

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2014

Honolulu, Hawaii

**FEB - 1 2022**

RE: S.B. No. 2076  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2022  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism,  
to which was referred S.B. No. 2076 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BROADBAND SERVICE  
INFRASTRUCTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to clarify the  
duties of the Hawaii Broadband and Digital Equity Office (Office)  
by:

- (1) Defining broadband equity;
- (2) Amending the definition of digital equity;
- (3) Incorporating broadband equity into the duties of the  
Office; and
- (4) Removing the requirement for the Office to advise the  
Department of Business, Economic Development, and  
Tourism on best practices involving remote work  
promotion.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and  
Tourism; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations' Office of  
Community Services; Common Cause Hawaii; Hawaii Primary Care



Association; League of Women Voters of Hawaii; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Ocean Networks, Inc.; Broadband Hui; Maunakea Observatories; Maui Chamber of Commerce; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that the development of broadband technology is vital to the well-being of the State's residents and communities. Accordingly, the Legislature enacted Act 225, Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, which, in part, established the Office to broaden access to this technology throughout the State. Your Committee further finds that it is important to integrate broadband equity into the duties of the Office to provide access to students and teachers engaged in remote learning; workers performing their duties remotely; health professionals and patients, including kupuna, who rely on telemedicine; and others in rural, unserved, and underserved communities. Your Committee also finds that the broadened scope of duties of the Office necessitates an increase of resources for the Office to perform its additional responsibilities.

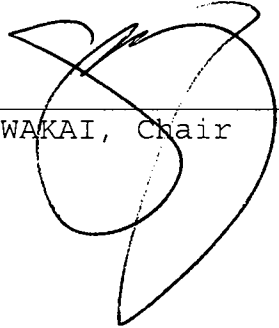
Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language that allows the Hawaii Broadband and Digital Equity Office to procure professional services to carry out its duties;
- (2) Inserting an appropriation of \$867,500 for five full-time equivalent (5.00 FTE) administrative positions; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2076, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2076, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.



Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Energy, Economic  
Development, and Tourism,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
GLENN WAKAI, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-First Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism**  
**EET**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <i>SB 2076</i>	Committee Referral: <i>EET, CPN</i>	Date: <i>1/28/22</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
<b>Members</b>	<b>Aye</b>	<b>Aye (WR)</b>	<b>Nay</b>	<b>Excused</b>
WAKAI, Glenn (C)	✓			
MISALUCHA, Bennette E. (VC)	✓			
LEE, Chris	✓			
RIVIERE, Gil	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<i>5</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>0</i>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align: center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;"> <i>Bennette E. Misalucha</i> </div>				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original                      Yellow                      Pink                      Goldenrod File with Committee Report    Clerk's Office    Drafting Agency    Committee File Copy				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes