

Media Council Hawaii is submitting this testimony in full support of Senate Bill 2235 Relating to Communications Technology.

Included our organizational mission, is the promotion of accurate journalism that listens to community voices. We value diversity in the marketplace of ideas. The internet is an amazing resource for sharing information and opinions across the globe or just in between islands. This testimony, for instance, was submitted through an online portal. The direct public benefit is self-evident.

Today, the internet has become an essential utility for business, education and individual communications. This fact and more are written into this bill. The Hawaii broadband task force has recognized the necessity of improving web infrastructure in our state unequivocally. By incorporating their recommendations into the Hawaii state plan, ideas can become action items and steps to attaining web connectivity goals, no matter how ambitious.

Media Council Hawaii encourages the public to support the improvement of Hawaii's broadband infrastructure, and for our State Senators to pass this bill.