber optic
22 broadband cable infrastructure must be installed above ground on
23 utility poles, placing it at risk for damage from vehicles,
24 extreme weather, or other catastrophe, thus creating a strong
25 need for network redundancy; and
26

27 WHEREAS, there is a known gap in the fiber optic broadband
28 cable system on the Island of Hawaii that spans twenty-two miles
29 from Volcano to Pahala; and
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31 WHEREAS, in September 2014, the breakage of a single
32 Hawaiian Telcom fiber optic broadband cable on the Island of



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1 Hawaii created a massive internet outage that lasted nearly
2 twenty hours and left residents without phone service; and
3

4 WHEREAS, during the September 2014 outage, the safety and
5 security of the entire Island of Hawaii was put at risk; now,
6 therefore,
7

8 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
9 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018,
10 that Hawaiian Telcom is urged to complete the system of fiber
11 optic broadband cabling on the Island of Hawaii in order to
12 provide redundancy during an emergency; and
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14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
15 Resolution be transmitted to the Administrator of the Cable
16 Television Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer
17 Affairs.
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OFFERED BY:

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