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 The legislature finds that the Lahaina SECTION 1. 2 community faces many challenges in the aftermath of the August 8, 2023, Maui wildfires. With its unique demographic 3 composition, Lahaina witnessed specific difficulties during the 4 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 2024-2699 SB2782 CD1 SMA-1.docx

1

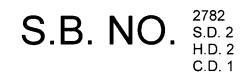
Page 2



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	" <u>§27-</u> 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;

2024-2699 SB2782 CD1 SMA-1.docx

Page 3



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 offic	e of enterprise technology services, in consultation
15	with the	office of language access, shall review the
16	multiling	ual accessibility standards every three years, or more
17	frequentl	y if the chief information officer deems it necessary,
18	and amend	the standards to reflect advances or changes in
19	electroni	c information technology rules or superseding federal
20	rules, re	gulations, and guidance.
21	(b)	For purposes of this section:

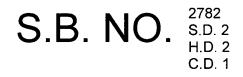


Page 4



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.





Report Title:

Filipino Caucus; Office of Enterprise Technology Services; English Interpretations; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Office of Enterprise Technology Services to develop multilingual accessibility standards. Appropriates funds to establish one full-time equivalent (1.0 FTE) position to develop multilingual accessibility standards within the Office of Enterprise Technology Services. (CD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

