

MAR 09 2023

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 2 THROUGH OCTOBER 6, 2023, AND OCTOBER 7  
THROUGH OCTOBER 11, 2024, AS DIGITAL INCLUSION WEEK IN THE  
STATE OF HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, broadband services are essential infrastructure  
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  
6 WHEREAS, digital equity ensures that all individuals and  
7 communities have the information technology capacity needed for  
8 full participation in our society, democracy, and economy and is  
9 necessary for civic and cultural participation, lifelong  
10 learning, and access to essential services, such as  
11 telemedicine, distance learning, and the workplace; and

12  
13 WHEREAS, the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic heightened  
14 the demand for reliable, affordable internet connectivity as  
15 work, education, and access to essential services have shifted  
16 toward being provided online; and

17  
18 WHEREAS, broadband access, where available, has helped to  
19 deliver public health information to vulnerable Hawaii residents  
20 who experience socioeconomic disparities and those who live in  
21 underserved and unserved communities; and

22  
23 WHEREAS, many rural, agricultural, and lower-income  
24 communities throughout the State lack access to reliable and  
25 affordable broadband due to the lack of infrastructure;  
26 discrimination in investment in delivering technology and  
27 technology-related services to specific areas or populations; or  
28 barriers derived from socioeconomic status, education, literacy,  
29 language, or disabilities; and

30  
31 WHEREAS, the State is committed to promoting digital  
32 inclusion to ensure that all individuals and communities,



1 including the most remote and disadvantaged, have access to  
2 information and communication technologies, including  
3 affordable, robust broadband internet service; internet-enabled  
4 devices that meet the needs of the user; access to digital  
5 literacy training; quality technical support; and applications  
6 and online content designed to enable and encourage self-  
7 sufficiency, participation, and collaboration; and

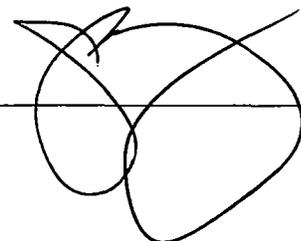
8  
9 WHEREAS, to raise awareness of the need for digital equity  
10 and to promote digital inclusion, Senate Concurrent Resolution  
11 No. 25, S.D. 1, Regular Session of 2022, further recognized  
12 October 3 through October 7, 2022, as Digital Inclusion Week in  
13 the State; and

14  
15 WHEREAS, Digital Inclusion Week is spearheaded by the  
16 National Digital Inclusion Alliance, which represents affiliated  
17 organizations working toward digital equity by crafting,  
18 identifying, and disseminating financial and operational  
19 resources for digital inclusion programs to raise awareness of  
20 solutions addressing home internet access, personal devices, and  
21 local technology training and support programs; now, therefore,

22  
23 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-second  
24 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2023, the  
25 House of Representatives concurring, that October 2 through  
26 October 6, 2023, and October 7 through October 11, 2024, are  
27 recognized as Digital Inclusion Week in the State to raise  
28 awareness of the need for digital equity and to promote digital  
29 inclusion; and

30  
31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
32 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director  
33 of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Strategic  
34 Broadband Coordinator of the Hawaii Broadband and Digital Equity  
35 Office; Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu; Mayor of the  
36 County of Maui; Mayor of the County of Kauai; and Mayor of the  
37 County of Hawaii.

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39  
40  
OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right, positioned above a solid horizontal line.