



GOV. MSG. NO. 1304

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
KE KE'ENA O KE KIA'ĀINA

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA

July 5, 2024

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate,
and Members of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 409
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, and Members of the
House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
State Capitol, Room 431
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on July 5, 2024, the following bill was signed into law:

SB2782 SD2 HD2 CD1

RELATED TO ELECTRONIC INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY.
ACT 203

Sincerely,

Josh Green, M.D.
Governor, State of Hawai'i

on JUL 5 2024

THE SENATE
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2024
STATE OF HAWAII

S.B. NO. 2782
S.D. 2
H.D. 2
C.D. 1

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATED TO ELECTRONIC INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Lahaina
 2 community faces many challenges in the aftermath of the
 3 August 8, 2023, Maui wildfires. With its unique demographic
 4 composition, Lahaina witnessed specific difficulties during the
 5 crisis due to language barriers, including challenges in
 6 receiving timely and accurate information and assistance.
 7 Notably, thirty-two per cent of Lahaina's 9,118 residents are
 8 foreign-born, a statistically significant difference compared to
 9 the 18.8 per cent statewide average. Furthermore, thirty-six
 10 per cent of individuals aged five years and older in Lahaina
 11 speak a language other than English at home, a significant
 12 difference compared to the 25.9 per cent statewide average.

13 The legislature further finds that electronic information
 14 technology developed, purchased, used, modified, or provided by
 15 a state entity must be made accessible to persons with limited
 16 English proficiency as provided by title VI of the Civil Rights
 17 Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000d); Executive Order No. 13166;
 18 Executive Order No. 14031; and chapter 321C, Hawaii Revised



1 Statutes. Electronic information is rapidly replacing print
2 media, and all residents need access to technology to work and
3 participate fully in state programs, services, and activities.

4 The purpose of this Act is to address language barriers and
5 ensure equitable access to information and assistance for all
6 residents, especially those with limited English proficiency.

7 SECTION 2. Chapter 27, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
8 by adding a new section to part VII to be appropriately
9 designated and to read as follows:

10 "§27- Multilingual accessibility standards. (a) The
11 office of enterprise technology services, in consultation with
12 the office of language access, shall develop multilingual
13 accessibility standards to provide technical guidance to state
14 entities regarding public access to vital information and
15 documents. These multilingual accessibility standards shall:

16 (1) Encourage state entities to implement language
17 accessibility cost-effectively, taking into
18 consideration the unique challenges and circumstances
19 of each state entity;

20 (2) Include functional performance criteria and technical
21 requirements for multilingual accessibility standards;



1 (3) Provide recommendations for procurement provisions
2 that can be incorporated into existing state
3 procurement processes to conform to multilingual
4 accessibility standards;

5 (4) Offer other guidance for planning, reporting, and
6 monitoring to ensure that state entities implement the
7 multilingual accessibility standards without impeding
8 modernization efforts; and

9 (5) Apply to electronic information technology developed,
10 purchased, used, modified, or provided by a state
11 entity to assure access to language services as
12 required by federal and state law, rules, and
13 regulations.

14 The office of enterprise technology services, in consultation
15 with the office of language access, shall review the
16 multilingual accessibility standards every three years, or more
17 frequently if the chief information officer deems it necessary,
18 and amend the standards to reflect advances or changes in
19 electronic information technology rules or superseding federal
20 rules, regulations, and guidance.

21 (b) For purposes of this section:



1 "Access" or "accessibility" means to be informed of,
2 participate in, and benefit from the services, programs, and
3 activities offered by a state entity.

4 "State entity" means the executive, legislative, or
5 judicial branch of state government or any department, office,
6 commission, board, or other agency of the executive,
7 legislative, or judicial branches of state government."

8 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$100,000 or so much
10 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 to
11 establish one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) permanent program
12 manager position for the office of enterprise technology
13 services.

14 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
15 accounting and general services for the purposes of this Act.

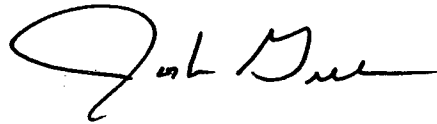
16 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

17 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.



S.B. NO. 2782
S.D. 2
H.D. 2
C.D. 1

APPROVED this **5th** day of **July**, 2024

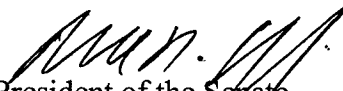
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh Green". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.


GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

Date: May 1, 2024
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2024.


President of the Senate


Clerk of the Senate

SB No. 2782, SD 2, HD 2, CD 1

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: May 1, 2024
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-Second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2024.



Scott K. Saiki
Speaker
House of Representatives



Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives