
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that providing equitable
2 access to the legislative process for nearly four hundred fifty
3 thousand residents on the neighbor islands is a priority to
4 improving the function of the legislative process at the
5 Capitol. With the rising costs of airfare and lodging,
6 providing designated locations or state offices on neighbor
7 islands where citizens can participate remotely in the
8 legislative process will help reduce the financial burden of
9 traveling to Oahu. The legislature further finds that providing
10 access for residents to participate in the legislative process
11 is a basic right of citizenship in the State and should continue
12 to be a priority.

13 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the
14 office of enterprise technology services to convene a working
15 group to identify state office buildings that may be used to
16 increase access to legislative hearings for neighbor island and
17 rural Oahu residents, including residents with disabilities.



1 SECTION 2. (a) The office of enterprise technology
2 services shall establish a working group to conduct a study to
3 identify state office buildings that are able to provide
4 equitable telecommunication access to allow residents of the
5 counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui, and residents of rural
6 areas in the city and county of Honolulu, including residents
7 with disabilities, to participate remotely in legislative
8 hearings.

9 (b) Members of the working group shall include, at a
10 minimum, representatives from each county and from the
11 department of accounting and general services, department of
12 education, University of Hawai'i system, and a person with a
13 communication disability.

14 (c) The working group shall submit a report of its
15 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
16 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
17 to the convening of the regular session of 2023.

18 (d) The working group shall dissolve on June 30, 2023.

19 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.



Report Title:

Office of Enterprise Technology Services; Study; State Office Buildings; Telecommunication; Accessibility; Legislative Hearings

Description:

Requires the Office of Enterprise Technology Services to establish a working group to conduct a study to identify state office buildings that can provide equitable telecommunication access to allow residents of the counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui, and rural areas of the City and County of Honolulu, including residents with disabilities, to participate remotely in legislative hearings. Requires a report to the Legislature. Dissolves the working group on 6/30/2023. (SD1)

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