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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU AND OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES TO CONDUCT A STUDY ANALYZING THE USE AND EFFECTIVENESS OF MOBILE APPLICATIONS OR OTHER SIMILAR MEANS TO DELIVER GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE.

WHEREAS, state and federal governments offer assistance through programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, Medicaid, Medicare, Social Security, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, rental assistance, and recurring, periodic benefits such as the federal child tax credit; however, recipients of government assistance and social welfare programs often experience challenges in fully accessing the benefits of those programs; and

WHEREAS, administrative burdens, such as long wait times to submit routine paperwork, add obstacles to and tax the time and resources of those who need help; and

WHEREAS, these barriers also delay the delivery of government assistance and benefits to recipients; and

WHEREAS, recently, mobile applications have been developed by private third parties to streamline and enhance the delivery of government assistance to program recipients; and

WHEREAS, this body finds that these new means of delivering government assistance offer promising opportunities, but additional information is needed on the use and effectiveness of these mobile applications for the delivery of government assistance; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the Senate concurring, that the Legislative Reference

Bureau and Office of Enterprise Technology Services are requested to conduct a study analyzing the use and effectiveness of mobile applications or other similar means to deliver government assistance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau and Office of Enterprise Technology Services are requested to include in the study:

(1) An analysis of the effectiveness of existing delivery of government assistance program benefits;

(2) A description of the existing use of mobile applications or similar technology in the State to provide government assistance;

(3) Identification of any strengths, weaknesses, advantages, and disadvantages with the delivery of government assistance through mobile applications or similar technology in the State;

(4) An assessment of other states' use of mobile applications or similar technology to provide state or federal government assistance in their respective states; and

 (5) A review of the reports submitted pursuant to section 5 of Executive Order 13985 to the Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy, reflecting findings of the equity assessment in federal agencies; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau and Office of Enterprise Technology Services are requested to submit a report of their findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2023; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chief Information Officer and Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau.