THE SENATE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE, 2021 STATE OF HAWAII

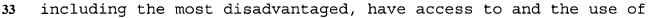
S.C.R. NO. 67

MAR 0 5 2021

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 4 THROUGH OCTOBER 8, 2021, AS DIGITAL INCLUSION WEEK IN THE STATE OF HAWAII.

WHEREAS, broadband services are essential infrastructure 1 2 for the twenty-first century and play an important role in 3 providing access to knowledge and opportunities from around the 4 world; and 5 WHEREAS, digital equity ensures all individuals and 6 communities have the information technology capacity needed for 7 full participation in our society, democracy, and economy and is 8 necessary for civic and cultural participation, lifelong 9 learning, and access to essential services, such as 10 telemedicine, distance learning, and the workplace; and 11 12 WHEREAS, the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic 13 has heightened the demand for reliable, affordable internet 14 connectivity as work, education, as access to essential services 15 have shifted toward being provided online; and 16 17 WHEREAS, broadband access protects public health during the 18 COVID-19 pandemic, while addressing socioeconomic disparities 19 for the most vulnerable Hawaii residents who live in 20 21 underrepresented communities; and 22 23 WHEREAS, many rural, agricultural, and lower-income 24 communities throughout the State lack access to reliable and affordable broadband due to the lack of infrastructure; 25 26 discrimination in investment in delivering technology and technology-related services to specific areas or populations; or 27 28 barriers derived from socioeconomic status, education, literacy, language, or disabilities; and 29 30 WHEREAS, the State is committed to promoting digital 31 inclusion to ensure that all individuals and communities, 32





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information and communication technologies, including 1 affordable, robust broadband internet service; internet-enabled 2 devices that meet the needs of the user; access to digital 3 literacy training; quality technical support; and applications 4 5 and online content designed to enable and encourage selfsufficiency, participation, and collaboration; and 6 7 8 WHEREAS, in his State of the State address on January 25, 9 2021, Governor David Ige called for the State to expand its investments in digital technology of Hawaii 2.0, thereby 10 11 dedicating the State to being a leader in broadband access; and 12 WHEREAS, Digital Inclusion Week 2021 is put on by the 13 National Digital Inclusion Alliance, who represents affiliated 14 organizations working toward digital equity by crafting, 15 16 identifying, and disseminating financial and operational resources for digital inclusion programs to raise awareness of 17 solutions addressing home internet access, personal devices, and 18 19 local technology training and support programs; now, therefore, 20 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first 21 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the 22 House of Representatives concurring, that October 4 through 23 October 8, 2021, is recognized as Digital Inclusion Week in the 24 State to raise awareness of digital equity and promote digital 25 inclusion; and 26 27 28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and 29 30 Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. 31 32

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OFFERED BY: bennette K. Minlub

