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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO PROVIDE EQUAL PUBLIC, EDUCATION, AND GOVERNMENTAL ACCESS FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT, AND OPERATIONS OF CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEMS TO ALL MARKETS THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

1           WHEREAS, the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs  
2 regulates cable television in the State; and  
3

4           WHEREAS, a cable television operator is required by law to  
5 designate three or more channels for public, educational, or  
6 governmental use, often referred to as "PEG" access channels;  
7 and  
8

9           WHEREAS, the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs  
10 designates nonprofit access organizations to oversee the  
11 development, operation, supervision, management, production, or  
12 broadcasting of programs for these channels, that are funded in  
13 part by fees collected from subscribers by the cable television  
14 operator; and  
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16           WHEREAS, currently, there are four PEG access organizations  
17 in the State: in Hawaii county, Na Leo 'O Hawaii; in Kauai  
18 county, Ho'ike; in Maui county, Akakū; and on the island of  
19 Oahu, 'Ōlelo; and  
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21           WHEREAS, although the access organizations' infrastructure  
22 costs are significant, the resources provided to these groups  
23 vary greatly throughout the State, resulting in underserved  
24 areas such as the islands of Lanai and Molokai and Hana, Maui;  
25 and  
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27           WHEREAS, there is a need for additional funding to support  
28 the mandatory access of public, educational, and governmental  
29 television in underserved areas of the State and provide equal  
30 access statewide; now, therefore,  
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# H.R. NO. 116

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
 2 Twenty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
 3 of 2006, that, in regulating cable television operators, the  
 4 Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs is requested to  
 5 develop a plan to provide equal public, education, and  
 6 governmental access facilities, equipment, and operations of  
 7 cable television systems to all markets throughout the State,  
 8 pursuant to standards and conditions to be adopted in accordance  
 9 with section 40G-15, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and

10  
 11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Commerce and  
 12 Consumer Affairs is requested to address the cable television  
 13 public access needs of underserved areas of the State, including  
 14 Hana, Maui and the islands of Lanai and Molokai, in particular;  
 15 and

16  
 17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Commerce and  
 18 Consumer Affairs is requested to submit its findings and  
 19 recommendations, including implementation plans and a timeline,  
 20 to the Legislature not later than twenty days prior to the  
 21 convening of the Regular Session of 2007; and

22  
 23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 24 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce and  
 25 Consumer Affairs and the President and the Chairperson of the  
 26 Board of Directors of Na Leo 'O Hawaii, Ho'ike, Akakū, and  
 27 'Ōlelo, respectively.  
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 29  
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OFFERED BY: Mele Carroll

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