

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **1514**

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 10 2015

RE: H.B. No. 1282  
H.D. 1  
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2015  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 1282, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BROADBAND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate moneys to establish a laser optical communications ground station in the State in partnership with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Cable Television Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Pacific International Space Center for Exploration Systems; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration has begun to develop innovative technology to support laser optical communications to replace radio frequency between spacecraft and Earth. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration's detailed statistical analysis of weather patterns determined that Hawaii is the best location for the first operational laser communications station, which is scheduled to be established in approximately 2020. Your Committee believes that



this station will provide multiple opportunities for high-technology jobs in the State and substantial improvements in broadband and optical fiber infrastructure. Your Committee further finds that transmitting data through laser rather than radio frequency aligns with the State's interests in broadband communications technologies.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1282, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Ways and Means,



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JILL N. TOKUDA, Chair



The Senate  
Twenty-Eighth Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Ways and Means**  
**WAM**

Bill / Resolution No.:	Committee Referral:	Date:		
HB1282 HD/SD	RSM/EDT, WAM	4-8-15		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
TOKUDA, Jill N. (C)	✓			
KOUCHI, Ronald D. (VC)	✓			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	✓			
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M.	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	✓			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood				✓
HARIMOTO, Breene	✓			
INOUE, Lorraine R.	✓			
RIVIERE, Gil	✓			
RUDERMAN, Russell E.	✓			
SLOM, Sam	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	10	0	0	1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">Neil D. Hill</div>				
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\*Only one measure per Record of Votes