

STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII STATE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM
OFFICE OF THE STATE LIBRARIAN
44 MERCHANT STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

**Friday, April 1, 2022
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Room 308 + videoconference**

**By Stacey A. Aldrich
State Librarian**

S.B. 2214 SD2 RELATING TO DIGITAL LITERACY; LIBRARIES; BOARD OF EDUCATION; STATE LIBRARIAN

To: Chair Sylvia Luke
Vice Chair Kyle Yamashita
Members of the House Committee on Finance

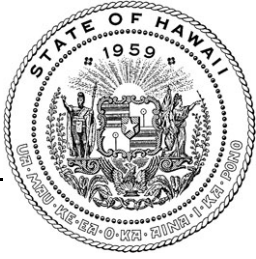
The Hawaii State Public Library System (HSPLS) appreciates the opportunity to provide testimony on SB2214 SD2, requiring the Board of Education through the State Librarian to establish digital literacy programs for public libraries.

HSPLS strongly supports this bill as it formally recognizes the role that public libraries play in supporting digital literacy for our communities. HSPLS appreciates and supports the SD2 language which broadens the scope of digital literacy programs to include all community members including individuals with disabilities, and the need to have a full-time employee dedicated to coordinate and facilitate a statewide digital literacy program.

The public library is the place to provide digital tools and resources everyone needs to be successful in the digital world - from keiki who need skills for education to kupuna who need to access government resources and manage general day-to-day life activities such as shopping, medical appointments, etc.

Over the last 10 months, the public libraries have participated in pilot projects with the Workforce Development Council of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations and the AARP. The projects have helped us to better understand the different needs of the community and that there is no one-size-fits-all programming. HSPLS' goal is to provide an array of digital skill building opportunities from one-on-one coaching to physical/virtual classes that will support basic to advanced digital literacy skills, so that our communities can grow and successfully participate in the 21st century.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this Bill and your continued support of the Hawaii State Public Library System.



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MIKE MCCARTNEY
DIRECTOR

CHUNG I. CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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Statement of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Friday, April 1, 2022
3:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 308

In consideration of

SB2214, SD2
RELATING TO DIGITAL LITERACY.

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita and members of the Committee. The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) **supports SB2214, SD2**, that establishes a digital literacy program to be overseen by the Board of Education and implemented by the State Librarian to promote digital literacy through programmatic activities, including making digital technology accessible to individuals with disabilities.

Over the course of the last two years, the COVID-19 pandemic has spotlighted the need for broadband infrastructure and digital equity for all of Hawai'i's residents, and the Hawai'i State Public Libraries have been at the forefront of enabling wifi access and digital literacy training at their branches. In addition, the federal government identified the need to fund broadband infrastructure and digital equity programs across the country.

With this once in a generation opportunity, it is important that we address broadband access, affordability, adoption and literacy and lay the foundation for Hawai'i to achieve its digital equity goals and to thrive in the digital economy. We see the Hawai'i State Public Libraries as an essential frontline organization to meet that challenge.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 2214, S.D. 2

April 1, 2022
3:00 p.m.
Room 308 and Videoconference

RELATING TO DIGITAL LITERACY

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

Senate Bill No. 2214, S.D. 2, adds a new section to Chapter 312, HRS, to establish a Digital Literacy Program (DLP) to be overseen by the Board of Education and implemented by the State Librarian to promote digital literacy through programmatic activities, including making digital technology accessible to individuals with disabilities. The bill also establishes 1.00 full-time equivalent position and appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds for FY 23 for the Hawai'i State Public Library System to administer the DLP.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and

- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII

The Voice of Business

**Testimony to the House Committee on Finance
Friday, April 1, 2022, at 3:00 P.M.
Conference Room 308 & Videoconference**

RE: SB 2214 SD2 Relating to Digital Literacy

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee:

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** SB 2214 SD2 which Establishes a digital literacy program to be overseen by the Board of Education and implemented by the State Librarian to promote digital literacy through programmatic activities that expose children and parents to digital tools.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 2,000+ businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

Through strategic and deliberate collaboration, the Chamber is investing in K-12 career and technical education, and synergy with business community, resulting in new industry partner connections, sector-driven workforce development solutions, increased certification attainment and high-quality work-based learning (WBL) experiences.

Establishing a digital literacy program in Hawaii would ensure that students learn the necessary skills that would prepare them for the 21st century economy and for employment after graduation. While digitization offers advantages to employees with extensive digital literacy, it also increases barriers for members of the workforce who lack digital skills. Increasing digital literacy among students and members of the workforce would increase their competitiveness in an economy increasingly defined by the ability to use digital tools.

With the rise in workforce shortages across multiple industries, this bill will help students graduate and participate in the modern-day workplace, while also strengthening and diversifying our economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



david.miyashiro@hawaiikidscan.org
hawaiikidscan.org

David Miyashiro
Executive Director

April 1, 2022

Committee on Finance
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee,

HawaiiKidsCAN strongly supports SB2214 SD2, which establishes a digital literacy program to be overseen by the Board of Education and implemented by the State Librarian to promote digital literacy through programmatic activities, including making digital technology accessible to individuals with disabilities; and appropriates moneys.

Founded in 2017, HawaiiKidsCAN is a local nonprofit organization committed to ensuring that Hawaii has an excellent and equitable education system that reflects the true voices of our communities and, in turn, has a transformational impact on our children and our state. We strongly believe that all students should have access to excellent educational opportunities, regardless of family income levels and circumstances.

The COVID-19 pandemic exposed the deep digital divide in Hawaii's communities. That is why HawaiiKidsCAN was proud to partner with members of the Hawaii Broadband Hui and others to launch a portfolio of wifi on wheels connectivity hubs across the state to deliver free internet access to kids and families.

Even as our community health situation improves, we should not miss this chance to address these digital inequities. We are continuing many of our wifi on wheels sites into 2023 because internet access is more than just an emergency need. The legislature passed HCR161 HD2 last session to support and adopt the Digital Equity Declaration, which essentially calls on Hawaii to close the digital divide by 2030.

Digital literacy is a key building block of a thriving modern society, as it enables greater access for all community members to access education, health, workforce, culture, and other holistic resources to live more stable and fulfilled lives.

SB2214 SD2 is a powerful way to harness our public education and library systems to ensure kids, families, and all community members get the help they need and deserve.

Mahalo for your consideration,

David Miyashiro
Founding Executive Director
HawaiiKidsCAN

Friday, April 1, 2022 at 3:00 PM
Via Video Conference

House Committee on Finance

To: Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Kyle Yamashita, Vice Chair

From: Michael Robinson
Vice President, Government Relations & Community Affairs

Re: **SB 2214, SD2 – Testimony In Support
Relating to Digital Literacy**

My name is Michael Robinson, and I am the Vice President of Government Relations & Community Affairs at Hawai'i Pacific Health. Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system comprised of its four medical centers – Kapi'olani, Pali Momi, Straub and Wilcox and over 70 locations statewide with a mission of creating a healthier Hawai'i.

I am writing in SUPPORT of SB 2214, SD2 which establishes a digital literacy program to be overseen by the Board of Education and implemented by the State Librarian. The purpose of this measure is to promote literacy through various means, including making digital technology accessible to individuals with disabilities.

Digital literacy skills are crucial for career success in the twenty-first century. The percentage of workplaces with high levels of digital content has grown dramatically in recent years, while the percentage of workplaces that rely on a lower level of digital content has decreased by a similarly dramatic margin. Establishing a digital literacy program in Hawaii would ensure that students learn the necessary skills that would prepare them for the 21st century economy and for employment after graduation. While digitization offers advantages to employees with extensive digital literacy, it also increases barriers for members of the workforce who lack digital skills. Promoting digital literacy fosters a workforce that is equipped to deal with the modern working environment.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



House Committee on Finance

Date: April 1, 2022

Time: 3 p.m.

Where: Conference Room 308 & Videoconference

RE: **Supporting SB2214 SD2** Relating to Digital Literacy

Aloha mai e Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee,

As members of the Broadband Hui, the listed organizations and individuals **SUPPORT SB2214 SD2**, which is intended to increase access to digital tools and promote digital literacy by establishing a digital literacy program to be administered by the Board of Education through the state librarian.

Over the past 18 months, our organizations have collaborated, each within their own ability, to increase Hawai'i's digital capacity, thereby supporting the continuity of social connections, education, employment, and access to other essential services throughout the pandemic. We are proud to include Hawai'i State Librarian Stacey A. Aldrich as one of our hui members, and we applaud her work.

Through the work of the Broadband Hui, we have supported broadband infrastructure development in rural communities, provided digital devices for students and families, supported the accessibility of telehealth, provided information on low-cost internet options, and adopted a Digital Equity Declaration to set a vision and goals for a more equitable digital future.

As we stated at the outset of the pandemic, addressing digital inequity through broadband access, digital literacy, and digitally-enabled societal systems is one of our greatest opportunities for economic and social recovery, diversification, and resilience. One of the components critical to the progress of digital equity for our community is that of digital literacy, which this bill aims to address. We agree with the legislature that digital literacy skills

are crucial for career success in the twenty-first century, and that the role of the state librarian and associated resources are central in that effort.

For these reasons, we kindly request you pass **SB2214 SD2**. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

(Please see names on the following page.)

	Name	Organization	Email Address	Zip
1	Christine Matsuda	Pa'akai Communications	christine@paakaicom munications.com	96817
2	Christine Sakuda	Transform Hawaii Government	csakuda@transformhawaii.gov.org	96806
3	Daniel C. Smith, Ph.D.	(Individual support)	smithdan@hawaii.edu	96782
4	David Sun-Miyashiro	HawaiiKidsCAN	David.miyashiro@hawaiikidscan.org	96734
5	Deborah Bond-Upson	LearningBond	deborah@learningbond.org	96734
6	Douglass Adams	Dept of Research & Development, COH	douglass.adams@hawaiicounty.gov	96720-4245
7	Jaclyn Kaina	Kauai Economic Development Board	jkaina@kedb.com	96766
8	Jeanne Skog	Skog Rasmussen LLC	jskog@skograsmussen.com	96793
9	Jenifer Sunrise Winter		jwinter@hawaii.edu	96821
10	Jules Ung	Banyan Networks	jung@banyannetworks.com	96817
11	Kaleo Bennett	Auamo Collaborative	kokua@auamocollaborative.org	96720
12	Katie Hendrickson		katie@code.org	45701
13	Kau'i Burgess	Kamehameha Schools	kaburges@ksbe.edu	96813
14	Kristilyn Oda		kristioda@gmail.com	96707
15	Laura Arcibal		lkmarcibal@gmail.com	96795
16	Lynn Otaguro	O'ahu County Democrats Digital Equity Committee	lmotaguro@yahoo.com	96821
17	Mark Iha	Tangent Inc.	mark@tangent.systems	96813
18	Pamela Tumpap	Maui Chamber of Commerce	pamela@mauichamber.com	96793
19	Rich Matsuda	W. M. Keck Observatory	rmatsuda@keck.hawaii.edu	96743
20	Riley Saito	Succeed Hawaii, LLC	rsaito@succeedhawaii.com	96740
21	Sean Taketa McLaughlin		seantaketa@gmail.com	96817
22	Summer Keliipio	`A`ali`i Alliance	kernel_overdub_of@icloud.com	96744
23	Susan Tai	Economic Development Alliance of Hawaii	susantaikaneko@gmail.com	96814
24	Tamara Rajaram		tamarar@3red8.com	95014
25	Todd Robertson	Hypersperspective	todd@hypersperspective.com	96813
26	Wayne Buente		wayne.buente@gmail.com	96822
27	William R. Sides II	wrsides@hotmail.com	Hana Broadband Committee	96713



MAUI

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

VOICE OF BUSINESS

HEARING BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
FINANCE
HAWAII STATE CAPITOL, HOUSE CONFERENCE ROOM 308
FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 2022 AT 3:00 P.M.

To The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
The Honorable Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair
Members of the committee on Finance

SUPPORT OF SB2214 SD2 RELATING TO DIGITAL LITERACY

The Maui Chamber of Commerce, as a member of the Broadband Hui, **supports SB2142 SD2** which is intended to increase access to digital tools and promote digital literacy by establishing a digital literacy program to be administered by the Board of Education through the state librarian.

Over the past 18 months, the Hui organizations have collaborated, each within their own ability, to increase Hawai'i's digital capacity, thereby supporting the continuity of social connections, education, employment, and access to other essential services throughout the pandemic. We are proud to include Hawai'i State Librarian Stacey A. Aldrich as one of the Hui members, and we applaud her work.

Through the work of the Broadband Hui, we have supported broadband infrastructure development in rural communities, provided digital devices for students and families, supported the accessibility of telehealth, provided information on low-cost internet options, and adopted a Digital Equity Declaration to set a vision and goals for a more equitable digital future.

As we stated at the outset of the pandemic, addressing digital inequity through broadband access, digital literacy, and digitally-enabled societal systems is one of our greatest opportunities for economic and social recovery, diversification, and resilience. One of the components critical to the progress of digital equity for our community is that of digital literacy, which this bill aims to address. We agree with the legislature that digital literacy skills are crucial for career success in the twenty-first century, and that the role of the state librarian and associated resources are central in that effort.

For these reasons we **support SB2214 SD2**.

Sincerely,

Pamela Tumpap
President

To advance and promote a healthy economic environment for business, advocating for a responsive government and quality education, while preserving Maui's unique community characteristics.

SB-2214-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 6:52:55 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alice Kim	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Now in the 21st century, digital literacy facilitates access to most important aspects of our lives including health care, education, and jobs. Unfortunately, not everyone has the needed digital literacy skills, and those who lack them tend to include individuals of certain demographics such as minorities, those with lower incomes, and older people. As community centers for lifelong learning, public libraries play an important role in bridging the digital divide. Because income affects access to technology, including Internet, people in lower-income communities usually rely on public libraries more to access the Internet. Digital literacy serves as an important role in developing an engaged and inclusive society, and technology serves as a powerful tool for building stronger communities and providing more opportunities for community members.

SB-2214-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 7:11:57 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shaun Stone	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Yamashita, and Distinguished Members of the Committee:

SB 2214, SD2 - Relating To Digital Literacy

Position: Support

My name is Shaun Stone. I am a retired veteran, and I have over 10 Years of teaching computer and communication courses for the United States military members, including the necessary skills to operate and manage computer systems. I learned that many individuals lack the digital literacy to access the current digital tools in today's technology effectively.

As a Social Worker, I now provide case management and support to clients to navigate state and federal benefits, employment services, healthcare, mental health support, housing assistance, human services, and substance use programs. All of these require the use of technology. Some of my clients need help turning on the accessibility functions and instructions on using their electronic devices.

I want to thank you for hearing this critical bill and for the opportunity to provide my testimony for SB 2214 SD2. I strongly support establishing a digital literacy program managed by the board of education through the state librarian. I also support making digital technology accessible to individuals with disabilities. There is a great need to increase access to digital tools while promoting digital literacy.

Apelila 1, 2022

Committee on Finance

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair

Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair

Aloha e

Lunaho‘omalua Luke, Hope Lunaho‘omalua Yamashita,

a me nā Lālā o ke Komite,

(Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee,)

‘O Phoenix Maimiti Valentine ko‘u inoa. Ua hānai ‘ia au ma ka moku o Wai‘anae. He haumāna au a ha‘aheo e kāko‘o iā **SB2214 SD2**.

My name is Phoenix Maimiti Valentine. I was raised in the district of Wai‘anae, a place famous for Hawaiian language speaking families. I’m a student and proud to support **SB2214 SD2**.

The moku of Wai‘anae is one of many examples throughout Hawai‘i, where ‘ohana and lāhui are essential components for gaining ‘ike. I'm excited about **SB2214 SD2**, because it supports the Hawaii State Public Library System! Our state public libraries rock! I've visited Hawaii State Public Libraries on 4 out of 6 islands offered throughout the state. Every library location is unique. In my experience each one offers programs, guest speakers, local & visiting authors, as well as a plethora of classes to suit their community best. Anyone with a library card can digitally access book clubs, author talks, books, mango languages, speciality classes, test prep and learning resources anywhere.

SB2214 SD2, will take the Hawaii State Public Library System to another level. It will establish a digital literacy program overseen by the Board of Education, implemented by the State Librarian. Librarians exude genuine interest for every learner's quest for knowledge. I believe the State Librarian, and Librarians throughout Hawai‘i nei are perfect candidates to assist learning. They already do. **SB2214 SD2** will utilize an existing resource to the greatest of its potential to benefit every learner in Hawai‘i.

Please vote in favor of **SB2214 SD2**. Mahalo a nui loa. E mālama pono.

Me ke aloha pumehana, Phoenix Maimiti Valentine