
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TECHNOLOGY.

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

1 PART I

2 SECTION 1. (a) Through Act 2 of the first special session
3 of 2007, the legislature created the Hawaii broadband task force
4 to provide recommendations on how to advance Hawaii's broadband
5 capabilities and use. The legislature finds that advanced
6 broadband services are essential infrastructure for an
7 innovation economy and a knowledge society in the twenty-first
8 century. High-speed broadband services at affordable prices are
9 essential for the advancement of education, health, public
10 safety, research and innovation, civic participation,
11 e-government, economic development and diversification, and
12 public safety and services. The legislature also recognizes the
13 evolution in the manner in which communications and information
14 services are delivered to the consumer, including by wireline,
15 wireless, cable television, and satellite infrastructures, and
16 that the voice, video, and data services provided over these
17 infrastructures are converging. To position Hawaii for global



1 competitiveness in the twenty-first century, this Act promotes
2 the following goals:

- 3 (1) Access to broadband communications to all households,
4 businesses, and organizations throughout the state by
5 2012 at speeds and prices comparable to the average
6 speeds and prices available in the top three
7 performing countries in the world;
- 8 (2) Availability of advanced broadband communications
9 service on a competitive basis to reduce prices,
10 increase service penetration, and improve service to
11 all persons in the state;
- 12 (3) Increased broadband availability at affordable costs
13 to low income and other disadvantaged groups,
14 including by making low-cost, broadband-capable
15 computers available to eligible recipients;
- 16 (4) Increased sharing of the infrastructure used to deploy
17 broadband to reduce costs to providers, ease
18 deployment of broadband, and ease entry into a
19 competitive broadband marketplace;
- 20 (5) Increased, flexible, timely, and responsible access to
21 public rights-of-way and public facilities for
22 broadband service providers; and



1 (6) A more streamlined permit approval process that
2 reduces the time and cost of infrastructure
3 deployment, to be created jointly by disparate
4 permitting agencies, stakeholders, and other
5 interested parties.

6 (b) The purpose of this Act is to establish the Hawaii
7 communications commission, administratively attached to the
8 department of commerce and consumer affairs. The commission is
9 placed under the supervision and control of the Hawaii
10 communications commissioner. The commission is required to:

11 (1) Investigate, promote, and ensure the growth and
12 development of broadband infrastructure within the
13 state in accordance with the aforementioned goals;

14 (2) Champion the State's broadband, telecommunications,
15 and video programming services interests before the
16 federal government, including the United States
17 Congress, the executive branch of the United States,
18 and the Federal Communications Commission; and state
19 and local agencies, including the governor, the state
20 legislature, and county governments;

21 (3) Maintain close working relationships with community
22 groups, civic associations, industry trade



1 organizations, industry leaders, and other
2 stakeholders to ensure that the State's interests and
3 concerns are understood;

4 (4) Develop state policies relating to the provision of
5 broadband communications services and interstate and
6 international communications services and facilities
7 serving or transiting through the State of Hawaii;

8 (5) Facilitate the construction of shared
9 telecommunications and broadband infrastructure and
10 expand the introduction and capabilities of advanced
11 broadband communications services;

12 (6) Consolidate the regulation of telecommunications
13 carriers currently regulated by the public utilities
14 commission and cable operators currently regulated by
15 the director of commerce and consumer affairs,
16 creating a "one stop shop" to allow businesses
17 providing broadband, telecommunications, and video
18 programming services to make their services more
19 readily available to the public;

20 (7) Promptly examine rate regulation for
21 telecommunications carriers, including alternatives
22 such as price cap regulation; and



1 (8) Investigate the possibility of implementing incentive
2 regulation for telecommunications carriers to increase
3 investment in broadband infrastructure within the
4 state.

5 SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
6 adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read
7 as follows:

8 "CHAPTER

9 HAWAII COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

10 PART I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

11 § -1 **Definitions.** As used in this chapter, unless the
12 context otherwise requires:

13 "Applicant" means a person who initiates an application or
14 proposal.

15 "Application" means an unsolicited filing.

16 "Basic cable service" means any service tier that includes
17 the retransmission of local television broadcast signals.

18 "Broadband" means an "always on" data networking service to
19 access the Internet that uses a variety of applications, at
20 minimum speeds set by the commissioner.

21 "Cable franchise" means a nonexclusive initial
22 authorization or renewal thereof issued pursuant to this



1 chapter, whether the authorization is designated as a franchise,
2 permit, order, contract, agreement, or otherwise, which
3 authorizes the construction or operation of a cable system.

4 "Cable operator" means any person or group of persons who:

- 5 (1) Provides cable service over a cable system and
6 directly or through one or more affiliates owns a
7 significant interest in the cable system; or
8 (2) Otherwise controls or is responsible for, through any
9 arrangement, the management and operation of a cable
10 system.

11 "Cable service" means:

- 12 (1) The one-way transmission to subscribers of video
13 programming or other programming service; and
14 (2) Subscriber interaction, if any, which is required for
15 the selection of video programming or other
16 programming service.

17 "Cable system" means any facility within this state
18 consisting of a set of closed transmission paths and associated
19 signal generation, reception, and control equipment that is
20 designed to provide cable service which includes video
21 programming and which is provided to multiple subscribers within
22 a community, but does not include a facility:



1 (1) That serves only to retransmit the television signals
2 of one or more television broadcast stations;

3 (2) That serves only subscribers in one or more multiple
4 unit dwellings under common ownership, control, or
5 management, unless that facility or facilities uses
6 any public right-of-way; or

7 (3) Of a telecommunications carrier subject in whole or in
8 part to the provisions of part II of this chapter,
9 except to the extent that that facility provides video
10 programming directly to subscribers.

11 "Carrier of last resort" means a telecommunications carrier
12 designated by the commissioner to provide universal service in a
13 given local exchange service area determined to be lacking in
14 effective competition.

15 "Department" means the department of commerce and consumer
16 affairs.

17 "Designated local exchange service area" means an area as
18 determined by the commissioner to be best served by designating
19 a carrier of last resort pursuant to section -43.

20 "Director" means the director of commerce and consumer
21 affairs.



1 "Facility" includes all real property, antenna, poles,
2 supporting structures, wires, cables, conduits, amplifiers,
3 instruments, appliances, fixtures, and other personal property
4 used by a cable operator in providing service to its
5 subscribers.

6 "Hawaii communications commission" or "commission" means
7 the commission established in section -2.

8 "Hawaii communications commissioner" or "commissioner"
9 means the commissioner established in section -3.

10 "Institution of higher education" means an academic college
11 or university accredited by the Western Association of Schools
12 and Colleges.

13 "Other programming service" means information that a cable
14 operator makes available to all subscribers generally.

15 "Person" means an individual, partnership, association,
16 joint stock company, trust, corporation, or governmental agency.

17 "Proposal" means a filing solicited by the commissioner.

18 "Public, educational, or governmental access facilities" or

19 "PEG access facility" means:

20 (1) Channel capacity designated for public, educational,
21 or governmental uses; and



1 (2) Facilities and equipment for the use of that channel
2 capacity.

3 "Public, educational, or governmental access organization"
4 or "PEG access organization" means any nonprofit organization
5 designated by the commissioner to oversee production training
6 for, or the development, operation, supervision, management,
7 production, or broadcasting of programs for any channels
8 obtained under section -67, and to provide these services,
9 and any officers, agents, and employees of the organization with
10 respect to matters within the course and scope of their
11 employment by the organization.

12 "Public place" includes any property, building, structure,
13 or body of water to which the public has a right of access and
14 use.

15 "School" means an academic and non-college type regular or
16 special education institution of learning established and
17 maintained by the department of education or licensed and
18 supervised by that department.

19 "Service area" means the geographic area for which a cable
20 operator has been issued a cable franchise.

21 "Telecommunications carrier" or "telecommunications common
22 carrier" means any person that owns, operates, manages, or



1 controls any facility used to furnish telecommunications
2 services for profit to the public, or to classes of users as to
3 be effectively available to the public, engaged to provide
4 services, such as voice, data, image, graphics, and video
5 services, which make use of all or part of their transmission
6 facilities, switches, broadcast equipment, signaling, or control
7 devices.

8 "Telecommunications service" or "telecommunications" means
9 the offering of transmission between or among points specified
10 by a user, of information of the user's choosing, including
11 voice, data, image, graphics, and video without change in the
12 form or content of the information, as sent and received, by
13 means of electromagnetic transmission, or other similarly
14 capable means of transmission, with or without benefit of any
15 closed transmission medium, and does not include cable service
16 as defined in this section.

17 "Video programming" means programming provided by, or
18 generally considered comparable to programming provided by, a
19 television broadcast station.

20 § -2 Hawaii communications commission; established.

21 There is established to implement this chapter and to be



1 administratively attached to the department of commerce and
2 consumer affairs, the Hawaii communications commission.

3 § -3 **Hawaii communications commissioner.** The commission
4 shall be under the supervision and control of the Hawaii
5 communications commissioner, who shall be exempt from chapter 76
6 and shall be appointed by the governor, with the advice and
7 consent of the senate.

8 § -4 **Deputy commissioner.** The commissioner may appoint
9 a deputy commissioner, who shall be exempt from chapter 76. The
10 commissioner may, at pleasure, dismiss the deputy commissioner.
11 The deputy commissioner shall have the power to perform any act
12 or duty assigned by the commissioner and shall be acting
13 commissioner if, for any reason, the commissioner is unable to
14 perform the duties of commissioner, until a new commissioner is
15 appointed.

16 § -5 **Employment of assistants.** (a) The commissioner
17 may appoint and employ clerks, stenographers, agents, engineers,
18 accountants, and other assistants, with or without regard to
19 chapter 76; provided that:

20 (1) The commissioner may employ utility and cable analysts
21 exempt from chapter 76; and



1 (2) Each analyst shall possess at least the minimum
2 qualifications required of comparable experts in the
3 relevant industry.

4 (b) The commissioner may appoint and, at pleasure, dismiss
5 hearings officers as may be necessary, with or without regard to
6 chapter 76.

7 (c) The commissioner may, with the consent of the
8 director, use staff including clerks, stenographers, agents,
9 engineers, accountants, hearings officers, and other assistants
10 from the department, as the commissioner finds necessary for the
11 performance of the commissioner's functions, and define their
12 powers and duties.

13 (d) The commissioner may appoint one or more attorneys
14 independent of the attorney general who shall provide legal
15 counsel and advise to the commission and shall be exempt from
16 chapter 76. The commissioner shall define their powers and
17 duties and fix their compensation.

18 (e) With the consent of the director, the commissioner may
19 use from the department, one or more attorneys independent of
20 the attorney general who shall act as attorney(s) for the
21 commissioner and shall be exempt from chapter 76. The



1 commissioner shall define the powers and duties of the attorneys
2 and fix their compensation.

3 § -6 **Terms.** The commissioner shall be appointed for a
4 term of six years and shall not serve more than twelve
5 consecutive years. Each commissioner shall hold office until
6 the commissioner's successor is appointed and confirmed.

7 Section 26-34 shall not apply insofar as it relates to the
8 number of terms and consecutive number of years a person may be
9 appointed as commissioner.

10 § -7 **Salary.** The salary of the commissioner shall be
11 set equal to that of the chairperson of the public utilities
12 commission pursuant to section 269-2.

13 § -8 **General powers and duties.** (a) The commission
14 shall have the authority expressly conferred upon the commission
15 by, or reasonably implied from, the provisions of this chapter.

16 (b) The commission shall have general supervision over all
17 telecommunications carriers and cable operators and shall
18 perform the duties and exercise the powers imposed or conferred
19 upon it by this chapter.

20 (c) The commission has the authority to adopt rules
21 pursuant to chapter 91 necessary for the purposes of this
22 chapter.



1 (d) The commission shall have general supervision over
2 public, educational, or governmental access facilities and
3 public, educational, or governmental access organizations.

4 § -9 Communications development duties. (a) The
5 commission shall strive to ensure that all consumers are
6 provided with reasonable and equitable access to high quality
7 communications network facilities and capabilities that provide
8 subscribers with sufficient network capacity to access a
9 combination of voice, data, image, and video, and that are
10 available at fair and affordable rates. In addition, no later
11 than July 1, 2011, in accordance with section -34, the
12 commission shall investigate the extent to which
13 telecommunications services provided to residential and business
14 customers are available from multiple providers in Hawaii and
15 whether to reclassify telecommunications services provided to
16 residential and business customers as "fully competitive"
17 communications services.

18 (b) No later than July 1, 2011, the commission shall study
19 and develop a comprehensive policy to further deploy broadband
20 communications, including Internet access, in the state. The
21 study shall include consideration of communications by wire and
22 radio, including satellite and wireless services. The



1 commission shall develop plans and strategies to increase
2 broadband affordability, penetration, and competitive
3 availability in the state. The plans may include measures to
4 streamline access to public rights-of-way and public facilities
5 for broadband service providers and the permitting and approval
6 processes required for such access. The plans may also include
7 making low-cost, broadband-capable computers available to
8 eligible recipients. The plans may further include encouraging
9 or, with respect to state-owned property, requiring the sharing
10 of new infrastructure used for broadband services. The
11 commission shall regularly update and revise the commission's
12 studies and findings to ensure that the State's policies and
13 initiatives remain effective in promoting the State's interests.

14 (c) The commission shall develop programs and initiatives
15 intended to facilitate the deployment of broadband
16 communications services in the state and access to those
17 services by users in the state. These programs may include
18 initiatives by the State to facilitate and construct new
19 broadband communications infrastructure that can be shared by
20 competing providers of broadband services. The commission shall
21 fund these programs and initiatives using fees collected
22 pursuant to section -51 and deposited in the Hawaii



1 communications commission special fund pursuant to section
2 -21. In conjunction with the funds, or alternatively, the
3 commission may seek appropriations of funds from the State.

4 (d) The commission shall develop, and routinely update, a
5 state policy and formulate positions to be taken before federal
6 agencies regarding areas outside its jurisdiction. The
7 commission shall advocate on behalf of the State's broadband,
8 telecommunications, and video programming distribution interests
9 before the United States Congress, the executive branch of the
10 United States, and the Federal Communications Commission, and
11 locally before the governor, the state legislature, and county
12 governments. The commission shall also maintain close working
13 relationships with community groups, civic associations,
14 industry trade associations, industry leaders, and other
15 stakeholders to ensure that the State's interests and concerns
16 are understood.

17 § -10 **Investigative powers.** (a) The commission shall
18 have power to examine:

19 (1) The condition of each telecommunications carrier,
20 cable operator, and PEG access organization;

21 (2) The manner in which each telecommunications carrier,
22 cable operator, and PEG access organization is



- 1 operated with reference to the safety or accommodation
2 of the public;
- 3 (3) The safety, working hours, and wages of employees of
4 each telecommunications carrier, cable operator, and
5 PEG access organization;
- 6 (4) The fares and rates charged by each telecommunications
7 carrier, cable operator, and PEG access organization;
- 8 (5) The value of the physical property of each
9 telecommunications carrier, cable operator, and PEG
10 access organization;
- 11 (6) The issuance by each telecommunications carrier, cable
12 operator, and PEG access organization of stocks and
13 bonds, and the disposition of the proceeds thereof;
- 14 (7) The amount and disposition of income of each
15 telecommunications carrier, cable operator, and PEG
16 access organization;
- 17 (8) All financial transactions of each telecommunications
18 carrier, cable operator, and PEG access organization;
- 19 (9) The business relations of each telecommunications
20 carrier, cable operator, and PEG access organization
21 with other persons, companies, or corporations;



1 (10) Compliance of each telecommunications carrier, cable
2 operator, and PEG access organization with all
3 applicable state and federal laws and with the
4 provisions of its franchise, charter, and articles of
5 association, if any; and

6 (11) Classifications, rules, regulations, practices, and
7 service, and all matters of every nature affecting the
8 relations and transactions between each
9 telecommunications carrier, cable operator, and PEG
10 access organization and the public or persons or
11 corporations.

12 (b) The commission may investigate any person acting in
13 the capacity of or engaging in the business of a
14 telecommunications carrier within the State of Hawaii without
15 having a certificate of public convenience and necessity or
16 other authority previously obtained under and in compliance with
17 this chapter or the rules adopted under this chapter or chapter
18 269.

19 (c) Any investigation may be made by the commission on the
20 commissioner's own motion, and shall be made when requested by
21 the telecommunications carrier, cable operator, or PEG access
22 organization to be investigated, or by any person upon a sworn



1 written complaint to the commission, setting forth any prima
2 facie cause of complaint.

3 § -11 **Delegating powers.** Any power, duty, or function
4 vested in the commissioner by this chapter may be exercised,
5 discharged, or performed by any employee of the commission
6 employed pursuant to section -5(a), -5(b), or -5(d)
7 acting in the name and by the delegated authority of the
8 commission. Any power, duty, or function vested in the
9 commission by this chapter may be exercised, discharged, or
10 performed by any employee of the department utilized pursuant to
11 section -5(c) or -5(e) acting in the name and by the
12 delegated authority of the commission, with the approval of the
13 director.

14 § -12 **Annual report and register of orders.** The
15 commission shall prepare and present to the governor, through
16 the director, in the month of January in each year a report
17 respecting the commission's actions during the preceding fiscal
18 year. This report shall include:

19 (1) Summary information and analytical, comparative, and
20 trend data concerning major regulatory issues acted
21 upon and pending before the commission;



- 1 (2) Cases processed by the commission, including their
2 dispositions;
- 3 (3) Telecommunications carrier and cable operator
4 operations, capital improvements, and rates;
- 5 (4) Telecommunications carrier and cable operator
6 performance in terms of efficiency and quality of
7 services rendered;
- 8 (5) Environmental matters having a significant impact upon
9 telecommunications carriers and cable operators;
- 10 (6) Actions of the federal government that affect the
11 regulation of telecommunications carriers and cable
12 operators in the state;
- 13 (7) Long- and short-range plans and objectives of the
14 commission; and
- 15 (8) The commission's recommendations respecting
16 legislation and other matters requiring executive and
17 legislative consideration.

18 Copies of the annual reports shall be furnished by the governor
19 to the legislature. In addition, the commission shall establish
20 and maintain a register of all of the commission's orders and
21 decisions, which shall be open and readily available for public
22 inspection.



1 § -13 Commission's investigative authorities. In all
2 investigations made by the commission, and in all proceedings
3 before the commission, the commission shall have the same powers
4 respecting administering of oaths, compelling the attendance of
5 witnesses and the production of documentary evidence, examining
6 witnesses, and punishing for contempt, as are possessed by
7 circuit courts. In case of disobedience by any person to any
8 order of the commission, or any subpoena issued by the
9 commission, or of the refusal of any witness to testify to any
10 matter regarding which the witness may be questioned lawfully,
11 any circuit court, on application by the commission, shall
12 compel obedience as in case of disobedience of the requirements
13 of a subpoena issued from a circuit court or a refusal to
14 testify therein. No person shall be excused from testifying or
15 from producing any book, waybill, document, paper, electronic
16 record, or account in any investigation or inquiry by a hearing
17 before the commission when ordered to do so, upon the ground
18 that the testimony or evidence, book, waybill, document, paper,
19 electronic record, or account required of the person may tend to
20 incriminate the person or subject the person to penalty or
21 forfeiture; but no person shall be prosecuted for any crime,
22 punished for any crime, or subjected to any criminal penalty or



1 criminal forfeiture for or on account of any act, transaction,
2 matter, or thing concerning a matter about which the person has
3 testified under oath or produced documentary evidence pursuant
4 to a subpoena. Nothing herein shall be construed as in any
5 manner giving to any telecommunications carrier, cable operator,
6 PEG access organization, or any person, immunity of any kind.
7 The fees and traveling expenses of witnesses, when mandated to
8 appear, shall be the same as allowed witnesses in the circuit
9 courts and shall be paid by the State out of any appropriation
10 available for the expenses of the commission.

11 § -14 Notices. (a) Whenever an investigation is
12 undertaken and a hearing is scheduled by the commission,
13 reasonable notice in writing of such fact and of the subject or
14 subjects to be investigated shall be given to the
15 telecommunications carrier, cable operator, PEG access
16 organization, or the person concerned, and when based upon
17 complaints made to the commission as prescribed in section
18 -10, a copy of the complaint, and a notice in writing of the
19 date and place fixed by the commission for beginning the
20 investigation, shall be served upon the telecommunications
21 carrier, cable operator, PEG access organization, or the person



1 concerned, or other respondent and the complainant not less than
2 two weeks before the date designated for the hearing.

3 (b) Any notice provided pursuant to section -38(e),
4 shall plainly state the rate, fare, charge, classification,
5 schedule, rule, or practice proposed to be established,
6 abandoned, modified, or departed from and the proposed effective
7 date thereof and shall be given by filing the notice with the
8 commission and keeping it open for public inspection.

9 (c) Any public hearing held pursuant to section -38(e),
10 shall be a noticed public hearing or hearings on the island on
11 which the telecommunications carrier is situated. Notice of the
12 hearing, with the purpose thereof and the date, time, and place
13 at which it will open, shall be given not less than once in each
14 of three weeks statewide, the first notice being not less than
15 twenty-one days before the public hearing and the last notice
16 being not more than two days before the scheduled hearing. The
17 applicant or applicants shall notify their consumers or patrons
18 of the proposed change in rates and of the time and place of the
19 public hearing not less than one week before the set date, the
20 manner and the fact of notification to be reported to the
21 commission before the date of hearing.



1 § -15 **Right to be represented by counsel.** At any
2 investigation by or proceeding before the commission, the
3 telecommunications carrier, cable operator, PEG access
4 organization, or the person concerned, or other respondent or
5 party and any complainant or permitted intervenor shall have the
6 right to be present and represented by counsel, to present any
7 evidence desired, and to cross-examine any witness who may be
8 called.

9 § -16 **Commission may institute proceedings to enforce**
10 **chapter.** (a) If the commission is of the opinion that any
11 telecommunications carrier, cable operator, PEG access
12 organization, or any person is violating or neglecting to comply
13 with any provision of this chapter or of any rule, regulation,
14 order, or other requirement of the commission, or of any
15 provisions of its certificate of public convenience and
16 necessity, franchise, charter, contract, or articles of
17 association, if any, or that changes, additions, extensions, or
18 repairs are desirable in its plant or service to meet the
19 reasonable convenience or necessity of the public, or to ensure
20 greater safety or security, or that any rates, fares,
21 classifications, charges, or rules are unreasonable or
22 unreasonably discriminatory, or that in any way it is doing what



1 it ought not to do, or not doing what it ought to do, the
2 commission shall in writing inform the telecommunications
3 carrier, cable operator, PEG access organization, or the person
4 and may institute proceedings before it as may be necessary to
5 require the telecommunications carrier, cable operator, PEG
6 access organization, or the person to correct any deficiency.
7 In that event, the commission may by order direct the consumer
8 advocate to appear in the proceeding, to carry out the purposes
9 of this section. The commission may examine into any of the
10 matters referred to in section -10, notwithstanding that the
11 same may be within the jurisdiction of any court or other body;
12 provided that this section shall not be construed as in any
13 manner limiting or otherwise affecting the jurisdiction of any
14 court or other body. The commission may also revoke or amend
15 any provision of a certificate of public convenience and
16 necessity, franchise, charter, or articles of association, if
17 any, pursuant to section -31 or -71.

18 (b) In addition to any other available remedy, the
19 commission or its enforcement officer may issue citations to any
20 person acting in the capacity of or engaging in the business of
21 a telecommunications carrier or cable operator within the state,
22 without having a certificate of public convenience and



1 necessity, franchise, or other authority previously obtained
2 under and in compliance with this chapter or the rules adopted
3 thereunder. Citations issued and persons cited pursuant to this
4 subsection shall be subject to the following:

5 (1) The citation may contain an order of abatement and an
6 assessment of civil penalties as provided in section
7 -24. All penalties collected under this subsection
8 shall be deposited in the Hawaii communications
9 commission special fund established pursuant to
10 section -21. Service of a citation issued under
11 this subsection shall be made by personal service
12 whenever possible, or by certified mail, restricted
13 delivery, sent to the last known business or residence
14 address of the person cited;

15 (2) Any person served with a citation under this
16 subsection may submit a written request to the
17 commission for a hearing, within twenty days from the
18 receipt of the citation, with respect to the
19 violations alleged, the scope of the order of
20 abatement, and the amount of civil penalties assessed.
21 If the person cited under this subsection timely
22 notifies the commission of the request for a hearing,



1 the commission shall afford an opportunity for a
2 hearing under chapter 91. The hearing shall be
3 conducted by the commission or the commission may
4 designate a hearings officer to hold the hearing;

5 (3) If the person cited under this subsection does not
6 submit a written request to the commission for a
7 hearing within twenty days from the receipt of the
8 citation, the citation shall be deemed a final order
9 of the commission. The commission may apply to the
10 appropriate court for a judgment to enforce the
11 provisions of any final order, issued by the
12 commission or designated hearings officer pursuant to
13 this subsection, including the provisions for
14 abatement and civil penalties imposed. In any
15 proceeding to enforce the provisions of the final
16 order of the commission or designated hearings
17 officer, the commission need only show that the notice
18 was given, that a hearing was held or the time granted
19 for requesting the hearing has run without a request,
20 and a certified copy of the final order of the
21 commission or designated hearings officer; and



1 (4) If any party is aggrieved by the decision of the
2 commission or the designated hearings officer, the
3 party may appeal to the intermediate appellate court,
4 in the manner provided for in chapter 602; provided
5 that the operation of an abatement order shall not be
6 stayed on appeal unless specifically ordered by the
7 intermediate appellate court after applying the stay
8 criteria enumerated in section 91-14(c). The
9 sanctions and disposition authorized under this
10 subsection shall be separate and in addition to all
11 other remedies either civil or criminal provided in
12 any other applicable statutory provision. The
13 commission may adopt rules under chapter 91 as may be
14 necessary to fully effectuate this subsection.

15 § -17 Appeals. An appeal from an order of the
16 commission under this chapter shall lie, in the manner provided
17 for in chapter 602. Only a person aggrieved in a contested case
18 proceeding provided for in this chapter may appeal from a final
19 order, or a preliminary order if it is of the nature defined by
20 section 91-14(a). The commission may elect to be a party to all
21 matters, from which an order of the commission is appealed or
22 any action in any court of law seeking a mandamus, or injunctive



1 or other relief to compel compliance with this chapter, or any
2 rule or order adopted thereunder, or to restrain or otherwise
3 prevent or prohibit any illegal or unauthorized conduct in
4 connection therewith, and file appropriate responsive briefs or
5 pleadings. If there is no adverse party to the appeal, the
6 commission shall be a party and shall file responsive briefs or
7 pleadings in defending all orders. The appearance of the
8 commission as a party in judicial proceedings in no way limits
9 the participation of persons otherwise qualified to be parties
10 on appeal. The appeal shall not of itself stay the operation of
11 the order appealed from, but the appellate court may stay the
12 order after a hearing upon a motion therefor and may impose
13 conditions it deems proper, including but not limited to
14 requiring a bond, requiring that accounts be kept, or requiring
15 that other measures be taken as ordered to secure restitution of
16 the excess charges, if any, made during the pendency of the
17 appeal, in case the order appealed from is sustained, reversed,
18 or modified in whole or in part.

19 § -18 **Alternative dispute resolution.** The commission
20 may require the parties in any matter before the commission to
21 participate in nonbinding arbitration, mediation, or another
22 alternative dispute resolution process prior to the hearing.



1 § -19 **Perjury.** Any person who wilfully and knowingly
2 makes under oath any false statement in connection with any
3 investigation by or proceeding before the commission shall be
4 guilty of perjury and, upon conviction, shall be subject to the
5 penalty prescribed by law for the offense.

6 § -20 **Telecommunications carriers, cable operators, and**
7 **PEG access organizations, to furnish information.** Every
8 telecommunications carrier, cable operator, PEG access
9 organization, or other person subject to investigation by the
10 commission, shall at all times, upon request, furnish to the
11 commission all information that the commission may require
12 respecting any of the matters concerning which the commission is
13 given power to investigate, and shall permit the examination of
14 its books, records, contracts, maps, and other documents by the
15 commission or any person authorized by the commission in writing
16 to make the examination, and shall furnish the commission with a
17 complete inventory of property under its control or management
18 in the form as the commission may direct. Information and data
19 that the commission requires to be produced by a
20 telecommunications carrier, cable operator, PEG access
21 organization, or other person that is proprietary in nature or



1 qualifies as commercially sensitive information shall be treated
2 and protected as confidential by the commission.

3 § -21 Hawaii communications commission special fund.

4 (a) There is established in the state treasury a Hawaii
5 communications commission special fund to be administered by the
6 commission. The proceeds of the fund shall be used by the
7 commission and the division of consumer advocacy for all
8 expenses incurred in the administration of this chapter,
9 including, without limitation, the operation of programs
10 developed by the commission to develop and construct, or
11 encourage the construction of, broadband infrastructure, make
12 broadband capable services available to low income and
13 disadvantaged persons, or otherwise promote universal
14 availability of communications services. The expenditures of
15 the commission shall be in accordance with legislative
16 appropriations. On a quarterly basis an amount not to exceed
17 thirty per cent of the proceeds remaining in the fund shall be
18 allocated to the division of consumer advocacy and deposited in
19 the compliance resolution fund established pursuant to section
20 26-9(o).

21 (b) All moneys appropriated to, received, and collected by
22 the commission that are not otherwise pledged, obligated, or



1 required by law to be placed in any other special fund or
2 expended for any other purpose shall be deposited into the
3 Hawaii communications commission special fund including but not
4 limited to all moneys received and collected by the commission
5 pursuant to sections -24, -51, and 92-21.

6 (c) The commission shall submit a report to the
7 legislature detailing all funds received and all moneys
8 disbursed out of the fund prior to the convening of each regular
9 session.

10 § -22 **Consumer advocate.** As the director serves as the
11 consumer advocate to the public utilities commission pursuant to
12 sections 269-51 through 269-55, the commission shall recognize
13 the director as the consumer advocate in hearings and
14 proceedings before the commission.

15 § -23 **Communications advisory committee.** There is
16 established the communications advisory committee. The
17 committee shall consist of five members appointed by the
18 governor as provided in section 26-34. The committee shall
19 advise the commission, telecommunications carriers, and cable
20 operators on matters within the jurisdiction of this chapter at
21 the request of the commission or any telecommunications carrier
22 or cable operator. The members of the committee shall serve



1 without pay but shall be entitled to reimbursement for necessary
2 expenses, including travel expenses, while attending meetings
3 and while in discharge of their duties.

4 § -24 Penalties. (a) Any telecommunications carrier,
5 cable operator, or PEG access organization violating,
6 neglecting, or failing in any particular way to conform to or
7 comply with this chapter or any lawful order of the commission,
8 including but not limited to the grounds specified in section
9 -71 for cable operators and PEG access organizations, shall
10 be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$25,000 for each day
11 the violation, neglect, or failure continues, to be assessed by
12 the commission after a hearing in accordance with chapter 91.
13 The commission may order the telecommunications carrier or cable
14 operator to cease carrying on its business while the violation,
15 neglect, or failure continues.

16 (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), any person acting in
17 the capacity of or engaging in the business of a
18 telecommunications carrier or a cable operator in the state
19 without having a certificate of public convenience and
20 necessity, franchise, or other authority previously obtained
21 under and in compliance with this chapter and the rules adopted
22 thereunder may be subject to a civil penalty not to exceed



1 \$5,000 for each offense, and, in the case of a continuing
2 violation, \$5,000 for each day that uncertified activity
3 continues.

4 (c) Upon written application filed within fifteen days
5 after service of an order imposing a civil penalty pursuant to
6 this section, the commission may remit or mitigate the penalty
7 upon terms as it deems proper.

8 (d) If any civil penalty imposed pursuant to this section
9 is not paid within the period as the commission may direct, the
10 attorney general shall institute a civil action for recovery of
11 the same in circuit court.

12 (e) Any penalty assessed under this section shall be in
13 addition to any other costs, expenses, or payments for which the
14 telecommunications carrier, cable operator, or PEG access
15 organization is responsible under this chapter.

16 **PART II. TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

17 **§ -31 Certificates of public convenience and necessity.**

18 (a) No telecommunications carrier, as defined in section -1,
19 shall commence its business without first having obtained from
20 the commission a certificate of public convenience and
21 necessity. Applications for certificates shall be made in
22 writing to the commission and shall comply with the requirements



1 prescribed in the commission's rules. The application for a
2 certificate of public convenience and necessity shall include:

3 (1) The type of service to be performed;

4 (2) The geographical scope of the operation;

5 (3) The type of equipment to be employed in the service;

6 (4) The names of competing telecommunications carriers for
7 the proposed service;

8 (5) A statement of the applicant's financial ability to
9 render the proposed service;

10 (6) A current financial statement of the applicant; and

11 (7) The rates or charges proposed to be charged, including
12 the rules governing the proposed service.

13 (b) A certificate shall be issued to any qualified
14 applicant, authorizing the whole or any part of the operations
15 covered by the application, if it is found that the applicant is
16 fit, willing, and able to properly perform the proposed services
17 and to conform to the terms, conditions, and rules adopted by
18 the commission, and that the proposed service is, or will be,
19 required by the present or future public convenience and
20 necessity; otherwise the application shall be denied. Any
21 certificate issued shall specify the service to be rendered and
22 there shall be attached to the exercise of the privileges



1 granted by the certificate at the time of issuance and from time
2 to time thereafter, reasonable conditions and limitations as a
3 public convenience and necessity may require. The
4 reasonableness of the rates, charges, and tariff rules proposed
5 by the applicant shall be determined by the commission during
6 the same proceeding examining the present and future
7 conveniences and needs of the public and qualifications of the
8 applicant, in accordance with the standards set forth in section
9 -38.

10 (c) No telecommunications carrier that, as of July 1,
11 2009, holds a valid certificate of public convenience and
12 necessity, franchise, or charter enacted or granted by the
13 legislative or executive authority of the State or its
14 predecessor governments, or has a bona fide operation as a
15 telecommunications carrier recognized by the public utilities
16 commission, shall be required to obtain, as a result of the
17 enactment of this Act, a new certificate of public convenience
18 and necessity under this section.

19 (d) Any certificate, upon application of the holder and at
20 the discretion of the commission, may be amended, suspended, or
21 revoked, in whole or in part. The commission after notice and
22 hearing may suspend, amend, or revoke any certificate in part or



1 in whole, if the holder is found to be in wilful violation of
2 any of the provisions of this chapter or with any lawful order
3 or rule of the commission adopted thereunder, or with any term,
4 condition, or limitation of the certificate.

5 § -32 **Location of records.** A telecommunications carrier
6 shall keep and maintain records, books, papers, accounts, and
7 other documents as the commission may determine are necessary to
8 effectively regulate the telecommunications carrier, that can be
9 made immediately accessible when requested by the commission;
10 provided that the original copies are made available when
11 requested by the commission.

12 § -33 **Annual financial reports.** Each annual financial
13 report required to be filed with the commission by
14 telecommunications carriers shall include a certification that
15 the report conforms with the applicable uniform system of
16 accounts adopted by the commission. The commission shall adopt
17 a uniform system of accounts for this purpose.

18 § -34 **Telecommunications providers and services.** (a)
19 Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary,
20 the commission, upon the commission's own motion or upon the
21 application of any person, and upon notice and hearing, may
22 exempt a telecommunications carrier or a telecommunications



1 service from any or all of the provisions of this chapter,
2 except the requirements of section -36, upon a determination
3 that the exemption is in the public interest. In determining
4 whether an exemption is in the public interest, the commission
5 shall consider whether the exemption promotes state policies in
6 telecommunications, the development, maintenance, and operation
7 of effective and economically efficient telecommunications
8 services, and the furnishing of telecommunications services at
9 just and reasonable rates and in a fair manner in view of the
10 needs of the various customer segments of the telecommunications
11 industry. Among the specific factors the commission may
12 consider are:

- 13 (1) The responsiveness of the exemption to changes in the
14 structure and technology of the State's
15 telecommunications industry;
- 16 (2) The benefits accruing to the customers and users of
17 the exempt telecommunications carrier or service;
- 18 (3) The impact of the exemption on the quality,
19 efficiency, and availability of telecommunications
20 services;



- 1 (4) The impact of the exemption on the maintenance of
2 fair, just, and reasonable rates for
3 telecommunications services;
- 4 (5) The likelihood of prejudice or disadvantage to
5 ratepayers of basic local exchange service resulting
6 from the exemption;
- 7 (6) The effect of the exemption on the preservation and
8 promotion of affordable, universal, basic
9 telecommunications services as those services are
10 determined by the commission;
- 11 (7) The resulting subsidization, if any, of the exempt
12 telecommunications service or provider by nonexempt
13 services;
- 14 (8) The impact of the exemption on the availability of
15 diversity in the supply of telecommunications services
16 throughout the State of Hawaii;
- 17 (9) The improvements in the regulatory system to be gained
18 from the exemption, including the reduction in
19 regulatory delays and costs;
- 20 (10) The impact of the exemption on promoting innovations
21 in telecommunications services;



- 1 (11) The opportunity provided by the exemption for
2 telecommunications carriers to respond to competition;
- 3 (12) The potential for the exercise of substantial market
4 power by the exempt provider or by a provider of the
5 exempt telecommunications service; and
- 6 (13) The impact of the exemption on the competitive
7 availability and affordability of broadband and other
8 advanced services to consumers.

9 (b) The commission shall expedite, where practicable, the
10 regulatory process with respect to exemptions and shall adopt
11 guidelines under which each provider of an exempted service
12 shall be subject to similar terms and conditions.

13 (c) The commission may condition or limit any exemption as
14 the commission deems necessary in the public interest. The
15 commission may provide a trial period for any exemption and may
16 terminate the exemption or continue it for a period and under
17 conditions and limitations as the commission deems appropriate.

18 (d) The commission may require a telecommunications
19 provider to apply for a certificate of public convenience and
20 necessity pursuant to section -31; provided that the
21 commission may waive any application requirement whenever it
22 deems the waiver to be in furtherance of the purposes of this



1 section. The exemptions under this section may be granted in a
2 proceeding for certification or in a separate proceeding.

3 (e) The commission may waive other regulatory requirements
4 under this chapter applicable to telecommunications carriers
5 when it determines that competition will serve the same purpose
6 as public interest regulation.

7 (f) If any provider of an exempt telecommunications
8 service or any exempt telecommunications carrier elects to
9 terminate its service, it shall provide notice of this to its
10 customers, the commission, and every telecommunications carrier
11 providing basic local exchange service in this state. The
12 notice shall be in writing and given not less than six months
13 before the intended termination date. Upon termination of
14 service by a provider of an exempt service or by an exempt
15 provider, the appropriate telecommunications carrier providing
16 basic local exchange service shall ensure that all customers
17 affected by the termination receive basic local exchange
18 service. The commission, upon notice and hearing or by rule,
19 shall determine the party or parties who shall bear the cost, if
20 any, of access to the basic local exchange service by the
21 customers of the terminated exempt service.



1 (g) Upon the petition of any person or upon the
2 commission's own motion, the commission may rescind any
3 exemption or waiver granted under this section if, after notice
4 and hearing, the commission finds that the conditions prompting
5 the granting of the exemption or waiver no longer apply, or that
6 the exemption or waiver is no longer in the public interest, or
7 that the telecommunications carrier has failed to comply with
8 one or more of the conditions of the exemption or applicable
9 statutory or regulatory requirements.

10 (h) For the purposes of this section, the commission, upon
11 determination that any area of the state has less than adequate
12 telecommunications service, shall require the existing
13 telecommunications carrier to show cause as to why the
14 commission should not authorize an alternative
15 telecommunications carrier for that area under the terms and
16 conditions of this section.

17 § -35 **Application of this chapter.** This chapter shall
18 not apply to commerce with foreign nations, or commerce with the
19 several states of the United States, except insofar as the same
20 may be permitted under the Constitution and laws of the United
21 States; nor shall it apply to telecommunications carriers owned
22 and operated by the State.



1 § -36 Obligations of telecommunications carriers. In
2 accordance with conditions and guidelines established by the
3 commission to facilitate the introduction of competition into
4 the State's telecommunications marketplace, each
5 telecommunications carrier, upon bona fide request, shall
6 provide services or information services, on reasonable terms
7 and conditions, to an entity seeking to provide intrastate
8 telecommunications, including:

- 9 (1) Interconnection to the telecommunications carrier's
10 telecommunications facilities at any technically
11 feasible and economically reasonable point within the
12 telecommunications carrier's network so that the
13 networks are fully interoperable;
- 14 (2) The current interstate tariff as the access rate until
15 such time that the commission may adopt a new
16 intrastate local service interconnection tariff
17 pursuant to section -38;
- 18 (3) Nondiscriminatory and equal access to any
19 telecommunications carrier's telecommunications
20 facilities, functions, and the information necessary
21 for the transmission and routing of any



1 telecommunications service and the interoperability of
2 both carriers' networks;

3 (4) Nondiscriminatory access among all telecommunications
4 carriers, where technically feasible and economically
5 reasonable, and where safety or the provision of
6 existing electrical service is not at risk, to the
7 poles, ducts, conduits, and rights-of-way owned or
8 controlled by the telecommunications carrier, or the
9 commission shall authorize access to electric
10 utilities' poles as provided by the joint pole
11 agreement, tariffs, rules, orders, or Federal
12 Communications Commission rules and regulations;

13 (5) Nondiscriminatory access to the network functions of
14 the telecommunications carrier's telecommunications
15 network, which shall be offered on an unbundled,
16 competitively neutral, and cost-based basis;

17 (6) Telecommunications services and network functions
18 without unreasonable restrictions on the resale or
19 sharing of those services and functions; and

20 (7) Nondiscriminatory access of customers to the
21 telecommunications carrier of their choice without the
22 need to dial additional digits or access codes, where



1 technically feasible. The commission shall determine
2 the equitable distribution of costs among the
3 authorized telecommunications carriers that will use
4 such access and shall establish rules to ensure
5 access.

6 Where possible, telecommunications carriers shall enter
7 into negotiations to agree on the provision of services or
8 information services without requiring intervention by the
9 commission; provided that any agreement shall be subject to
10 review by the commission to ensure compliance with the
11 requirements of this section.

12 § -37 **Compensation agreements.** The commission shall
13 ensure that telecommunications carriers are compensated on a
14 fair basis for termination of telecommunications services on
15 each other's networks, taking into account, among other things,
16 reasonable and necessary costs to each telecommunications
17 carrier of providing the services in question.
18 Telecommunications carriers may negotiate compensation
19 arrangements, which may include "bill and keep," mutual and
20 equal compensation, or any other reasonable division of revenues
21 pending tariff access rates to be set by the commission. Upon



1 failure of the negotiations, the commission shall determine the
2 proper methodology and amount of compensation.

3 § -38 Regulation of telecommunications carrier rates;
4 **ratemaking procedures.** (a) Notwithstanding section -34 and
5 any other law to the contrary, except for the rates, fares and
6 charges applicable for intrastate switched and special access
7 with respect to wholesale customers, the provisions of this
8 chapter shall not apply to the rates, fares, and charges of the
9 telecommunications carrier, and the classifications, rules, and
10 practices implementing such rates, fares, and charges. The
11 telecommunications carrier shall not be required to obtain
12 approval or provide any cost support or other information to
13 establish or otherwise modify in any manner its rates, fares,
14 and charges or to bundle any service offerings into a single or
15 combined pricing package; provided that a telecommunications
16 carrier shall not charge any rate for a service above the rate
17 for the service included in the telecommunications carrier's
18 filed tariff. Notwithstanding the above, all rates, fares,
19 charges, and bundled service offerings shall be filed with the
20 commission for informational purposes only.

21 (b) All rates, fares, charges, classifications, schedules,
22 rules, and practices made, charged, or observed by any



1 telecommunications carrier or by two or more telecommunications
2 carriers jointly for intrastate switched and special access with
3 respect to wholesale customers shall be just and reasonable and
4 shall be filed with the commission.

5 § -39 **Cross-subsidies.** (a) The commission shall ensure
6 that noncompetitive services shall not cross-subsidize
7 competitive services. Cross-subsidization shall be deemed to
8 have occurred:

9 (1) If any competitive service is priced below the total
10 service long-run incremental cost of providing the
11 service as determined by the commission in subsection
12 (b); or

13 (2) If competitive services, taken as a whole, fail to
14 cover their direct and allocated joint and common
15 costs as determined by the commission.

16 (b) The commission shall determine the methodology and
17 frequency with which telecommunications carriers calculate total
18 service long-run incremental cost and fully allocated joint and
19 common costs. The total service long-run incremental cost of a
20 service shall include an imputation of an amount equal to the
21 contribution that the telecommunications carrier receives from



1 noncompetitive inputs used by alternative providers in providing
2 the same or equivalent service.

3 § -40 **Separate affiliate audits.** The commission shall
4 receive the results of joint federal and state audits required
5 for companies to operate separate affiliates, and obtain and pay
6 for a joint federal and state audit every two years from an
7 independent auditor pursuant to Title 47 United States Code
8 Section 272(d). The commission shall make the results of joint
9 federal and state audits available for public inspection.

10 § -41 **Unfair or deceptive acts or practices.** The
11 commission shall adopt rules prohibiting unfair or deceptive
12 acts or practices by telecommunications carriers and
13 telecommunications service providers including resellers and
14 aggregators of telecommunications services. Unfair or deceptive
15 acts or practices may include unauthorized changes in subscriber
16 carrier selections.

17 § -42 **Lifeline telephone rates.** (a) The commission
18 shall implement a program to achieve lifeline telephone rates
19 for residential telephone users. The commission may achieve
20 lifeline telephone rates by using funds collected pursuant to
21 section -51 and deposited in the Hawaii communications
22 commission special fund pursuant to section -21. In



1 conjunction with such funds, or alternatively, the commission
2 may seek appropriations of funds from the State.

3 (b) The commission shall require every telecommunications
4 carrier providing local telephone service to file a schedule of
5 rates and charges providing a rate for lifeline telephone
6 subscribers.

7 (c) Nothing in this section shall preclude the commission
8 from changing any rate established pursuant to subsection (a)
9 either specifically or pursuant to any general restructuring of
10 all telephone rates, charges, and classifications.

11 (d) For the purposes of this section, "lifeline telephone
12 rate" means a discounted rate for residential telephone users
13 identified as elders with limited income and the handicapped
14 with limited income as designated by the commission.

15 § -43 Carriers of last resort. (a) The commission may
16 define and designate local exchange service areas where the
17 commission has determined that a single provider will be the
18 most appropriate way to ensure service for these areas.

19 (b) The commission shall determine the level of service
20 that is appropriate for each designated local exchange service
21 area and shall invite telecommunications providers to bid for a
22 level of service that is appropriate. The successful bidder



1 shall be designated as the carrier of last resort for the
2 designated local exchange service area for a period of time and
3 upon conditions set by the commission. In determining the
4 successful bidder, the commission shall take into consideration
5 the level of service to be provided, the investment commitment,
6 and the length of the agreement, in addition to the other
7 qualifications of the bidder.

8 (c) The commission shall adopt rules pursuant to
9 chapter 91 to carry out the provisions of this section or adopt
10 the rules provided in chapter 81 of the Hawaii administrative
11 rules, which were in effect on July 1, 2009.

12 § -44 Telecommunications relay services for the deaf,
13 persons with hearing disabilities, and persons with speech
14 disabilities. (a) The commission shall implement intrastate
15 telecommunications relay services for the deaf, persons with
16 hearing disabilities, and persons with speech disabilities.

17 (b) The commission shall investigate the availability of
18 experienced providers of quality telecommunications relay
19 services for the deaf, persons with hearing disabilities, and
20 persons with speech disabilities. The provision of these
21 telecommunications relay services to be rendered on or after
22 July 1, 1992, shall be awarded by the commission to the provider



1 or providers the commission determines to be best qualified to
2 provide these services. In reviewing the qualifications of the
3 provider or providers, the commission shall consider the factors
4 of cost, quality of services, and experience, and other factors
5 as the commission deems appropriate.

6 (c) If the commission determines that the
7 telecommunications relay service can be provided in a cost-
8 effective manner by a service provider or service providers, the
9 commission may require every intrastate telecommunications
10 carrier to contract with the provider or providers for the
11 provision of the telecommunications relay service under the
12 terms established by the commission.

13 (d) The commission may establish a surcharge to collect
14 customer contributions for telecommunications relay services
15 required under this section.

16 (e) The commission may adopt rules to establish a
17 mechanism to recover the costs of administering and providing
18 telecommunications relay services required under this section.

19 (f) The commission shall require every intrastate
20 telecommunications carrier to file a schedule of rates and
21 charges and every provider of telecommunications relay service
22 to maintain a separate accounting for the costs of providing



1 telecommunications relay services for the deaf, persons with
2 hearing disabilities, and persons with speech disabilities.

3 (g) Nothing in this section shall preclude the commission
4 from changing any rate established pursuant to this section
5 either specifically or pursuant to any general restructuring of
6 all telephone rates, charges, and classifications.

7 (h) As used in this section:

8 "Telecommunications relay services" means telephone
9 transmission services that provide an individual who has a
10 hearing or speech disability, the ability to engage in
11 communication by wire or radio with a hearing individual in a
12 manner that is functionally equivalent to the ability of an
13 individual who does not have a hearing or speech disability to
14 communicate using wire or radio voice communication services.

15 "Telecommunications relay services" includes services that
16 enable two-way communication using text telephones or other
17 non-voice terminal devices, speech-to-speech services, video
18 relay services, and non-English relay services.

19 § -45 **Telecommunications number portability.** The
20 commission shall ensure that telecommunications number
21 portability within an exchange is available, upon request, as
22 soon as technically feasible and economically reasonable. An



1 impartial entity shall administer telecommunications numbering
2 and make the numbers available on an equitable basis.

3 § -46 **Emergency telephone service; capital costs;**
4 **ratemaking.** (a) A telecommunications carrier providing local
5 exchange telecommunications services may recover the capital
6 cost and associated operating expenses of providing a statewide
7 enhanced 911 emergency telephone service in the public switched
8 telephone network, through a telephone line surcharge.

9 (b) The commission shall require every telecommunications
10 carrier providing statewide enhanced 911 emergency telephone
11 service to maintain a separate accounting of the costs of
12 providing an enhanced 911 emergency service and the revenues
13 received from related surcharges. The commission shall further
14 require that every telecommunications carrier imposing a
15 surcharge shall identify on all customer billing statements the
16 separate line item for enhanced 911 emergency service.

17 (c) This section shall not preclude the commission from
18 changing any rate, established pursuant to this section, either
19 specifically or pursuant to any general restructuring of all
20 telephone rates, charges, and classifications.

21 § -47 **Issuance of securities.** A telecommunications
22 carrier corporation may, on securing the prior approval of the



1 commission, and not otherwise, issue stocks and stock
2 certificates, bonds, notes, and other evidences of indebtedness,
3 payable at periods of more than twelve months after the date
4 thereof, for the following purposes and no other, namely:

5 (1) For the acquisition of property;

6 (2) For the construction, completion, extension, or
7 improvement of or addition to its facilities or
8 service;

9 (3) For the discharge or lawful refunding of its
10 obligations;

11 (4) For the reimbursement of moneys actually expended from
12 income or from any other moneys in its treasury not
13 secured by or obtained from the issue of its stocks or
14 stock certificates, or bonds, notes, or other
15 evidences of indebtedness; and

16 (5) For any of the aforesaid purposes except maintenance
17 of service, replacements, and substitutions not
18 constituting capital expenditure in cases where the
19 corporation has kept its accounts for such
20 expenditures in such manner as to enable the
21 commission to ascertain the amount of moneys so
22 expended and the purposes for which the expenditures



1 were made, and the sources of the funds in its
2 treasury applied to the expenditures.

3 As used in this section, "property" and "facilities" mean
4 property and facilities used in all operations of a
5 telecommunications carrier corporation whether or not included
6 in its operations or rate base. A telecommunications carrier
7 corporation may not issue securities to acquire property or to
8 construct, complete, extend, improve, or add to its facilities
9 or service if the commission determines that the proposed
10 purpose will have a materially adverse effect on its
11 telecommunications carrier operations.

12 All stocks and every stock certificate, bond, note, or
13 other evidence of indebtedness of a telecommunications carrier
14 corporation not payable within twelve months, issued without an
15 order of the commission authorizing the same, then in effect,
16 shall be void.

17 § -48 Issuance of voting stock; restrictions. (a) No
18 more than twenty-five per cent of the issued and outstanding
19 voting stock of a corporation that is organized under the laws
20 of the State and that owns, controls, operates, or manages any
21 plant or equipment, or any part thereof, as a telecommunications
22 carrier within the definition set forth in section -1 shall



1 be held, whether directly or indirectly, by any single foreign
2 corporation or any single nonresident alien, or held by any
3 person, unless prior written approval is obtained from the
4 commission, or unless a transaction is exempt. An exempt
5 transaction is:

- 6 (1) Any purchase or sale by an underwriter; or
7 (2) A transaction to acquire shares of a corporation with
8 less than one hundred shareholders and less than
9 \$1,000,000 in assets.

10 Every assignment, transfer, contract, or agreement for
11 assignment or transfer of any shares in violation of this
12 section shall be void and of no effect; and no such transfer
13 shall be made on the books of the corporation. Nothing in this
14 section shall be construed to make illegal the holding of stock
15 lawfully held, directly or indirectly, prior to June 4, 1977.

16 (b) For the purposes of this section:

17 "Foreign corporation" means a foreign corporation as
18 defined in section 235-1 or a corporation in which a majority of
19 the voting stock is held by a single foreign corporation as
20 defined in section 235-1.



1 "Nonresident alien" means a person not a citizen of the
2 United States who is not defined as a resident alien by the
3 United States Citizenship and Immigration Services.

4 § -49 **Acquirement of stock of another telecommunications**
5 **carrier.** No person or entity shall purchase or acquire, take or
6 hold, any part of the capital stock of any telecommunications
7 carrier corporation, organized or existing under or by virtue of
8 the laws of the State, without having been first authorized to
9 do so by the order of the commission. Every assignment,
10 transfer, contract, or agreement for assignment or transfer of
11 any stock by or through any person or corporation to any
12 corporation or otherwise in violation of this section shall be
13 void and of no effect; and no such transfer shall be made on the
14 books of any telecommunications carrier. Nothing in this
15 section shall be construed to make illegal the holding of stock
16 lawfully acquired before July 1, 1933.

17 § -50 **Merger and consolidation of telecommunications**
18 **carriers.** No telecommunications carrier corporation shall sell,
19 lease, assign, mortgage, or otherwise dispose of or encumber the
20 whole or any part of its road, line, plant, system, or other
21 property necessary or useful in the performance of its duties to
22 the public, or any franchise or permit, or any right thereunder,



1 nor by any means, directly or indirectly, merge or consolidate
2 with any other person or entity without first having secured
3 from the commission an order authorizing it so to do. Every
4 sale, lease, assignment, mortgage, disposition, encumbrance,
5 merger, or consolidation, made other than in accordance with the
6 order of the commission shall be void.

7 § -51 **Finances; regulatory fee.** (a) There shall be
8 paid to the commission in each of the months of July and
9 December of each year, by each telecommunications carrier
10 subject to this chapter, a fee set by the commission not to
11 exceed one-fourth of one per cent of the gross income from the
12 telecommunications carrier's business during the preceding year,
13 or the sum of \$30, whichever is greater. The commission shall
14 set the fee amount based on its projected budget for the year to
15 administer and enforce this chapter. This fee shall be
16 deposited with the director of finance to the credit of the
17 Hawaii communications commission special fund created pursuant
18 to section -21.

19 (b) Each telecommunications carrier that pays a fee under
20 subsection (a) may impose a surcharge to recover the amount paid
21 above one-eighth of one per cent of gross income. The surcharge
22 imposed shall not be subject to the notice, hearing, and



1 approval requirements of this chapter; provided that the
2 surcharge may be imposed by the telecommunications carrier only
3 after thirty days' notice to the commission.

4 § -52 **Injury to carrier property.** Any person who
5 injures or destroys, through want of proper care, any necessary
6 or useful facility, equipment, or property of any
7 telecommunications carrier shall be liable to the
8 telecommunications carrier for all damages sustained thereby.
9 The measure of damages to the facility, equipment, or property
10 injured or destroyed shall be the cost to repair or replace the
11 property injured or destroyed including direct and allocated
12 costs for labor, materials, supervision, supplies, tools, taxes,
13 transportation, administrative and general expense, and other
14 indirect or overhead expenses, less credit, if any, for salvage.
15 The specifying of the measure of damages for the facility,
16 equipment, or property shall not preclude the recovery of other
17 damages occasioned thereby as may be authorized by law.

18 § -53 **One call center; advance warning to excavators.**
19 To finance the establishment and operation of the one call
20 center, pursuant to chapter 269E, and the administrative costs
21 of the commission, the commission shall direct
22 telecommunications carriers to pay to the public utilities



1 commission a fee in an amount and at a schedule determined by
2 the public utilities commission.

3 **PART III. CABLE**

4 § -61 **Issuance of cable franchises and regulation of**
5 **cable operators by the commission.** The commission shall be
6 empowered to issue cable franchises and otherwise administer and
7 enforce this chapter.

8 § -62 **Cable franchise required.** (a) No person shall
9 construct, operate, or acquire a cable system, or extend an
10 existing cable system outside its designated service area,
11 without first obtaining a cable franchise as provided in this
12 chapter.

13 (b) No cable operator that, as of July 1, 2009, holds a
14 franchise or charter enacted or granted by the legislative or
15 executive authority of the State or its predecessor governments,
16 or has a bona fide operation as a cable operator heretofore
17 recognized by the department, shall be required to obtain, as a
18 result of the enactment of this Act, a new franchise under this
19 section.

20 § -63 **Application or proposal for cable franchise; fee;**
21 **certain requirements.** (a) No cable franchise shall be issued



1 except upon written application or proposal therefor to the
2 commission, accompanied by a fee set by the commission.

3 (b) An application for issuance of a cable franchise shall
4 be made in a form prescribed by the commission. The application
5 shall set forth the facts as required by the commission to
6 determine in accordance with section -65 whether a cable
7 franchise should be issued, including facts as to:

- 8 (1) The citizenship and character of the applicant;
- 9 (2) The financial, technical, and other qualifications of
10 the applicant;
- 11 (3) The principals and ultimate beneficial owners of the
12 applicant;
- 13 (4) The public interest to be served by the requested
14 issuance of a cable franchise; and
- 15 (5) Any other matters deemed appropriate and necessary by
16 the commission including but not limited to the
17 proposed plans and schedule of expenditures for or in
18 support of the use of PEG access facilities, and the
19 competitive availability and affordability of
20 broadband and other advanced services to consumers.

21 (c) A proposal for issuance of a cable franchise shall be
22 accepted for filing in accordance with section -64 only when



1 made in response to the written request of the commission for
2 the submission of proposals.

3 § -64 Cable franchise application or proposal procedure;
4 public hearing; notice. An application or proposal for a cable
5 franchise shall be processed as follows:

6 (1) After the application or proposal and required fee are
7 received by the commission and within a time frame
8 established by rule, the commission shall notify the
9 applicant in writing of the acceptance or
10 non-acceptance for filing of the application or
11 proposal for issuance of a cable franchise required by
12 this chapter;

13 (2) After the issuance of a notice of acceptance for
14 filing and within a time frame established by rule,
15 the commission shall hold a public hearing on the
16 application or proposal to afford interested persons
17 the opportunity to submit data, views, or arguments,
18 orally or in writing. Notice thereof shall be given
19 to the governing council and mayor of the county and
20 to any telephone or other utility and cable company in
21 the county in which the proposed service area is
22 located. The commission shall also give public notice



1 of the application and hearing at least once in each
2 of two successive weeks in the county in which the
3 proposed service area is located. The last notice
4 shall be given at least fifteen days prior to the date
5 of the hearing;

6 (3) After holding a public hearing, the commission shall
7 approve the application or proposal in whole or in
8 part, with or without conditions or modifications, or
9 shall deny the application or proposal, with reasons
10 for denial sent in writing to the applicant. If the
11 commission does not take final action after the
12 issuance of a notice of acceptance for filing and
13 within a time frame established by rule, the

14 application or proposal shall be deemed denied; and

15 (4) The time limit for final action may be extended, on
16 the commission's approval of the applicant's request
17 and justification in writing for an extension of time
18 to the commission at least two weeks in advance of the
19 requested effective date of the extension, or by
20 mutual agreement.

21 § -65 Issuance of cable franchise authority; criteria;

22 content. (a) The commission is empowered to issue a cable



1 franchise to construct or operate facilities for a cable system
2 upon the terms and conditions provided in this chapter.

3 (b) The commission, after a public hearing as provided in
4 this chapter, shall issue a cable franchise to the applicant
5 when the commission is convinced that it is in the public
6 interest to do so. In determining whether a cable franchise
7 shall be issued, the commission shall take into consideration,
8 among other things, the content of the application or proposal,
9 the public need for the proposed service, the ability of the
10 applicant to offer safe, adequate, and reliable service at a
11 reasonable cost to the subscribers, the suitability of the
12 applicant, the financial responsibility of the applicant, the
13 technical and operational ability of the applicant to perform
14 efficiently the service for which authority is requested, any
15 objections arising from the public hearing, the communications
16 advisory committee established by this chapter, or elsewhere,
17 and any other matters as the commission deems appropriate in the
18 circumstances.

19 (c) In determining the area that is to be serviced by the
20 applicant, the commission shall take into account the geography
21 and topography of the proposed service area, and the present,
22 planned, and potential expansion in facilities or cable services



1 of the applicant's proposed cable system and existing cable
2 systems.

3 (d) In issuing a cable franchise under this chapter, the
4 commission is not restricted to approving or disapproving the
5 application or proposal but may issue it for only partial
6 exercise of the privilege sought or may attach to the exercise
7 of the right granted by the cable franchise terms, limitations,
8 and conditions which the commission deems the public interest
9 may require. The cable franchise shall:

10 (1) Be nonexclusive;

11 (2) Include a description of the service area in which the
12 cable system is to be constructed, extended, or
13 operated and the approximate date on which the service
14 is to commence; and

15 (3) Authorize the cable operator to provide service for a
16 term of fifteen years or any other term that the
17 commission determines to be appropriate.

18 § -66 Requirement for adequate service; terms and
19 conditions of service. (a) Every cable operator shall provide
20 safe, adequate, and reliable service in accordance with
21 applicable laws, rules, franchise requirements, and its filed
22 schedule of terms and conditions of service.



1 (b) The commission shall require each cable operator to
2 submit a schedule of all terms and conditions of service in the
3 form and with the notice that the commission may prescribe.

4 (c) The commission shall ensure that the terms and
5 conditions upon which cable service is provided are fair both to
6 the public and to the cable operator, taking into account the
7 geographic, topographic, and economic characteristics of the
8 service area and the economics of providing cable service to
9 subscribers in the service area.

10 § -67 Cable system installation, construction,
11 operation, removal; general provisions. (a) A cable franchise
12 shall be construed to authorize the construction or operation of
13 a cable system within the service area above, below, on, in, or
14 along any highway or other public place and through easements
15 that have been dedicated for compatible purposes.

16 (b) The technical specifications, general routes of the
17 distribution system, and the schedule for construction of the
18 cable system shall be subject to the commission's approval.

19 (c) In installing, operating, and maintaining facilities,
20 the cable operator shall avoid all unnecessary damage and injury
21 to any trees, structures, and improvements in and along the
22 routes authorized by the commission.



1 (d) The cable operator shall indemnify and hold the State
2 and the county harmless at all times from any and all claims for
3 injury and damage to persons or property, both real and
4 personal, caused by the installation, operation, or maintenance
5 of its cable system, notwithstanding any negligence on the part
6 of the State or county, or their employees or agents. Upon
7 receipt of notice in writing from the State or county, the cable
8 operator shall, at its own expense, defend any action or
9 proceeding against the State or county in which it is claimed
10 that personal injury or property damage was caused by activities
11 of the cable operator in the installation, operation, or
12 maintenance of its cable system.

13 (e) The cable operator shall install and provide basic
14 cable television service at no cost to any school or institution
15 of higher education within its service area as determined by the
16 commission; provided that service is actually being delivered
17 within a reasonable distance from the school or institution of
18 higher education which may request service.

19 (f) Upon termination of the period of the cable franchise
20 or permit or of any renewal thereof, by passage of time or
21 otherwise, the cable operator shall remove its facilities from
22 the highways and other public places in, on, over, under, or



1 along which they are installed if so ordered by the commission
2 and shall restore the areas to their original or other
3 acceptable condition, or otherwise dispose of same. If removal
4 is not completed within six months of the termination, any
5 property not removed shall be deemed to have been abandoned and
6 the cable operator shall be liable for the cost of its removal.

7 (g) The use of public highways within the meaning of
8 section 264-1 and other public places shall be subject to:

- 9 (1) All applicable state statutes and all applicable rules
10 and orders of the public utilities commission and the
11 commission governing the construction, maintenance,
12 and removal of overhead and underground facilities of
13 public utilities;
- 14 (2) For county highways, all applicable public welfare
15 rules adopted by the governing body of the county in
16 which the county highways are situated;
- 17 (3) For state or federal-aid highways, all public welfare
18 rules adopted by the director of transportation; and
- 19 (4) For the relocation of cable facilities, the provisions
20 of section 264-33 concerning the allocation of
21 expenses for the relocation of utility facilities.



- 1 (h) In the use of easements dedicated to compatible
2 purposes, the cable operator shall ensure that:
- 3 (1) The safety, functioning, and appearance of the
4 property and the convenience and safety of other
5 persons are not adversely affected by the installation
6 or construction of facilities necessary for a cable
7 system;
- 8 (2) The cost of the installation, construction, operation,
9 or removal of facilities is borne by the cable
10 operator or subscribers, or a combination of both; and
- 11 (3) The owner of the property is justly compensated by the
12 cable operator for any damages caused by the
13 installation, construction, operation, or removal of
14 facilities by the cable operator.

15 § -68 **Complaints; violations; revocation, alteration, or**
16 **suspension of cable franchise.** (a) Subscriber complaints
17 regarding the operation of a cable system may be made orally or
18 in writing to the commission. The commission shall resolve
19 complaints informally when possible.

20 (b) Any cable franchise issued hereunder after hearing in
21 accordance with chapter 91 may be revoked, altered, or suspended



1 by the commission as the commission deems necessary on any of
2 the following grounds:

3 (1) For making material false or misleading statements in,
4 or for material omissions from, any application or
5 proposal or other filing made with the commission;

6 (2) For failure to maintain signal quality under the
7 standards prescribed by the commission;

8 (3) For any sale, lease, assignment, or other transfer of
9 its cable franchise without consent of the commission;

10 (4) Except when commercially impracticable, for
11 unreasonable delay in construction or operation or for
12 unreasonable withholding of the extension of cable
13 service to any person in a service area;

14 (5) For violation of the terms of its cable franchise;

15 (6) For failure to comply with this chapter or any rules
16 or orders prescribed by the commission;

17 (7) For violation of its filed schedule of terms and
18 conditions of service; and

19 (8) For engaging in any unfair or deceptive act or
20 practice as prohibited by section 480-2.

21 § -69 **Renewal of cable franchise.** Any cable franchise
22 issued pursuant to this chapter may be renewed by the commission



1 upon approval of a cable operator's application or proposal
2 therefor. The form of the application or proposal shall be
3 prescribed by the commission. The periods of renewal shall be
4 not less than five nor more than twenty years each. The
5 commission shall require of the applicant full disclosure,
6 including the proposed plans and schedule of expenditures for or
7 in support of the use of PEG access facilities and broadband
8 facilities.

9 **§ -70 Transfer of cable franchise.** (a) No cable
10 franchise, including the rights, privileges, and obligations
11 thereof, may be assigned, sold, leased, encumbered, or otherwise
12 transferred, voluntarily or involuntarily, directly or
13 indirectly, including by transfer of control of any cable
14 system, whether by change in ownership or otherwise, except upon
15 written application to and approval by the commission. The form
16 of the application shall be prescribed by the commission.

17 (b) Sections -64 and -65 shall apply to the transfer
18 of cable franchises.

19 **§ -71 Rate, filed with the commission; approval.** (a)
20 The commission shall require each cable operator to file a
21 schedule of its rates of service on a form and with the notice
22 that the commission may prescribe.



1 (b) To the extent permitted by federal law, the commission
2 shall regulate rates to ensure that they are fair both to the
3 public and to the cable operator.

4 § -72 **Reports.** Each cable operator shall file with the
5 commission reports of its financial, technical, and operational
6 condition and its ownership. The reports shall be made in a
7 form and on the time schedule prescribed by the commission and
8 shall be kept on file open to the public.

9 § -73 **Annual fees.** (a) Each cable operator shall pay
10 an annual fee to be determined by the commission. The fees so
11 collected under this section shall be deposited into the Hawaii
12 communications commission special fund established under section
13 -21.

14 (b) The commission shall adjust the fees assessed under
15 this section, as necessary from time to time, pursuant to rules
16 adopted in accordance with chapter 91.

17 § -74 **Criminal and civil liability.** Nothing in this
18 chapter shall be deemed to affect the criminal and civil
19 liability of cable programmers, cable operators, or PEG access
20 organizations pursuant to the federal, state, or local laws
21 regarding libel, slander, obscenity, incitement, invasions of
22 privacy, false or misleading advertising, or other similar laws,



1 except that no PEG access organization shall incur any liability
2 arising from, based on, or related to any program not created by
3 the PEG access organization, which is broadcast on any channel
4 obtained under section -67, or under similar arrangements."

5 PART II

6 SECTION 3. Section 26-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended by amending subsection (o) to read as follows:

8 "(o) Every person licensed under any chapter within the
9 jurisdiction of the department of commerce and consumer affairs
10 and every person licensed subject to chapter 485A or registered
11 under chapter 467B shall pay upon issuance of a license, permit,
12 certificate, or registration a fee and a subsequent annual fee
13 to be determined by the director and adjusted from time to time
14 to ensure that the proceeds, together with all other fines,
15 income, and penalties collected under this section, do not
16 surpass the annual operating costs of conducting compliance
17 resolution activities required under this section. The fees may
18 be collected biennially or pursuant to rules adopted under
19 chapter 91, and shall be deposited into the special fund
20 established under this subsection. Every filing pursuant to
21 chapter 514E or section 485A-202(a)(26) shall be assessed, upon
22 initial filing and at each renewal period in which a renewal is



1 required, a fee that shall be prescribed by rules adopted under
2 chapter 91, and that shall be deposited into the special fund
3 established under this subsection. Any unpaid fee shall be paid
4 by the licensed person, upon application for renewal,
5 restoration, reactivation, or reinstatement of a license, and by
6 the person responsible for the renewal, restoration,
7 reactivation, or reinstatement of a license, upon the
8 application for renewal, restoration, reactivation, or
9 reinstatement of the license. If the fees are not paid, the
10 director may deny renewal, restoration, reactivation, or
11 reinstatement of the license. The director may establish,
12 increase, decrease, or repeal the fees when necessary pursuant
13 to rules adopted under chapter 91. The director may also
14 increase or decrease the fees pursuant to section 92-28.

15 There is created in the state treasury a special fund to be
16 known as the compliance resolution fund to be expended by the
17 director's designated representatives as provided by this
18 subsection. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, all
19 revenues, fees, and fines collected by the department shall be
20 deposited into the compliance resolution fund. Unencumbered
21 balances existing on June 30, 1999, in the cable television fund
22 under chapter 440G, the division of consumer advocacy fund under



1 chapter 269, the financial institution examiners' revolving
2 fund, section 412:2-109, the special handling fund, section
3 414-13, and unencumbered balances existing on June 30, 2002, in
4 the insurance regulation fund, section 431:2-215, shall be
5 deposited into the compliance resolution fund. This provision
6 shall not apply to any fee imposed by the Hawaii communications
7 commission pursuant to chapter , including the regulatory fee
8 in section -51, the drivers education fund underwriters fee,
9 section 431:10C-115, insurance premium taxes and revenues,
10 revenues of the workers' compensation special compensation fund,
11 section 386-151, the captive insurance administrative fund,
12 section 431:19-101.8, the insurance commission's education and
13 training fund, section 431:2-214, the medical malpractice
14 patients' compensation fund as administered under section 5 of
15 Act 232, Session Laws of Hawaii 1984, and fees collected for
16 deposit in the office of consumer protection restitution fund,
17 section 487-14, the real estate appraisers fund, section 466K-1,
18 the real estate recovery fund, section 467-16, the real estate
19 education fund, section 467-19, the contractors recovery fund,
20 section 444-26, the contractors education fund, section 444-29,
21 the condominium management education fund, section 514A-131, and
22 the condominium education trust fund, section 514B-71. Any law



1 to the contrary notwithstanding, the director may use the moneys
2 in the fund to employ, without regard to chapter 76, hearings
3 officers and attorneys. All other employees may be employed in
4 accordance with chapter 76. Any law to the contrary
5 notwithstanding, the moneys in the fund shall be used to fund
6 the operations of the department. The moneys in the fund may be
7 used to train personnel as the director deems necessary and for
8 any other activity related to compliance resolution.

9 As used in this subsection, unless otherwise required by
10 the context, "compliance resolution" means a determination of
11 whether:

- 12 (1) Any licensee or applicant under any chapter subject to
13 the jurisdiction of the department of commerce and
14 consumer affairs has complied with that chapter;
- 15 (2) Any person subject to chapter 485A has complied with
16 that chapter;
- 17 (3) Any person submitting any filing required by chapter
18 514E or section 485A-202(a)(26) has complied with
19 chapter 514E or section 485A-202(a)(26);
- 20 (4) Any person has complied with the prohibitions against
21 unfair and deceptive acts or practices in trade or
22 commerce; or



1 (5) Any person subject to chapter 467B has complied with
 2 that chapter;
 3 and includes work involved in or supporting the above functions,
 4 licensing, or registration of individuals or companies regulated
 5 by the department, consumer protection, and other activities of
 6 the department.

7 The director shall prepare and submit an annual report to
 8 the governor and the legislature on the use of the compliance
 9 resolution fund. The report shall describe expenditures made
 10 from the fund including non-payroll operating expenses."

11 SECTION 4. Section 28-8.3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
 12 amended as follows:

13 1. By amending subsection (a) to read:

14 "(a) No department of the State other than the attorney
 15 general may employ or retain any attorney, by contract or
 16 otherwise, for the purpose of representing the State or the
 17 department in any litigation, rendering legal counsel to the
 18 department, or drafting legal documents for the department;
 19 provided that the foregoing provision shall not apply to the
 20 employment or retention of attorneys:



- 1 (1) By the public utilities commission, the labor and
2 industrial relations appeals board, and the Hawaii
3 labor relations board;
- 4 (2) By any court or judicial or legislative office of the
5 State; provided that if the attorney general is
6 requested to provide representation to a court or
7 judicial office by the chief justice or the chief
8 justice's designee, or to a legislative office by the
9 speaker of the house of representatives and the
10 president of the senate jointly, and the attorney
11 general declines to provide such representation on the
12 grounds of conflict of interest, the attorney general
13 shall retain an attorney for the court, judicial, or
14 legislative office, subject to approval by the court,
15 judicial, or legislative office;
- 16 (3) By the legislative reference bureau;
- 17 (4) By any compilation commission that may be constituted
18 from time to time;
- 19 (5) By the real estate commission for any action involving
20 the real estate recovery fund;
- 21 (6) By the contractors license board for any action
22 involving the contractors recovery fund;



- 1 (7) By the trustees for any action involving the travel
2 agency recovery fund;
- 3 (8) By the office of Hawaiian affairs;
- 4 (9) By the department of commerce and consumer affairs for
5 the enforcement of violations of chapters 480 and
6 485A;
- 7 (10) As grand jury counsel;
- 8 (11) By the Hawaiian home lands trust individual claims
9 review panel;
- 10 (12) By the Hawaii health systems corporation, or its
11 regional system boards, or any of their facilities;
- 12 (13) By the auditor;
- 13 (14) By the office of ombudsman;
- 14 (15) By the insurance division;
- 15 (16) By the University of Hawaii;
- 16 (17) By the Kahoolawe island reserve commission;
- 17 (18) By the division of consumer advocacy;
- 18 (19) By the office of elections;
- 19 (20) By the campaign spending commission;
- 20 (21) By the Hawaii tourism authority, as provided in
21 section 201B-2.5; [~~or~~]
- 22 (22) By the Hawaii communications commission; or



1 [~~22~~] (23) By a department, in the event the attorney
 2 general, for reasons deemed by the attorney general
 3 good and sufficient, declines to employ or retain an
 4 attorney for a department; provided that the governor
 5 thereupon waives the provision of this section."

6 2. By amending subsection (c) to read:

7 "(c) Every attorney employed by any department on a
 8 full-time basis, except an attorney employed by the public
 9 utilities commission, the Hawaii communications commission, the
 10 labor and industrial relations appeals board, the Hawaii labor
 11 relations board, the office of Hawaiian affairs, the Hawaii
 12 health systems corporation or its regional system boards, the
 13 department of commerce and consumer affairs in prosecution of
 14 consumer complaints, insurance division, the division of
 15 consumer advocacy, the University of Hawaii, the Hawaii tourism
 16 authority as provided in section 201B-2.5, the Hawaiian home
 17 lands trust individual claims review panel, or as grand jury
 18 counsel, shall be a deputy attorney general."

19 SECTION 5. Section 46-15, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
 20 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

21 "(a) The mayor of each county, after holding a public
 22 hearing on the matter and receiving the approval of the



1 respective council, shall be empowered to designate areas of
2 land for experimental and demonstration housing projects, the
3 purposes of which are to research and develop ideas that would
4 reduce the cost of housing in the [~~State-~~] state. Except as
5 hereinafter provided, the experimental and demonstration housing
6 projects shall be exempt from all statutes, ordinances, charter
7 provisions, and rules or regulations of any governmental agency
8 or public utility relating to planning, zoning, construction
9 standards for subdivisions, development and improvement of land,
10 and the construction and sale of homes thereon; provided that
11 the experimental and demonstration housing projects shall not
12 affect the safety standards or tariffs approved by the public
13 utility commissions or the Hawaii communications commission for
14 such public utility.

15 The mayor of each county with the approval of the
16 respective council may designate a county agency or official who
17 shall have the power to review all plans and specifications for
18 the subdivisions, development and improvement of the land
19 involved, and the construction and sale of homes thereon. The
20 county agency or official shall have the power to approve or
21 disapprove or to make modifications to all or any portion of the
22 plans and specifications.



1 The county agency or official shall submit preliminary
2 plans and specifications to the legislative body of the
3 respective county for its approval or disapproval. The final
4 plans and specifications for the project shall be deemed
5 approved by the legislative body if the final plans and
6 specifications do not substantially deviate from the approved
7 preliminary plans and specifications. The final plans and
8 specifications shall constitute the standards for the particular
9 project.

10 No action shall be prosecuted or maintained against any
11 county, its officials or employees, on account of actions taken
12 in reviewing, approving, or disapproving such plans and
13 specifications.

14 Any experimental or demonstration housing project for the
15 purposes hereinabove mentioned may be sponsored by any state or
16 county agency or any person as defined in section 1-19.

17 The county agency or official shall apply to the state land
18 use commission for an appropriate land use district
19 classification change, except where a proposed project is
20 located on land within an urban district established by the
21 state land use commission. Notwithstanding any law, rule, or
22 regulation to the contrary, the state land use commission may



1 approve the application at any time after a public hearing held
2 in the county where the land is located upon notice of the time
3 and place of the hearing being published in the same manner as
4 the notice required for a public hearing by the planning
5 commission of the appropriate county."

6 SECTION 6. Section 91-13.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended by amending subsection (f) to read as follows:

8 "(f) This section shall not apply to:

9 (1) Any proceedings of the public utilities commission;

10 [~~or~~]

11 (2) Any county or county agency that is exempted by county
12 ordinance from this section~~[-]~~; or

13 (3) Any proceedings of the Hawaii communications
14 commission."

15 SECTION 7. Section 92-21, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 "**§92-21 Copies of records; other costs and fees.** Except
18 as otherwise provided by law, a copy of any government record,
19 including any map, plan, diagram, photograph, photostat, or
20 geographic information system digital data file, which is open
21 to the inspection of the public, shall be furnished to any
22 person applying for the same by the public officer having charge



1 or control thereof upon the payment of the reasonable cost of
2 reproducing [~~such~~] the copy. Except as provided in section
3 91-2.5, the cost of reproducing any government record, except
4 geographic information system digital data, shall not be less
5 than 5 cents per page, sheet, or fraction thereof. The cost of
6 reproducing geographic information system digital data shall be
7 in accordance with rules adopted by the agency having charge or
8 control of that data. [~~Such~~] The reproduction cost shall
9 include but shall not be limited to labor cost for search and
10 actual time for reproducing, material cost, including
11 electricity cost, equipment cost, including rental cost, cost
12 for certification, and other related costs. All fees shall be
13 paid in by the public officer receiving or collecting the same
14 to the state director of finance, the county director of
15 finance, or to the agency or department by which the officer is
16 employed, as government realizations; provided that fees
17 collected by the public utilities commission pursuant to this
18 section shall be deposited in the public utilities commission
19 special fund established under section 269-33[-], and fees
20 collected by the Hawaii communications commission shall be
21 deposited in the Hawaii communications commission special fund
22 established under section -21."



1 SECTION 8. Section 163D-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

3 "(b) If the corporation acquires the assets of a private
4 or other corporation, then, notwithstanding any law to the
5 contrary:

- 6 (1) Neither the corporation nor any subsidiary corporation
7 vested with the assets shall be subject to chapter 91
8 with respect to the assets;
- 9 (2) Employees retained to operate the assets shall not be
10 subject to chapter 76;
- 11 (3) Assets constituting real property interest shall not
12 be subject to chapter 171;
- 13 (4) No investment, loan, or use of funds by the
14 corporation or a subsidiary corporation vested with
15 the assets shall be subject to chapter 42F or 103; and
- 16 (5) Neither the corporation nor a subsidiary corporation
17 vested with the assets shall constitute a public
18 utility or be subject to the jurisdiction of the
19 public utilities commission under chapter 269[-] or
20 the Hawaii communications commission under
21 chapter _____."



1 SECTION 9. Section 166-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "**§166-4 Park development.** Except as herein provided, the
4 department may develop, on behalf of the State or in partnership
5 with a federal agency, a county, or a private party,
6 agricultural parks which, at the option of the board, shall be
7 exempt from all statutes, ordinances, charter provisions, and
8 rules of any governmental agency relating to planning, zoning,
9 construction standards for subdivisions, development and
10 improvement of land, and the construction of buildings thereon;
11 provided that:

12 (1) The board finds the agricultural park is consistent
13 with the purpose and intent of this chapter, and meets
14 minimum requirements of health and safety;

15 (2) The development of the proposed agricultural park does
16 not contravene any safety standards or tariffs
17 approved for public utilities by the public utilities
18 commission [~~for public utilities,~~] or the Hawaii
19 communications commission;

20 (3) The legislative body of the county in which the
21 agricultural park is to be situated shall have



1 approved the agricultural park[-] in accordance with
2 the following:

3 (A) The legislative body shall approve or disapprove
4 the agricultural park within forty-five days
5 after the department has submitted the
6 preliminary plans and specifications for the
7 agricultural park to the legislative body. If
8 after the forty-fifth day an agricultural park is
9 not disapproved, it shall be deemed approved by
10 the legislative body[-];

11 (B) No action shall be prosecuted or maintained
12 against any county, its officials, or employees,
13 on account of actions taken by them in reviewing,
14 approving, or disapproving the plans and
15 specifications[-]; and

16 (C) The final plans and specifications for the
17 agricultural park shall be deemed approved by the
18 legislative body if the final plans and
19 specifications do not substantially deviate from
20 the preliminary plans and specifications. The
21 final plans and specifications for the project
22 shall constitute the planning, zoning, building,



1 construction, and subdivision standards for that
2 agricultural park. For purposes of sections
3 501-85 and 502-17, the chairperson of the board
4 of agriculture or the responsible county official
5 may certify maps and plans of lands connected
6 with the agricultural park as having complied
7 with applicable laws and ordinances relating to
8 consolidation and subdivision of lands, and such
9 maps and plans shall be accepted for registration
10 or recordation by the land court and registrar;

11 and

12 (4) The State shall assume the responsibility of
13 maintaining all roads within the agricultural park if
14 the roads are developed exempt from applicable county
15 ordinances, charter provisions, and rules regarding
16 roads."

17 SECTION 10. Section 166E-10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
18 amended to read as follows:

19 "[§]§166E-10[§] **Non-agricultural park land development.**

20 On behalf of the State or in partnership with a federal agency,
21 a county, or a private party and except as provided in this
22 section, the department may develop non-agricultural park lands



1 that, at the option of the board, may be exempt from all
2 statutes, ordinances, charter provisions, and rules of any
3 governmental agency relating to planning, zoning, construction
4 standards for subdivisions, development and improvement of land,
5 and construction of buildings thereon; provided that:

6 (1) The board finds the development is consistent with the
7 public purpose and intent of this chapter and meets
8 minimum health and safety requirements;

9 (2) The development of the proposed non-agricultural park
10 land does not contravene any safety standards or
11 tariffs approved for public utilities by the public
12 utilities commission [~~for public utilities;~~] or the
13 Hawaii communications commission;

14 (3) The county in which the non-agricultural park
15 development is proposed shall approve the
16 non-agricultural park development; and provided
17 further that:

18 (A) The county shall approve or disapprove the
19 development within forty-five days after the
20 department submits preliminary plans and
21 specifications for the development to the county.

22 If the county does not disapprove the development



1 after the forty-fifth day, the development shall
2 be deemed approved;

3 (B) No action shall be prosecuted or maintained
4 against any county, its officials, or employees,
5 on any actions taken by them in reviewing,
6 approving, or disapproving the plans and
7 specifications; and

8 (C) The final plans and specifications for the
9 development shall be deemed approved by the
10 county if the final plans and specifications do
11 not substantially deviate from the preliminary
12 plans and specifications. The final plans and
13 specifications for the project shall constitute
14 the planning, zoning, building, construction, and
15 subdivision standards for that development. For
16 purposes of sections 501-85 and 502-17, the
17 chairperson of the board or the responsible
18 county official may certify maps and plans of
19 lands connected with the development as having
20 complied with applicable laws and ordinances
21 relating to consolidation and subdivision of
22 lands, and the maps and plans shall be accepted



1 for registration or recordation by the land court
2 and registrar;

3 and

4 (4) The State shall assume the responsibility of
5 maintaining all roads and infrastructure improvements
6 within the boundaries if the improvements are
7 developed exempt from applicable county ordinances,
8 charter provisions, and rules regarding development."

9 SECTION 11. Section 171-134, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

11 "(b) At the option of the board, the development of an
12 industrial park shall be exempt from all statutes, ordinances,
13 charter provisions, and rules of any governmental agency
14 relating to planning, zoning, construction standards for
15 subdivision development and improvement of land, and the
16 construction of buildings thereon; provided that:

17 (1) The board finds that the industrial park meets the
18 minimum requirements of health and safety;

19 (2) The development of the industrial park does not
20 contravene any safety standards or tariffs approved
21 for public utilities by the public utilities



1 commission [~~for public utilities~~] or the Hawaii
2 communications commission;

3 (3) The legislative body of the county in which the
4 industrial park is proposed to be situated approves
5 the industrial park[~~-~~] in accordance with the
6 following:

7 (A) The legislative body shall approve or disapprove
8 the industrial park within forty-five days after
9 the department has submitted preliminary plans
10 and specifications for the industrial park to the
11 legislative body. If after the forty-fifth day,
12 an industrial park is not disapproved, it shall
13 be deemed approved by the legislative body[~~-~~];

14 (B) No action shall be prosecuted or maintained
15 against any county, its officials, or employees,
16 on account of actions taken by them in reviewing,
17 approving, or disapproving the plans and
18 specifications[~~-~~]; and

19 (C) The final plans and specifications for the
20 industrial park shall be deemed approved by the
21 legislative body if the final plans and
22 specifications for the industrial park do not



1 substantially deviate from the preliminary plans
2 and specifications. The determination that the
3 final plans and specifications do not
4 substantially deviate from the preliminary plans
5 and specifications of the industrial park shall
6 rest with the board. The final plans and
7 specifications for the park shall constitute the
8 planning, zoning, building, improvement,
9 construction, and subdivision standards for that
10 industrial park. For the purposes of sections
11 501-85 and 502-17, the chairperson of the board
12 or the responsible county official may certify
13 maps and plans of land connected with the
14 industrial park as having complied with
15 applicable laws and ordinances relating to
16 consolidation and subdivision of lands, and such
17 maps and plans shall be accepted for registration
18 or recordation by the land court and registrar;

19 and

- 20 (4) The board shall assume the responsibility of all
21 infrastructure within the industrial park, if the



1 infrastructure developed is exempt from applicable
2 county ordinances, charter provisions, and rules."

3 SECTION 12. Section 196D-10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

5 "(c) This section shall not apply to any permit issued by
6 the public utilities commission under chapter 269[-] or the
7 Hawaii communications commission under chapter ."

8 SECTION 13. Section 201H-33, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
9 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

10 "(c) The corporation shall adopt, pursuant to chapter 91,
11 rules on health, safety, building, planning, zoning, and land
12 use that relate to the development, subdivision, and
13 construction of dwelling units in housing projects in which the
14 State, through the corporation, shall participate. The rules
15 shall not contravene any safety standards or tariffs approved by
16 the public utilities commission[-] or the Hawaii communications
17 commission, and shall follow existing law as closely as is
18 consistent with the production of lower cost housing with
19 standards that meet minimum requirements of good design,
20 pleasant amenities, health, safety, and coordinated development.

21 When adopted, the rules shall have the force and effect of
22 law and shall supersede, for all housing projects in which the



1 State, through the corporation, shall participate, all other
2 inconsistent laws, ordinances, and rules relating to the use,
3 zoning, planning, and development of land, and the construction
4 of dwelling units thereon. The rules, before becoming
5 effective, shall be presented to the legislative body of each
6 county in which they will be effective and the legislative body
7 of any county may within forty-five days approve or disapprove,
8 for that county, any or all of the rules by a majority vote of
9 its members. On the forty-sixth day after submission, any rules
10 not disapproved shall be deemed to have been approved by the
11 county."

12 SECTION 14. Section 201H-38, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

14 "(a) The corporation may develop on behalf of the State or
15 with an eligible developer, or may assist under a government
16 assistance program in the development of, housing projects that
17 shall be exempt from all statutes, ordinances, charter
18 provisions, and rules of any government agency relating to
19 planning, zoning, construction standards for subdivisions,
20 development and improvement of land, and the construction of
21 dwelling units thereon; provided that:



- 1 (1) The corporation finds the housing project is
2 consistent with the purpose and intent of this
3 chapter, and meets minimum requirements of health and
4 safety;
- 5 (2) The development of the proposed housing project does
6 not contravene any safety standards, tariffs, or rates
7 and fees approved for public utilities by the public
8 utilities commission [~~for public utilities~~] or the
9 Hawaii communications commission or of the various
10 boards of water supply authorized under chapter 54;
- 11 (3) The legislative body of the county in which the
12 housing project is to be situated shall have approved
13 the project with or without modifications[+] in
14 accordance with the following:
- 15 (A) The legislative body shall approve, approve with
16 modification, or disapprove the project by
17 resolution within forty-five days after the
18 corporation has submitted the preliminary plans
19 and specifications for the project to the
20 legislative body. If on the forty-sixth day a
21 project is not disapproved, it shall be deemed
22 approved by the legislative body;



1 (B) No action shall be prosecuted or maintained
2 against any county, its officials, or employees
3 on account of actions taken by them in reviewing,
4 approving, modifying, or disapproving the plans
5 and specifications; and

6 (C) The final plans and specifications for the
7 project shall be deemed approved by the
8 legislative body if the final plans and
9 specifications do not substantially deviate from
10 the preliminary plans and specifications. The
11 final plans and specifications for the project
12 shall constitute the zoning, building,
13 construction, and subdivision standards for that
14 project. For purposes of sections 501-85 and
15 502-17, the executive director of the corporation
16 or the responsible county official may certify
17 maps and plans of lands connected with the
18 project as having complied with applicable laws
19 and ordinances relating to consolidation and
20 subdivision of lands, and the maps and plans
21 shall be accepted for registration or recordation
22 by the land court and registrar;



1 and

2 (4) The land use commission shall approve, approve with

3 modification, or disapprove a boundary change within

4 forty-five days after the corporation has submitted a

5 petition to the commission as provided in section

6 205-4. If, on the forty-sixth day, the petition is

7 not disapproved, it shall be deemed approved by the

8 commission."

9 SECTION 15. Section 205A-46, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is

10 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

11 "(a) A variance may be granted for a structure or activity

12 otherwise prohibited in this part if the authority finds in

13 writing, based on the record presented, that the proposed

14 structure or activity is necessary for or ancillary to:

- 15 (1) Cultivation of crops;
- 16 (2) Aquaculture;
- 17 (3) Landscaping; provided that the authority finds that
- 18 the proposed structure or activity will not adversely
- 19 affect beach processes and will not artificially fix
- 20 the shoreline;
- 21 (4) Drainage;



- 1 (5) Boating, maritime, or watersports recreational
2 facilities;
- 3 (6) Facilities or improvements by public agencies or
4 public utilities regulated under chapter 269[+] or
5 chapter ;
- 6 (7) Private facilities or improvements that are clearly in
7 the public interest;
- 8 (8) Private facilities or improvements which will neither
9 adversely affect beach processes nor artificially fix
10 the shoreline; provided that the authority also finds
11 that hardship will result to the applicant if the
12 facilities or improvements are not allowed within the
13 shoreline area;
- 14 (9) Private facilities or improvements that may
15 artificially fix the shoreline; provided that the
16 authority also finds that shoreline erosion is likely
17 to cause hardship to the applicant if the facilities
18 or improvements are not allowed within the shoreline
19 area, and the authority imposes conditions to prohibit
20 any structure seaward of the existing shoreline unless
21 it is clearly in the public interest; or



1 (10) Moving of sand from one location seaward of the
2 shoreline to another location seaward of the
3 shoreline; provided that the authority also finds that
4 moving of sand will not adversely affect beach
5 processes, will not diminish the size of a public
6 beach, and will be necessary to stabilize an eroding
7 shoreline."

8 SECTION 16. Section 264-20, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
9 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

10 "(b) Any other law to the contrary notwithstanding, any
11 decision by the State, the department of transportation, a
12 county, or any officers, employees, or agents of the State, the
13 department of transportation, or a county to select or apply
14 flexibility in highway design pursuant to this section and
15 consistent with the practices used by the Federal Highway
16 Administration and the American Association of State Highway and
17 Transportation Officials shall not give rise to a cause of
18 action or claim against:

- 19 (1) The State;
- 20 (2) The department of transportation;
- 21 (3) The counties;



1 (4) Any public utility regulated under chapter 269 or
2 chapter that places its facilities within the
3 highway right-of-way; or

4 (5) Any officer, employee, or agent of an entity listed in
5 paragraphs (1) to (4)."

6 SECTION 17. Section 269-51, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended to read as follows:

8 "**§269-51 Consumer advocate; director of commerce and**
9 **consumer affairs.** The director of commerce and consumer affairs
10 shall be the consumer advocate in hearings before the public
11 utilities commission[-] and the Hawaii communications
12 commission. The consumer advocate shall represent, protect, and
13 advance the interests of all consumers, including small
14 businesses, of utility services. The consumer advocate shall
15 not receive any salary in addition to the salary received as
16 director of commerce and consumer affairs.

17 The responsibility for advocating the interests of the
18 consumer of utility services shall be separate and distinct from
19 the responsibilities of the public utilities commission and
20 those assistants employed by the commission. As consumer
21 advocate, the director of commerce and consumer affairs shall
22 have full rights to participate as a party in interest in all



1 proceedings before the public utilities commission[+] and the
2 Hawaii communications commission."

3 SECTION 18. Section 269-54, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by amending subsections (d) and (e) to read as follows:

5 "(d) Whenever it appears to the consumer advocate that:

6 (1) [~~any~~] Any public utility, telecommunications carrier,
7 or cable operator has violated or failed to comply
8 with any provision of this part or of any state or
9 federal law;

10 (2) [~~any~~] Any public utility, telecommunications carrier,
11 or cable operator has failed to comply with any rule,
12 regulation, or other requirement of the public
13 utilities commission, the Hawaii communications
14 commission, or of any other state or federal agency;

15 (3) [~~any~~] Any public utility, telecommunications carrier,
16 or cable operator has failed to comply with any
17 provision of its charter, certificate of public
18 convenience and necessity, or franchise;

19 (4) [~~changes,~~] Changes, additions, extensions, or repairs
20 to the plant or service of any public utility,
21 telecommunications carrier, or cable operator are



1 necessary to meet the reasonable convenience or
2 necessity of the public; or
3 (5) [~~the~~] The rates, fares, classifications, charges, or
4 rules of any public utility, telecommunications
5 carrier, or cable operator are unreasonable or
6 unreasonably discriminatory,
7 the consumer advocate may institute proceedings for appropriate
8 relief before the public utilities commission[-] or the Hawaii
9 communications commission, as applicable. The consumer advocate
10 may appeal any final decision and order in any proceeding to
11 which the consumer advocate is a party in the manner provided by
12 law.

13 (e) The consumer advocate may file with the public
14 utilities commission or the Hawaii communications commission, as
15 the case may be, and serve on any public utility,
16 telecommunications carrier, or cable operator a request in
17 writing to furnish any information reasonably relevant to any
18 matter or proceeding before the public utilities commission or
19 the Hawaii communications commission or reasonably required by
20 the consumer advocate to perform the duties hereunder. Any
21 [~~such~~] request shall set forth with reasonable specificity the
22 purpose for which the information is requested and shall



1 designate with reasonable specificity the information desired.
 2 The public utility, telecommunications carrier, or cable
 3 operator shall comply with [~~sueh~~] the request within the time
 4 limit set forth by the consumer advocate unless within ten days
 5 following service it requests a hearing on the matter before the
 6 public utilities commission or the Hawaii communications
 7 commission and states its reasons therefor. If a hearing is
 8 requested, the public utilities commission or the Hawaii
 9 communications commission, as the case may be, shall proceed to
 10 hold the hearing and make its determination on the request
 11 within thirty days after the same is filed. The consumer
 12 advocate or the public utility may appeal the decision of the
 13 commission on any [~~sueh~~] request, subject to chapter 602, in the
 14 manner provided for civil appeals from the circuit courts. The
 15 consumer advocate, telecommunications carrier, or cable operator
 16 may appeal the decision of the Hawaii communications commission
 17 in the manner provided for in section -16. Subject to the
 18 foregoing, such requests may ask the public utility,
 19 telecommunications carrier, or cable operator to:

- 20 (1) Furnish any information [~~with~~] which the consumer
- 21 advocate may require concerning the condition,
- 22 operations, practices, or services of the public



1 utility[+], telecommunications carrier, or cable
2 operator;

3 (2) Produce and permit the consumer advocate or the
4 consumer advocate's representative to inspect and copy
5 any designated documents (including writings,
6 drawings, graphs, charts, photographs, recordings, and
7 other data compilations from which information can be
8 obtained), or to inspect and copy, test, or sample any
9 designated tangible thing which is in the possession,
10 custody, or control of the public utility[+],
11 telecommunications carrier, or cable operator; or

12 (3) Permit entry upon land or other property in the
13 possession or control of the public utility,
14 telecommunications carrier, or cable operator for the
15 purpose of inspection and measuring, surveying,
16 photographing, testing, or sampling the property or
17 any designated object thereon."

18 SECTION 19. Section 269-55, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
19 amended to read as follows:

20 "**§269-55 Handling of complaints.** The consumer advocate
21 shall counsel public utility, telecommunications, and cable
22 service customers in the handling of consumer complaints before



1 the public utilities commission[-] or the Hawaii communications
2 commission. The public utilities commission shall provide a
3 central clearinghouse of information by collecting and compiling
4 all consumer complaints and inquiries concerning public
5 utilities. The Hawaii communications commission shall provide a
6 central clearinghouse of information by collecting and compiling
7 all consumer complaints and inquiries concerning
8 telecommunications carriers and cable operators."

9 SECTION 20. Section 339K-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended to read as follows:

11 "[+]§339K-2[+] **Compact administrator.** The compact
12 administrator, acting jointly with like officers of other party
13 states, may [~~promulgate~~] adopt rules and regulations to carry
14 out more effectively the terms of the compact. The compact
15 administrator shall cooperate with all departments, agencies,
16 and officers of and in the government of this State and its
17 subdivisions in facilitating the present administration of the
18 compact or of any supplementary agreement or agreements entered
19 into by this State thereunder. The compact administrator shall
20 adopt the practices and may impose the fees authorized under
21 article III of the compact, except that state and county law
22 enforcement agencies [~~and~~], the public utilities commission, and



1 the Hawaii communications commission shall retain their
2 enforcement and inspection authority relating to carriers."

3 SECTION 21. Section 448E-13, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended to read as follows:

5 "**§448E-13 Exemption of public utility and [community**
6 **antennae] cable television company employees.** All employees of
7 a public utility within the [State] state under a franchise or
8 charter granted by the State [~~which~~] that is regulated by the
9 public utilities commission or the Hawaii communications
10 commission and [~~community antennae television company,~~] a cable
11 television franchisee, while so employed, shall be exempt from
12 the provision of this chapter."

13 SECTION 22. Section 481-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14 amended to read as follows:

15 "**§481-11 Remedies cumulative.** The remedies prescribed in
16 this part are cumulative and in addition to the remedies
17 prescribed in [~~chapter~~] chapters 269 and _____ for discriminations
18 by public utilities. If any conflict arises between this part
19 and chapter 269[~~, the latter prevails.~~] or chapter _____, chapter
20 269 or chapter _____, whichever is applicable, shall prevail."

21 SECTION 23. Section 481P-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
22 amended to read as follows:



1 "§481P-5 Exemptions. This chapter shall not apply to:

2 (1) A person who initiates telephone calls to a residence
3 for the sole purpose of polling or soliciting the
4 expression of ideas, opinions, or votes, or a person
5 soliciting solely for a political or religious cause
6 or purpose;

7 (2) A securities broker-dealer, salesperson, investment
8 adviser, or investment adviser representative who is
9 registered with this State to sell securities or who
10 is authorized to sell securities in this State
11 pursuant to federal securities laws, when soliciting
12 over the telephone within the scope of the person's
13 registration;

14 (3) A financial institution that is authorized to accept
15 deposits under its chartering or licensing authority
16 where such deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit
17 Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union
18 Administration, including but not limited to a bank,
19 savings bank, savings and loan association, depository
20 financial services loan company, or credit union, or a
21 nondepository financial services loan company that is
22 licensed or authorized to conduct business in this



- 1 [State] state by the commissioner of financial
2 institutions, or an affiliate or subsidiary of a
3 financial institution as defined in chapter 412;
- 4 (4) A person or organization that is licensed or
5 authorized to conduct business in this [State] state
6 by the insurance commissioner including but not
7 limited to an insurance company and its employees,
8 while engaged in the business of selling or
9 advertising the sale of insurance products or
10 services;
- 11 (5) A college or university accredited by an accrediting
12 organization recognized by the United States
13 Department of Education;
- 14 (6) A person who publishes a catalog of at least fifteen
15 pages, four times a year, with a circulation of at
16 least one hundred thousand, where the catalog includes
17 clear disclosure of sale prices, shipping, handling,
18 and other charges;
- 19 (7) A political subdivision or instrumentality of the
20 United States, or any state of the United States;
- 21 (8) The sale of goods or services by telecommunications or
22 landline (i.e., cable) or wireless video service



1 providers, for which the terms and conditions of the
 2 offering, production, or sale are regulated by the
 3 public utilities commission, Hawaii communications
 4 commission, or the Federal Communications Commission,
 5 [~~or pursuant to chapter 440G,~~] including the sale of
 6 goods or services by affiliates of these
 7 telecommunications or video service providers.

8 Nothing herein shall be construed to preclude or
 9 preempt actions brought under any other laws including
 10 chapter 480;

11 (9) A real estate broker or salesperson who is licensed by
 12 this State to sell real estate, when soliciting within
 13 the scope of the license; or

14 (10) A travel agency that is registered with this State,
 15 when engaging in the business of selling or
 16 advertising the sale of travel services."

17 SECTION 24. Section 481X-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
 18 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

19 "(a) This chapter shall not apply to:

- 20 (1) Express or implied warranties;
- 21 (2) Maintenance agreements; and



1 (3) Warranties, service contracts, and maintenance
2 agreements offered by public utilities on their
3 transmission devices to the extent they are regulated
4 by the public utilities commission, ~~[or the]~~
5 department of commerce and consumer affairs~~[-]~~, or the
6 Hawaii communications commission."

7 SECTION 25. Section 659-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended to read as follows:

9 "[f]§659-3[+] **Forfeiture of franchise.** The several
10 circuit courts shall have jurisdiction of all proceedings in, or
11 in the nature of, quo warranto, brought by or in the name of the
12 public utilities commission, the Hawaii communications
13 commission, or the State, for the forfeiture of the franchise of
14 any corporate body offending against any law relating to such
15 corporation, for misuser, for nonuser, for doing or committing
16 any act or acts amounting to a surrender of its charter and for
17 exercising rights not conferred upon it."

18 SECTION 26. Section 708-800, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
19 amended by amending the definition of "telecommunication
20 service" to read as follows:

21 ""Telecommunication service" means the offering of
22 transmission between or among points specified by a user, of



1 information of the user's choosing, including voice, data,
 2 image, graphics, and video without change in the form or content
 3 of the information, as sent and received, by means of
 4 electromagnetic transmission, or other similarly capable means
 5 of transmission, with or without benefit of any closed
 6 transmission medium, and does not include cable service as
 7 defined in section [~~440G-3.~~] -1."

8 PART III

9 SECTION 27. Section 101-43, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
 10 amended to read as follows:

11 "**§101-43 Requirements prior to exercise of power.** Any
 12 corporation having the power of eminent domain under section
 13 101-41 may continue to exercise the power[~~7~~]; provided that
 14 prior to the exercise of the power:

15 (1) The corporation submits to the public utilities
 16 commission or, in the case of telecommunications
 17 carriers or telecommunications common carriers, to the
 18 Hawaii communications commission, its intention to
 19 exercise the power, with a description of the property
 20 to be condemned; and

21 (2) The public utilities commission or the Hawaii
 22 communications commission, as the case may be, finds



1 that the proposed condemnation is in the public
2 interest, that the proposed condemnation is necessary,
3 and that the corporation will use the property for its
4 operations as a public utility."

5 SECTION 28. Section 201H-13, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 "~~§~~201H-13~~§~~ Eminent domain, exchange or use of public
8 property. The corporation may acquire any real property,
9 including fixtures and improvements, or interest therein:
10 through voluntary negotiation; through exchange of land in
11 accordance with section 171-50, provided that the public land to
12 be exchanged need not be of like use to that of the private
13 land; or by the exercise of the power of eminent domain which it
14 deems necessary by the adoption of a resolution declaring that
15 the acquisition of the property described therein is in the
16 public interest and required for public use. The corporation
17 shall exercise the power of eminent domain granted by this
18 section in the same manner and procedure as is provided by
19 chapter 101 and otherwise in accordance with all applicable
20 provisions of the general laws of the State; provided that
21 condemnation of parcels greater than fifteen acres shall be
22 subject to legislative disapproval expressed in a concurrent



1 resolution adopted by majority vote of the senate and the house
2 of representatives in the first regular or special session
3 following the date of condemnation.

4 The corporation may acquire by the exercise of the power of
5 eminent domain property already devoted to a public use;
6 provided that no property belonging to any government may be
7 acquired without its consent, and that no property belonging to
8 a public utility corporation may be acquired without the
9 approval of the public utilities commission~~[7]~~ or, in the case
10 of telecommunications carriers or telecommunications common
11 carriers, the Hawaii communications commission, and subject to
12 legislative disapproval expressed in a concurrent resolution
13 adopted by majority vote of the senate and the house of
14 representatives in the first regular or special session
15 following the date of condemnation."

16 SECTION 29. Section 239-6.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended to read as follows:

18 "[+]§239-6.5[+] **Tax credit for lifeline telephone service**
19 **subsidy.** A telephone public utility subject to this chapter
20 that has been authorized to establish lifeline telephone service
21 rates by the public utilities commission before July 1, 2010, or
22 by the Hawaii communications commission on or after July 1,



1 2010, shall be allowed a tax credit, equal to the lifeline
 2 telephone service costs incurred by the utility, to be applied
 3 against the utility's tax imposed by this chapter. The amount
 4 of this credit shall be determined and certified annually by the
 5 [~~public utilities commission.~~] Hawaii communications commission.
 6 The tax liability for a telephone public utility claiming the
 7 credit shall be calculated in the manner prescribed in section
 8 239-5; provided that the amount of tax due from the utility
 9 shall be net of the lifeline service credit."

10 SECTION 30. Section 269-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
 11 amended as follows:

12 1. By amending the definition of "public utility" to read:

13 ""Public utility":

- 14 (1) Includes every person who may own, control, operate,
 15 or manage as owner, lessee, trustee, receiver, or
 16 otherwise, whether under a franchise, charter,
 17 license, articles of association, or otherwise, any
 18 plant or equipment, or any part thereof, directly or
 19 indirectly for public use, for the transportation of
 20 passengers or freight, or the conveyance or
 21 transmission of telecommunications messages, or the
 22 furnishing of facilities for the transmission of



1 intelligence by electricity by land or water or air
2 within the [~~State~~] state, or between points within
3 the [~~State~~] state, or for the production, conveyance,
4 transmission, delivery, or furnishing of light, power,
5 heat, cold, water, gas, or oil, or for the storage or
6 warehousing of goods, or the disposal of sewage;
7 provided that the term shall include:

8 (A) Any person insofar as that person owns or
9 operates a private sewer company or sewer
10 facility; and

11 (B) Any telecommunications carrier or
12 telecommunications common carrier;

13 (2) Shall not include:

14 (A) Any person insofar as that person owns or
15 operates an aerial transportation enterprise;

16 (B) Persons owning or operating taxicabs, as defined
17 in this section;

18 (C) Common carriers transporting only freight on the
19 public highways, unless operating within
20 localities or along routes or between points that
21 the public utilities commission finds to be



1 inadequately serviced without regulation under
2 this chapter;

3 (D) Persons engaged in the business of warehousing or
4 storage unless the commission finds that
5 regulation thereof is necessary in the public
6 interest;

7 (E) The business of any carrier by water to the
8 extent that the carrier enters into private
9 contracts for towage, salvage, hauling, or
10 carriage between points within the [~~State~~] state
11 and the carriage is not pursuant to either an
12 established schedule or an undertaking to perform
13 carriage services on behalf of the public
14 generally;

15 (F) The business of any carrier by water,
16 substantially engaged in interstate or foreign
17 commerce, transporting passengers on luxury
18 cruises between points within the [~~State~~] state
19 or on luxury round-trip cruises returning to the
20 point of departure;

21 (G) Any person who:



- 1 (i) Controls, operates, or manages plants or
- 2 facilities for the production, transmission,
- 3 or furnishing of power primarily or entirely
- 4 from nonfossil fuel sources; and
- 5 (ii) Provides, sells, or transmits all of that
- 6 power, except such power as is used in its
- 7 own internal operations, directly to a
- 8 public utility for transmission to the
- 9 public;
- 10 (H) A telecommunications provider only to the extent
- 11 determined by the [~~commission~~] Hawaii
- 12 communications commission pursuant to section
- 13 [~~269-16.9;~~] -34;
- 14 (I) Any person who controls, operates, or manages
- 15 plants or facilities developed pursuant to
- 16 chapter 167 for conveying, distributing, and
- 17 transmitting water for irrigation and such other
- 18 purposes that shall be held for public use and
- 19 purpose;
- 20 (J) Any person who owns, controls, operates, or
- 21 manages plants or facilities for the reclamation
- 22 of wastewater; provided that:



- 1 (i) The services of the facility shall be
2 provided pursuant to a service contract
3 between the person and a state or county
4 agency and at least ten per cent of the
5 wastewater processed is used directly by the
6 State or county which has entered into the
7 service contract;
- 8 (ii) The primary function of the facility shall
9 be the processing of secondary treated
10 wastewater that has been produced by a
11 municipal wastewater treatment facility that
12 is owned by a state or county agency;
- 13 (iii) The facility shall not make sales of water
14 to residential customers;
- 15 (iv) The facility may distribute and sell
16 recycled water or reclaimed water to
17 entities not covered by a state or county
18 service contract; provided that, in the
19 absence of regulatory oversight and direct
20 competition, the distribution and sale of
21 recycled or reclaimed water shall be
22 voluntary and its pricing fair and



1 reasonable. For purposes of this
2 subparagraph, "recycled water" and
3 "reclaimed water" mean treated wastewater
4 that by design is intended or used for a
5 beneficial purpose; and

6 (v) The facility shall not be engaged, either
7 directly or indirectly, in the processing of
8 food wastes; and

9 (K) Any person who owns, controls, operates, or
10 manages any seawater air conditioning district
11 cooling project; provided that at least fifty per
12 cent of the energy required for the seawater air
13 conditioning district cooling system is provided
14 by a renewable energy resource, such as cold,
15 deep seawater.

16 If the application of this chapter is ordered by the
17 commission or the Hawaii communications commission, as the case
18 may be, in any case provided in [~~paragraphs~~] paragraph (2) (C),
19 [~~(2)~~] (D), [~~(2)~~] (H), and [~~(2)~~] (I), the business of any public
20 utility that presents evidence of bona fide operation on the
21 date of the commencement of the proceedings resulting in the
22 order shall be presumed to be necessary to public convenience



1 and necessity, but any certificate issued under this proviso
2 shall nevertheless be subject to [~~sueh~~] terms and conditions as
3 the commission or the Hawaii communications commission,
4 respectively, may prescribe, as provided in sections [~~269-16.9~~]
5 -34 and 269-20."

6 2. By amending the definition of "telecommunications
7 carrier" or "telecommunications common carrier" to read:

8 ""Telecommunications carrier" or "telecommunications common
9 carrier" [~~means any person that owns, operates, manages, or~~
10 ~~controls any facility used to furnish telecommunications~~
11 ~~services for profit to the public, or to classes of users as to~~
12 ~~be effectively available to the public, engaged in the provision~~
13 ~~of services, such as voice, data, image, graphics, and video~~
14 ~~services, that make use of all or part of their transmission~~
15 ~~facilities, switches, broadcast equipment, signaling, or~~
16 ~~control devices.] has the same meaning as in section -1."~~

17 3. By amending the definition of "telecommunications
18 service" or "telecommunications" to read:

19 ""Telecommunications service" or "telecommunications"
20 [~~means the offering of transmission between or among points~~
21 ~~specified by a user, of information of the user's choosing,~~
22 ~~including voice, data, image, graphics, and video without change~~



1 ~~in the form or content of the information, as sent and received,~~
 2 ~~by means of electromagnetic transmission, or other similarly~~
 3 ~~capable means of transmission, with or without benefit of any~~
 4 ~~closed transmission medium, and does not include cable service~~
 5 ~~as defined in section 440G-3.] has the same meaning as in~~
 6 section -1."

7 4. By repealing the definitions of "carrier of last
 8 resort" and "designated local exchange service area":

9 [~~"Carrier of last resort" means a telecommunications~~
 10 ~~carrier designated by the commission to provide universal~~
 11 ~~service in a given local exchange service area determined to be~~
 12 ~~lacking in effective competition.~~

13 ~~"Designated local exchange service area" means an area as~~
 14 ~~determined by the commission to be best served by designating a~~
 15 ~~carrier of last resort pursuant to section 269-43."]~~

16 SECTION 31. Section 356D-15, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
 17 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

18 "(b) The authority may acquire by the exercise of the
 19 power of eminent domain property already devoted to a public
 20 use; provided that no property belonging to any government may
 21 be acquired without its consent, and that no property belonging
 22 to a public utility may be acquired without the approval of the



1 public utilities commission[+] or, in the case of
 2 telecommunications carriers or telecommunications common
 3 carriers, the Hawaii communications commission; and provided
 4 further that the acquisition is subject to legislative
 5 disapproval expressed in a concurrent resolution adopted by
 6 majority vote of the senate and the house of representatives in
 7 the first regular or special session following the date of
 8 condemnation."

9 SECTION 32. Section 486J-11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
 10 amended to read as follows:

11 "**§486J-11 Powers of the public utilities commission[-] and**
 12 **the Hawaii communications commission.** (a) The public utilities
 13 commission and the Hawaii communications commission may take any
 14 action or make any determination under this chapter, including
 15 but not limited to actions or determinations that affect persons
 16 not regulated under chapters 269, ____, 271, and 271G, as the
 17 public utilities commission or the Hawaii communications
 18 commission deems necessary to carry out its responsibilities or
 19 otherwise effectuate chapter 269, ____, 271, or 271G.

20 (b) The public utilities commission or, in the case of
 21 telecommunications carriers or telecommunications common
 22 carriers, the Hawaii communications commission, may examine or



1 investigate each distributor, the manner in which it is
2 operated, its prices and rates, its operating costs and
3 expenses, the value of its property and assets, the amount and
4 disposition of its income, any of its financial transactions,
5 its business relations with other persons, companies, or
6 corporations, its compliance with all applicable state and
7 federal laws, and all matters of any nature affecting the
8 relations and transactions between the distributor and the
9 public, persons, or businesses.

10 (c) In the performance of its duties under this chapter,
11 the public utilities commission and the Hawaii communications
12 commission shall have the same powers respecting administering
13 oaths, compelling the attendance of witnesses and the production
14 of documents, examining witnesses, and punishing for contempt,
15 as are possessed by the circuit courts. In case of disobedience
16 by any person to any order of or subpoena issued by the public
17 utilities commission[7] or the Hawaii communications commission,
18 or of the refusal of any witness to testify to any matter
19 regarding which the witness may be lawfully questioned, any
20 circuit court, upon application by the public utilities
21 commission[7] or the Hawaii communications commission, shall
22 compel obedience as in case of disobedience of the requirements



1 of a subpoena issued from a circuit court or a refusal to
2 testify therein."

3 SECTION 33. Section 269-16.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 repealed.

5 [~~"§269-16.5 Lifeline telephone rates. (a) The public
6 utilities commission shall implement a program to achieve
7 lifeline telephone rates for residential telephone users.~~

8 ~~(b) "Lifeline telephone rate" means a discounted rate for
9 residential telephone users identified as elders with limited
10 income and the handicapped with limited income as designated by
11 the commission.~~

12 ~~(c) The commission shall require every telephone public
13 utility providing local telephone service to file a schedule of
14 rates and charges providing a rate for lifeline telephone
15 subscribers.~~

16 ~~(d) Nothing in this section shall preclude the commission
17 from changing any rate established pursuant to subsection (a)
18 either specifically or pursuant to any general restructuring of
19 all telephone rates, charges, and classifications."]~~

20 SECTION 34. Section 269-16.6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
21 repealed.



- 1 ~~["§269-16.6 Telecommunications relay services for the~~
- 2 ~~deaf, persons with hearing disabilities, and persons with speech~~
- 3 ~~disabilities. (a) The public utilities commission shall~~
- 4 ~~implement interstate telecommunications relay services for the~~
- 5 ~~deaf, persons with hearing disabilities, and persons with speech~~
- 6 ~~disabilities.~~
- 7 ~~(b) The commission shall investigate the availability of~~
- 8 ~~experienced providers of quality telecommunications relay~~
- 9 ~~services for the deaf, persons with hearing disabilities, and~~
- 10 ~~persons with speech disabilities. The provision of these~~
- 11 ~~telecommunications relay services to be rendered on or after~~
- 12 ~~July 1, 1992, shall be awarded by the commission to the provider~~
- 13 ~~or providers the commission determines to be best qualified to~~
- 14 ~~provide these services. In reviewing the qualifications of the~~
- 15 ~~provider or providers, the commission shall consider the factors~~
- 16 ~~of cost, quality of services, and experience, and such other~~
- 17 ~~factors as the commission deems appropriate.~~
- 18 ~~(c) If the commission determines that the~~
- 19 ~~telecommunications relay service can be provided in a cost-~~
- 20 ~~effective manner by a service provider or service providers, the~~
- 21 ~~commission may require every intrastate telecommunications~~
- 22 ~~carrier to contract with such provider or providers for the~~



1 ~~provision of the telecommunications relay service under the~~
2 ~~terms established by the commission.~~

3 ~~(d) The commission may establish a surcharge to collect~~
4 ~~customer contributions for telecommunications relay services~~
5 ~~required under this section.~~

6 ~~(e) The commission may adopt rules to establish a~~
7 ~~mechanism to recover the costs of administering and providing~~
8 ~~telecommunications relay services required under this section.~~

9 ~~(f) The commission shall require every intrastate~~
10 ~~telecommunications carrier to file a schedule of rates and~~
11 ~~charges and every provider of telecommunications relay service~~
12 ~~to maintain a separate accounting for the costs of providing~~
13 ~~telecommunications relay services for the deaf, persons with~~
14 ~~hearing disabilities, and persons with speech disabilities.~~

15 ~~(g) Nothing in this section shall preclude the commission~~
16 ~~from changing any rate established pursuant to this section~~
17 ~~either specifically or pursuant to any general restructuring of~~
18 ~~all telephone rates, charges, and classifications.~~

19 ~~(h) As used in this section:~~

20 ~~"Telecommunications relay services" means telephone~~
21 ~~transmission services that provide an individual who has a~~
22 ~~hearing or speech disability the ability to engage in~~



1 ~~communication by wire or radio with a hearing individual in a~~
2 ~~manner that is functionally equivalent to the ability of an~~
3 ~~individual who does not have a hearing or speech disability to~~
4 ~~communicate using wire or radio voice communication services.~~
5 ~~"Telecommunications relay services" includes services that~~
6 ~~enable two way communication using text telephones or other~~
7 ~~nonvoice terminal devices, speech to speech services, video~~
8 ~~relay services, and non-English relay services."]~~

9 SECTION 35. Section 269-16.8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 repealed.

11 [~~§269-16.8~~] ~~Aggregators of telephone service~~
12 ~~requirements.~~ (a) ~~For the purposes of this section:~~

13 ~~"Aggregator" means every person or entity that is not a~~
14 ~~telecommunications carrier, who, in the ordinary course of its~~
15 ~~business, makes telephones available and aggregates the calls of~~
16 ~~the public or transient users of its business, including but not~~
17 ~~limited to a hotel, motel, hospital, or university, that~~
18 ~~provides operator assisted services through access to an~~
19 ~~operator service provider.~~

20 ~~"Operator service" means a service provided by a~~
21 ~~telecommunications company to assist a customer to complete a~~
22 ~~telephone call.~~



- 1 ~~(b) The commission, by rule or order, shall adopt and~~
2 ~~enforce operating requirements for the provision of operator-~~
3 ~~assisted services by an aggregator. These requirements shall~~
4 ~~include, but not be limited to, the following:~~
- 5 ~~(1) Posting and display of information in a prominent and~~
6 ~~conspicuous fashion on or near the telephone equipment~~
7 ~~owned or controlled by the aggregator which states the~~
8 ~~identity of the operator service provider, the~~
9 ~~operator service provider's complaint handling~~
10 ~~procedures, and means by which the customer may access~~
11 ~~the various operator service providers.~~
- 12 ~~(2) Identification by name of the operator service~~
13 ~~provider prior to the call connection and, if not~~
14 ~~posted pursuant to subsection (b)(1), a disclosure of~~
15 ~~pertinent rates, terms, conditions, and means of~~
16 ~~access to various operator service providers and the~~
17 ~~local exchange carriers; provided that the operator~~
18 ~~service provider shall disclose this information at~~
19 ~~any time upon request by the customer.~~
- 20 ~~(3) Allowing the customer access to any operator service~~
21 ~~provider operating in the relevant geographic area~~



1 through the access method chosen by the provider or as
2 deemed appropriate by the commission.

3 ~~(4) Other requirements as deemed reasonable by the~~
4 ~~commission in the areas of public safety, quality of~~
5 ~~service, unjust or discriminatory pricing, or other~~
6 ~~matters in the public interest."]~~

7 SECTION 36. Section 269-16.9, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 repealed.

9 [~~§269-16.9 Telecommunications providers and services.~~

10 ~~(a) Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the~~
11 ~~contrary, the commission, upon its own motion or upon the~~
12 ~~application of any person, and upon notice and hearing, may~~
13 ~~exempt a telecommunications provider or a telecommunications~~
14 ~~service from any or all of the provisions of this chapter,~~
15 ~~except the provisions of section 269-34, upon a determination~~
16 ~~that the exemption is in the public interest. In determining~~
17 ~~whether an exemption is in the public interest, the commission~~
18 ~~shall consider whether the exemption promotes state policies in~~
19 ~~telecommunications, the development, maintenance, and operation~~
20 ~~of effective and economically efficient telecommunications~~
21 ~~services, and the furnishing of telecommunications services at~~
22 ~~just and reasonable rates and in a fair manner in view of the~~



- 1 ~~needs of the various customer segments of the telecommunications~~
- 2 ~~industry. Among the specific factors the commission may~~
- 3 ~~consider are:~~
- 4 ~~(1) The responsiveness of the exemption to changes in the~~
- 5 ~~structure and technology of the State's~~
- 6 ~~telecommunications industry;~~
- 7 ~~(2) The benefits accruing to the customers and users of~~
- 8 ~~the exempt telecommunications provider or service;~~
- 9 ~~(3) The impact of the exemption on the quality,~~
- 10 ~~efficiency, and availability of telecommunications~~
- 11 ~~services;~~
- 12 ~~(4) The impact of the exemption on the maintenance of~~
- 13 ~~fair, just, and reasonable rates for~~
- 14 ~~telecommunications services;~~
- 15 ~~(5) The likelihood of prejudice or disadvantage to~~
- 16 ~~ratepayers of basic local exchange service resulting~~
- 17 ~~from the exemption;~~
- 18 ~~(6) The effect of the exemption on the preservation and~~
- 19 ~~promotion of affordable, universal, basic~~
- 20 ~~telecommunications services as those services are~~
- 21 ~~determined by the commission;~~



- 1 ~~(7) The resulting subsidization, if any, of the exempt~~
- 2 ~~telecommunications service or provider by nonexempt~~
- 3 ~~services;~~
- 4 ~~(8) The impact of the exemption on the availability of~~
- 5 ~~diversity in the supply of telecommunications services~~
- 6 ~~throughout the State;~~
- 7 ~~(9) The improvements in the regulatory system to be gained~~
- 8 ~~from the exemption, including the reduction in~~
- 9 ~~regulatory delays and costs;~~
- 10 ~~(10) The impact of the exemption on promoting innovations~~
- 11 ~~in telecommunications services;~~
- 12 ~~(11) The opportunity provided by the exemption for~~
- 13 ~~telecommunications providers to respond to~~
- 14 ~~competition; and~~
- 15 ~~(12) The potential for the exercise of substantial market~~
- 16 ~~power by the exempt provider or by a provider of the~~
- 17 ~~exempt telecommunications service.~~
- 18 ~~(b) The commission shall expedite, where practicable, the~~
- 19 ~~regulatory process with respect to exemptions and shall adopt~~
- 20 ~~guidelines under which each provider of an exempted service~~
- 21 ~~shall be subject to similar terms and conditions.~~



1 ~~(c) The commission may condition or limit any exemption as~~
2 ~~the commission deems necessary in the public interest. The~~
3 ~~commission may provide a trial period for any exemption and may~~
4 ~~terminate the exemption or continue it for such period and under~~
5 ~~such conditions and limitations as it deems appropriate.~~

6 ~~(d) The commission may require a telecommunications~~
7 ~~provider to apply for a certificate of public convenience and~~
8 ~~necessity pursuant to section 269-7.5; provided that the~~
9 ~~commission may waive any application requirement whenever it~~
10 ~~deems the waiver to be in furtherance of the purposes of this~~
11 ~~section. The exemptions under this section may be granted in a~~
12 ~~proceeding for certification or in a separate proceeding.~~

13 ~~(e) The commission may waive other regulatory requirements~~
14 ~~under this chapter applicable to telecommunications providers~~
15 ~~when it determines that competition will serve the same purpose~~
16 ~~as public interest regulation.~~

17 ~~(f) If any provider of an exempt telecommunications~~
18 ~~service or any exempt telecommunications provider elects to~~
19 ~~terminate its service, it shall provide notice of this to its~~
20 ~~customers, the commission, and every telephone public utility~~
21 ~~providing basic local exchange service in this State. The~~
22 ~~notice shall be in writing and given not less than six months~~



1 before the intended termination date. Upon termination of
2 service by a provider of an exempt service or by an exempt
3 provider, the appropriate telephone public utility providing
4 basic local exchange service shall ensure that all customers
5 affected by the termination receive basic local exchange
6 service. The commission shall, upon notice and hearing or by
7 rule, determine the party or parties who shall bear the cost, if
8 any, of access to the basic local exchange service by the
9 customers of the terminated exempt service.
10 (g) Upon the petition of any person or upon its own
11 motion, the commission may rescind any exemption or waiver
12 granted under this section if, after notice and hearing, it
13 finds that the conditions prompting the granting of the
14 exemption or waiver no longer apply, or that the exemption or
15 waiver is no longer in the public interest, or that the
16 telecommunications provider has failed to comply with one or
17 more of the conditions of the exemption or applicable statutory
18 or regulatory requirements.
19 (h) For purposes of this section, the commission, upon
20 determination that any area of the State has less than adequate
21 telecommunications service, shall require the existing
22 telecommunications provider to show cause as to why the



1 ~~commission should not authorize an alternative~~
2 ~~telecommunications provider for that area under the terms and~~
3 ~~conditions of this section."]~~

4 SECTION 37. Section 269-16.91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 repealed.

6 [~~"§269-16.91 Universal service subsidies. (a) For any~~
7 ~~alternative telecommunications provider authorized to provide~~
8 ~~basic local exchange service to any area of the State pursuant~~
9 ~~to section 269-16.9(h), the commission may consider the~~
10 ~~following:~~

- 11 ~~(1) Transferring the subsidy, if any, of the local~~
12 ~~exchange provider's basic residential telephone~~
13 ~~service to the alternative provider; and~~
- 14 ~~(2) Transferring from the local exchange carrier to the~~
15 ~~alternative provider the amounts, if any, generated by~~
16 ~~the local exchange provider's services other than~~
17 ~~basic residential telephone service and which are used~~
18 ~~to subsidize basic residential service in the area.~~

19 ~~(b) To receive the subsidy amounts from the local exchange~~
20 ~~service provider, the alternative telecommunications provider~~
21 ~~shall be required, to the extent possible, to obtain basic~~



1 ~~residential service subsidies from both the local exchange~~
2 ~~service provider and national universal service providers."]~~

3 SECTION 38. Section 269-16.92, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 repealed.

5 [~~"§269-16.92~~] ~~Changes in subscriber carrier selections;~~
6 ~~prior authorization required; penalties for unauthorized~~
7 ~~changes.~~ (a) ~~No telecommunications carrier shall initiate a~~
8 ~~change in a subscriber's selection or designation of a long-~~
9 ~~distance carrier without first receiving:~~

- 10 (1) ~~A letter of agency or letter of authorization;~~
11 (2) ~~An electronic authorization by use of a toll-free~~
12 ~~number;~~
13 (3) ~~An oral authorization verified by an independent third~~
14 ~~party; or~~
15 (4) ~~Any other prescribed authorization;~~

16 ~~provided that the letter or authorization shall be in accordance~~
17 ~~with verification procedures that are prescribed by the Federal~~
18 ~~Communications Commission or the public utilities commission.~~

19 ~~For purposes of this section, "telecommunications carrier" does~~
20 ~~not include a provider of commercial mobile radio service as~~
21 ~~defined by 47 United States Code section 332(d)(1).~~



1 ~~(b) Upon a determination that any telecommunications~~
2 ~~carrier has engaged in conduct that is prohibited in subsection~~
3 ~~(a), the public utilities commission shall order the carrier to~~
4 ~~take corrective action as deemed necessary by the commission and~~
5 ~~may subject the telecommunications carrier to administrative~~
6 ~~penalties pursuant to section 269-28. Any proceeds from~~
7 ~~administrative penalties collected under this section shall be~~
8 ~~deposited into the public utilities commission special fund.~~

9 ~~The commission, if consistent with the public interest, may~~
10 ~~suspend, restrict, or revoke the registration, charter, or~~
11 ~~certificate of the telecommunications carrier, thereby denying,~~
12 ~~modifying, or limiting the right of the telecommunications~~
13 ~~carrier to provide service in this State.~~

14 ~~(c) The commission shall adopt rules, pursuant to chapter~~
15 ~~91, necessary for the purposes of this section. The commission~~
16 ~~may notify customers of their rights under these rules."]~~

17 SECTION 39. Section 269-16.95, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
18 repealed.

19 ~~["§269-16.95 Emergency telephone service; capital costs;~~
20 ~~ratemaking. (a) A public utility providing local exchange~~
21 ~~telecommunications services may recover the capital cost and~~
22 ~~associated operating expenses of providing a statewide enhanced~~



- 1 ~~911 emergency telephone service in the public switched telephone~~
2 ~~network, through:~~
- 3 ~~(1) A telephone line surcharge or~~
4 ~~(2) Its rate case.~~
- 5 ~~(b) Notwithstanding the commission's rules on ratemaking,~~
6 ~~the commission shall expedite and give highest priority to any~~
7 ~~necessary ratemaking procedures related to providing a statewide~~
8 ~~enhanced 911 emergency telephone service; provided that the~~
9 ~~commission may set forth conditions and requirements as the~~
10 ~~commission determines are in the public interest.~~
- 11 ~~(c) The commission shall require every public utility~~
12 ~~providing statewide enhanced 911 emergency telephone service to~~
13 ~~maintain a separate accounting of the costs of providing an~~
14 ~~enhanced 911 emergency service and the revenues received from~~
15 ~~related surcharges until the next general rate case. The~~
16 ~~commission shall further require that every public utility~~
17 ~~imposing a surcharge shall identify such as a separate line item~~
18 ~~on all customer billing statements.~~
- 19 ~~(d) This section shall not preclude the commission from~~
20 ~~changing any rate, established pursuant to this section, either~~
21 ~~specifically or pursuant to any general restructuring of all~~
22 ~~telephone rates, charges, and classifications."]~~



1 SECTION 40. Section 269-34, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 repealed.

3 [~~§269-34~~] ~~Obligations of telecommunications carriers.~~
4 ~~In accordance with conditions and guidelines established by the~~
5 ~~commission to facilitate the introduction of competition into~~
6 ~~the State's telecommunications marketplace, each~~
7 ~~telecommunications carrier, upon bona fide request, shall~~
8 ~~provide services or information services, on reasonable terms~~
9 ~~and conditions, to an entity seeking to provide intrastate~~
10 ~~telecommunications, including:~~

- 11 (1) ~~Interconnection to the telecommunications carrier's~~
12 ~~telecommunications facilities at any technically~~
13 ~~feasible and economically reasonable point within the~~
14 ~~telecommunications carrier's network so that the~~
15 ~~networks are fully interoperable;~~
- 16 (2) ~~The current interstate tariff used as the access rate~~
17 ~~until the commission can adopt a new intrastate local~~
18 ~~service interconnection tariff pursuant to section~~
19 ~~269-37;~~
- 20 (3) ~~Nondiscriminatory and equal access to any~~
21 ~~telecommunications carrier's telecommunications~~
22 ~~facilities, functions, and the information necessary~~



- 1 ~~to the transmission and routing of any~~
- 2 ~~telecommunications service and the interoperability of~~
- 3 ~~both carriers' networks;~~
- 4 ~~(4) Nondiscriminatory access among all telecommunications~~
- 5 ~~carriers, where technically feasible and economically~~
- 6 ~~reasonable, and where safety or the provision of~~
- 7 ~~existing electrical service is not at risk, to the~~
- 8 ~~poles, ducts, conduits, and rights-of-way owned or~~
- 9 ~~controlled by the telecommunications carrier, or the~~
- 10 ~~commission shall authorize access to electric~~
- 11 ~~utilities' poles as provided by the joint pole~~
- 12 ~~agreement, commission tariffs, rules, orders, or~~
- 13 ~~Federal Communications Commission rules and~~
- 14 ~~regulations;~~
- 15 ~~(5) Nondiscriminatory access to the network functions of~~
- 16 ~~the telecommunications carrier's telecommunications~~
- 17 ~~network, that shall be offered on an unbundled,~~
- 18 ~~competitively neutral, and cost-based basis;~~
- 19 ~~(6) Telecommunications services and network functions~~
- 20 ~~without unreasonable restrictions on the resale or~~
- 21 ~~sharing of those services and functions; and~~



1 ~~(7) Nondiscriminatory access of customers to the~~
2 ~~telecommunications carrier of their choice without the~~
3 ~~need to dial additional digits or access codes, where~~
4 ~~technically feasible. The commission shall determine~~
5 ~~the equitable distribution of costs among the~~
6 ~~authorized telecommunications carriers that will use~~
7 ~~such access and shall establish rules to ensure such~~
8 ~~access.~~

9 ~~Where possible, telecommunications carriers shall enter~~
10 ~~into negotiations to agree on the provision of services or~~
11 ~~information services without requiring intervention by the~~
12 ~~commission; provided that any such agreement shall be subject to~~
13 ~~review by the commission to ensure compliance with the~~
14 ~~requirements of this section."]~~

15 SECTION 41. Section 269-35, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 repealed.

17 [~~§269-35~~] ~~Universal service.~~ The commission shall
18 ~~preserve and advance universal service by:~~

- 19 ~~(1) Maintaining affordable, just, and reasonable rates for~~
20 ~~basic residential service;~~
- 21 ~~(2) Assisting individuals or entities who cannot afford~~
22 ~~the cost of or otherwise require assistance in~~



1 ~~obtaining or maintaining their basic service or~~
2 ~~equipment as determined by the commission; and~~
3 (3) ~~Ensuring that consumers are given the information~~
4 ~~necessary to make informed choices among the~~
5 ~~alternative telecommunications providers and~~
6 ~~services."~~]

7 SECTION 42. Section 269-36, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 repealed.

9 ~~["§269-36] Telecommunications number portability. The~~
10 ~~commission shall ensure that telecommunications number~~
11 ~~portability within an exchange is available, upon request, as~~
12 ~~soon as technically feasible and economically reasonable. An~~
13 ~~impartial entity shall administer telecommunications numbering~~
14 ~~and make the numbers available on an equitable basis."]~~

15 SECTION 43. Section 269-37, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 repealed.

17 ~~["§269-37] Compensation agreements. The commission shall~~
18 ~~ensure that telecommunications carriers are compensated on a~~
19 ~~fair basis for termination of telecommunications services on~~
20 ~~each other's networks, taking into account, among other things,~~
21 ~~reasonable and necessary costs to each telecommunications~~
22 ~~carrier of providing the services in question.~~



1 ~~Telecommunications carriers may negotiate compensation~~
2 ~~arrangements, that may include "bill and keep", mutual and equal~~
3 ~~compensation, or any other reasonable division of revenues~~
4 ~~pending tariff access rates to be set by the commission. Upon~~
5 ~~failure of the negotiations, the commission shall determine the~~
6 ~~proper methodology and amount of compensation."]~~

7 SECTION 44. Section 269-38, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 repealed.

9 ~~"[~~§269-38~~] ~~Regulatory flexibility for effectively~~~~
10 ~~competitive services. The commission may allow~~
11 ~~telecommunications carriers to have pricing flexibility for~~
12 ~~services that the commission finds are effectively competitive,~~
13 ~~provided that the rates for:~~

14 ~~(1) Basic telephone service and for services that are not~~
15 ~~effectively competitive are cost based and remain~~
16 ~~just, reasonable, and nondiscriminatory; and~~
17 ~~(2) Universal service is preserved and advanced."]~~

18 SECTION 45. Section 269-39, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
19 repealed.

20 ~~"[~~§269-39~~] ~~Cross subsidies.~~ (a) ~~The commission shall~~~~
21 ~~ensure that noncompetitive services shall not cross subsidize~~



1 ~~competitive services. Cross subsidization shall be deemed to~~
2 ~~have occurred:~~

3 ~~(1) If any competitive service is priced below the total~~
4 ~~service long run incremental cost of providing the~~
5 ~~service as determined by the commission in subsection~~
6 ~~(b); or~~

7 ~~(2) If competitive services, taken as a whole, fail to~~
8 ~~cover their direct and allocated joint and common~~
9 ~~costs as determined by the commission.~~

10 ~~(b) The commission shall determine the methodology and~~
11 ~~frequency with which providers calculate total service long run~~
12 ~~incremental cost and fully allocated joint and common costs.~~
13 ~~The total service long run incremental cost of a service shall~~
14 ~~include an imputation of an amount equal to the contribution~~
15 ~~that the telecommunications carrier receives from noncompetitive~~
16 ~~inputs used by alternative providers in providing the same or~~
17 ~~equivalent service."]~~

18 SECTION 46. Section 269-40, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
19 repealed.

20 ~~["§269-40] Access to advanced services. The commission~~
21 ~~shall ensure that all consumers are provided with~~
22 ~~nondiscriminatory, reasonable, and equitable access to high~~



1 ~~quality telecommunications network facilities and capabilities~~
2 ~~that provide subscribers with sufficient network capacity to~~
3 ~~access information services that provide a combination of voice,~~
4 ~~data, image, and video, and that are available at just,~~
5 ~~reasonable, and nondiscriminatory rates that are based on~~
6 ~~reasonably identifiable costs of providing the services."]~~

7 SECTION 47. Section 269-41, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 repealed.

9 [~~§269-41~~] ~~Universal service program; establishment;~~
10 ~~purpose; principles.~~ There is established the universal service
11 program. The purpose of this program is to:

- 12 (1) ~~Maintain affordable, just, and reasonable rates for~~
13 ~~basic residential telecommunications service, as~~
14 ~~defined by the commission;~~
- 15 (2) ~~Assist customers located in the areas of the State~~
16 ~~that have high costs of essential telecommunications~~
17 ~~service, low income customers, and customers with~~
18 ~~disabilities, in obtaining and maintaining access to a~~
19 ~~basic set of essential telecommunications services as~~
20 ~~determined by the commission. The commission may~~
21 ~~expand or otherwise modify relevant programs, such as~~
22 ~~the lifeline program under section 269-16.5;~~



1 ~~(3) Ensure that consumers in all communities are provided~~
2 ~~with access, at reasonably comparable rates, to all~~
3 ~~telecommunications services which are used by a~~
4 ~~majority of consumers located in metropolitan areas of~~
5 ~~the State. The commission shall provide for a~~
6 ~~reasonable transition period to support the statewide~~
7 ~~deployment of these advanced telecommunications~~
8 ~~services, including, but not limited to, the use of~~
9 ~~strategic community access points in public facilities~~
10 ~~such as education, library, and health care~~
11 ~~facilities;~~

12 ~~(4) Ensure that consumers are given the information~~
13 ~~necessary to make informed choices among the~~
14 ~~alternative telecommunications carriers and services;~~
15 ~~and~~

16 ~~(5) Promote affordable access throughout the State to~~
17 ~~enhanced government information and services,~~
18 ~~including education, health care, public safety, and~~
19 ~~other government services.~~

20 ~~The commission shall administer the universal service~~
21 ~~program, including the establishment of criteria by which the~~
22 ~~purposes of the program are met."]~~



1 SECTION 48. Section 269-42, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 repealed.

3 [~~"§269-42 Universal service program; contributions. (a)~~
4 ~~There is established outside of the state treasury a special~~
5 ~~fund to be known as the universal service fund to be~~
6 ~~administered by the commission to implement the policies and~~
7 ~~goals of universal service. The fund shall consist of~~
8 ~~contributions from the sources identified in subsections (e) and~~
9 ~~(f). Interest earned from the balance of the fund shall become~~
10 ~~a part of the fund. The commission shall adopt rules regarding~~
11 ~~the distribution of moneys from the fund including~~
12 ~~reimbursements to carriers for providing reduced rates to low-~~
13 ~~income, elderly, residents of underserved or rural areas, or~~
14 ~~other subscribers, as authorized by the commission.~~

15 ~~(b) The commission may allow distribution of funds~~
16 ~~directly to customers based upon a need criteria established by~~
17 ~~the commission.~~

18 ~~(c) A telecommunications carrier or other person~~
19 ~~contributing to the universal service program may establish a~~
20 ~~surcharge which is clearly identified and explained on~~
21 ~~customers' bills to collect from customers contributions~~
22 ~~required under this section.~~



- 1 ~~(d) Telecommunications carriers may compete to provide~~
- 2 ~~services to underserved areas using funds from the universal~~
- 3 ~~service program. For the purposes of this section, "underserved~~
- 4 ~~areas" means those areas in the State that lack or have very~~
- 5 ~~limited access to high capacity, advanced telecommunications~~
- 6 ~~networks and information services, including access to cable~~
- 7 ~~television.~~
- 8 ~~(e) The commission shall require all telecommunications~~
- 9 ~~carriers to contribute to the universal service program. The~~
- 10 ~~commission may require a person other than a telecommunications~~
- 11 ~~carrier to contribute to the universal service program if, after~~
- 12 ~~notice and opportunity for hearing, the commission determines~~
- 13 ~~that the person is offering a commercial service in the State~~
- 14 ~~that directly benefits from the telecommunications~~
- 15 ~~infrastructure, and that directly competes with a~~
- 16 ~~telecommunications service provided in the State for which a~~
- 17 ~~contribution is required under this subsection.~~
- 18 ~~(f) The commission shall designate the method by which the~~
- 19 ~~contributions under subsection (e) shall be calculated and~~
- 20 ~~collected. The commission shall consider basing contributions~~
- 21 ~~solely on the gross operating revenues from the retail provision~~



1 ~~of intrastate telecommunications services offered by the~~
2 ~~telecommunications carriers subject to the contribution."]~~

3 SECTION 49. Section 269-43, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 repealed.

5 [~~§269-43~~] ~~Carriers of last resort.~~ (a) ~~The commission~~
6 ~~may define and designate local exchange service areas where the~~
7 ~~commission has determined that providing universal service funds~~
8 ~~to a single provider will be the most appropriate way to ensure~~
9 ~~service for these areas.~~

10 (b) ~~The commission shall determine the level of service~~
11 ~~that is appropriate for each designated local exchange service~~
12 ~~area and shall invite telecommunications providers to bid for a~~
13 ~~level of service that is appropriate. The successful bidder~~
14 ~~shall be designated the carrier of last resort for the~~
15 ~~designated local exchange service area for a period of time and~~
16 ~~upon conditions set by the commission. In determining the~~
17 ~~successful bidder, the commission shall take into consideration~~
18 ~~the level of service to be provided, the investment commitment,~~
19 ~~and the length of the agreement, in addition to the other~~
20 ~~qualifications of the bidder.~~



1 necessary for fiscal year 2010-2011 for purposes of this Act,
2 including the hiring of staff.

3 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the Hawaii
4 communications commission.

5 SECTION 54. All rules, policies, procedures, orders,
6 certificates of public convenience and necessity, franchises,
7 guidelines, and other material adopted, issued, or developed by
8 the department of commerce and consumer affairs and the public
9 utilities commission to implement provisions of the Hawaii
10 Revised Statutes that are reenacted or made applicable to the
11 Hawaii communications commission by this Act, shall remain in
12 full force and effect until amended or repealed by the Hawaii
13 communications commissioner. In the interim, every reference to
14 the department of commerce and consumer affairs, director of
15 commerce and consumer affairs, public utilities commission, or
16 chairperson of the public utilities commission in those rules,
17 policies, procedures, orders, franchises, guidelines, and other
18 material is amended to refer to the Hawaii communications
19 commission as appropriate.

20 SECTION 55. All deeds, leases, contracts, loans,
21 agreements, permits, or other documents executed or entered into
22 by or on behalf of the department of commerce and consumer



1 affairs and the public utilities commission pursuant to the
2 provisions of the Hawaii Revised Statutes that are reenacted or
3 made applicable to the Hawaii communications commission by this
4 Act, shall remain in full force and effect. Effective upon
5 approval of this Act, every reference to the department of
6 commerce and consumer affairs, director of commerce and consumer
7 affairs, public utilities commission, or chairperson of the
8 public utilities commission therein shall be construed as a
9 reference to the Hawaii communications commission as
10 appropriate.

11 SECTION 56. All appropriations, records, equipment,
12 machines, files, supplies, contracts, books, papers, documents,
13 maps, and other personal property heretofore made, used,
14 acquired, or held by the department of commerce and consumer
15 affairs and the public utilities commission relating to the
16 functions transferred to the Hawaii communications commission
17 shall be transferred with the functions to which they relate.

18 SECTION 57. (a) The department of commerce and consumer
19 affairs shall transfer four positions to the service of the
20 Hawaii communications commission. The positions selected for
21 transfer shall reasonably relate to the functions of the Hawaii
22 communications commission.



1 (b) Up to an additional ten general funded positions shall
2 be transferred to the Hawaii communications commission to be
3 funded from the Hawaii communications commission special fund.

4 (c) All officers and employees whose functions are
5 transferred by this Act shall be transferred with their
6 functions and shall continue to perform their regular duties
7 upon their transfer, subject to the state personnel laws and
8 this Act.

9 No officer or employee of the State having tenure shall
10 suffer any loss of salary, seniority, prior service credit,
11 vacation, sick leave, or other employee benefit or privilege as
12 a consequence of this Act, and such officer or employee may be
13 transferred or appointed to a civil service position without the
14 necessity of examination; provided that the officer or employee
15 possesses the minimum qualifications for the position to which
16 transferred or appointed; and provided that subsequent changes
17 in status may be made pursuant to applicable civil service and
18 compensation laws.

19 An officer or employee of the State who does not have
20 tenure and who may be transferred or appointed to a civil
21 service position as a consequence of this Act shall become a
22 civil service employee without the loss of salary, seniority,



1 prior service credit, vacation, sick leave, or other employee
2 benefits or privileges and without the necessity of examination;
3 provided that such officer or employee possesses the minimum
4 qualifications for the position to which transferred or
5 appointed.

6 If an office or position held by an officer or employee
7 having tenure is abolished, the officer or employee shall not
8 thereby be separated from public employment, but shall remain in
9 the employment of the State with the same pay and classification
10 and shall be transferred to some other office or position for
11 which the officer or employee is eligible under the personnel
12 laws of the State as determined by the head of the department or
13 the governor.

14 SECTION 58. The Hawaii communications commission shall
15 convene a work group to develop procedures for streamlined
16 regulatory, franchising, and permitting functions normally
17 available to state and local governments for the use or
18 development of broadband service or broadband technology.

19 Members of the work group shall include:

- 20 (1) The Hawaii communications commissioner;
- 21 (2) The mayor of the county of Hawaii, or the mayor's
22 designee;



- 1 (3) The mayor of the city and county of Honolulu, or the
2 mayor's designee;
- 3 (4) The mayor of the county of Kauai, or the mayor's
4 designee;
- 5 (5) The mayor of the county of Maui, or the mayor's
6 designee;
- 7 (6) The chairperson of the Hawaii broadband task force
8 established by Act 2, First Special Session Laws of
9 Hawaii 2007; and
- 10 (7) Five representatives of the telecommunications, cable,
11 wireless internet, and non-profit industries.

12 SECTION 59. The work group established under section 58
13 shall submit to the legislature no later than January 1, 2010, a
14 report with its recommended procedures for streamlining and
15 expediting all regulatory, franchising, and permitting functions
16 normally available to state and local governments for the use or
17 development of broadband service or broadband technology. The
18 procedures shall be consistent across all counties and shall
19 provide that any permitting fees and revenues traditionally
20 accruing to the counties that relate to the use or development
21 of broadband service or broadband technology will continue to
22 accrue to the counties once the procedures go into effect. The



1 Hawaii communications commission shall begin to implement the
2 recommendations of the working group not later than July 1,
3 2010.

4 SECTION 60. The Hawaii communications commission shall
5 review all relevant laws in the Hawaii Revised Statutes relating
6 to broadband technology, telecommunications, infrastructure
7 development, permitting requirements, and any other issues the
8 Hawaii communications commission deems appropriate, including
9 all acts passed by the legislature during this regular session
10 of 2009, whether enacted before or after the effective date of
11 this Act, unless such acts specifically provide that this Act is
12 being amended, and make recommendations on how these laws may be
13 amended to conform to this Act or facilitate the implementation
14 of this Act. The Hawaii communications commission shall submit
15 a report of its findings and recommendations, including proposed
16 legislation, to the legislature not later than twenty days prior
17 to the convening of the 2010 regular session.

18 SECTION 61. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
19 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

20 SECTION 62. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020;
21 provided that:



- 1 (1) Any decision or order executed by the public utilities
2 commission prior to this Act taking effect shall
3 remain in full force and effect until such time as the
4 Hawaii communications commission may amend or repeal
5 the decision or order under the Hawaii communications
6 commission's jurisdiction;
- 7 (2) Provisions relating to the regulation of
8 telecommunications carriers and telecommunications
9 common carriers by the Hawaii communications
10 commission contained in part II of the new chapter
11 created in section 2 of this Act, and part III of this
12 Act shall take effect on July 1, 2010; and
- 13 (3) The amendments made to section 28-8.3, Hawaii Revised
14 Statutes, in section 4 of this Act shall not be
15 repealed when that section is repealed and reenacted
16 by section 14 of Act 58, Session Laws of Hawaii 2004,
17 as amended by section 50 of Act 22, Session Laws of
18 Hawaii 2005, as amended by section 1 of Act 306,
19 Session Laws of Hawaii 2006.



Report Title:

Hawaii Communications Commission; Broadband Regulation;
Broadband Franchising; Broadband Permitting

Description:

Implements key recommendations of the Hawaii Broadband Task Force by establishing the Hawaii Communications Commission (HCC) and the Hawaii Communications Commissioner in the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA). Transfers functions relating to telecommunications from the Public Utilities Commission to HCC and to cable services from DCCA to HCC. Establishes a work group to develop procedures to streamline state and county broadband regulation, franchising, and permitting and report to the Legislature. (HB984 HD4)

