
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO BROADBAND ACCESS AVAILABILITY IN RESORT AREAS.

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

1 SECTION 1. (a) The department of business, economic
2 development, and tourism shall convene a working group to create
3 a master plan to provide universal high speed broadband access
4 throughout Waikiki and other resort areas in the State, such as
5 Kaanapali, Maui; Kohala, Hawaii; and Hanalei, Kauai.

6 (b) Pursuant to section 26-34, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
7 the governor shall appoint to the working group:

8 (1) One representative from the department of business,
9 economic development, and tourism;

10 (2) One representative from the Hawaii tourism authority;

11 (3) One representative from the cable television division
12 of the department of commerce and consumer affairs;

13 (4) One representative from the Hawaii state association
14 of counties;

15 (5) One representative from a nonprofit organization that
16 represents the interests of the Hawaii hotel industry;



H.B. NO. 724

1 (6) Two representatives of federal and state government
2 entities having a role in infrastructure deployment;
3 management of public rights-of-way, regulation, and
4 franchising; information technology; and economic
5 development; and

6 (7) Two representatives of Hawaii's private sector
7 technology, telecommunications, and investment
8 industries.

9 (c) The representative from the department of business,
10 economic development, and tourism shall serve as the chairperson
11 of the task force.

12 (d) The department of business, economic development, and
13 tourism shall assist the working group in drafting the master
14 plan.

15 (e) Task force members shall serve without compensation
16 but shall be reimbursed for all necessary expenses, including
17 travel, express that is incurred in the performance of their
18 duties as members of the task force.

19 (f) The working group convened pursuant to this Act shall
20 cease to exist on June 30, 2016.



H.B. NO. 724

1 SECTION 2. The working group shall submit the master plan,
 2 including any proposed legislation, such as appropriation
 3 requests, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to
 4 the convening of the regular session of 2016.

5 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.

6

INTRODUCED BY:

[Signature]
Cindy Evans
[Signature]
Roy M. Latta
Nicole E. Lamm
Tom Bann
[Signature]

JAN 23 2015



H.B. NO. 724

Report Title:

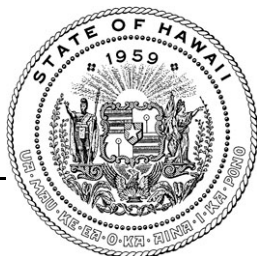
Task Force; Broadband Availability

Description:

Establishes a task force to create a master plan for the availability of universal high speed broadband access in Waikiki and other resort areas.

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





**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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GOVERNOR

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Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEES ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS
AND TOURISM**

Friday, February 13, 2015
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

in consideration of
HB 724
RELATING TO BROADBAND ACCESS AVAILABILITY IN RESORT AREAS.

Chairs Kawakami and Brower, Vice Chairs Kong and Ohno, and Members of the Committees.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) supports the intent of HB 724. This bill would establish a working group to create a master plan to provide universal high-speed broadband access in Waikiki and other resort areas throughout Hawaii.

DBEDT agrees that broadband access will help Hawaii's resort areas become more competitive globally. However, DBEDT currently lacks the staff capacity to convene an eighteen member working group and assist in drafting the master plan.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.



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ADMINISTRATOR

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEES ON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS
AND
TOURISM

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2015

Date: Friday, February 13, 2015
Time: 9:00 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON H.B. NO. 724 – RELATING TO BROADBAND ACCESS
AVAILABILITY IN RESORT AREAS.

TO THE HONORABLE DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI AND TOM BROWER, CHAIRS, AND
MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEES:

My name is Ji Sook “Lisa” Kim, and I am the Acting Cable Television Administrator at the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (the “Department”). The Department appreciates the opportunity to express **support for the intent** of H.B. No. 724, which convenes a working group to create a master plan to provide universal high speed broadband access throughout Waikiki and other resort areas in the State.

The Department recognizes the significant interest the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (“DBEDT”) has in supporting broadband access in resort areas, including the Waikiki area. However, the Department respectfully requests that the Committees consider whether the existing Broadband Assistance Advisory Council (“BAAC”) can instead be used to provide assistance on this issue.

Given the BAAC’s experience in this area and the diverse range of interests of both government and private organizations that are represented by its membership, the Department believes that the BAAC has the requisite breadth to provide insight and guidance on the availability of high speed broadband access in the resort areas of the

State, and on the planning needed for identified gaps in service. Also, the Department requests that the Committees consider whether a resolution requesting the BAAC to take up planning considerations for Waikiki and other resort areas in the State would be an effective alternative means of providing the BAAC with legislative guidance on this matter. The Department would appreciate the opportunity to continue to work with the Committees in developing such legislation, should the Committees determine that a resolution is a preferred alternative to this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

Written Statement of
ROBBIE MELTON
Executive Director & CEO
High Technology Development Corporation
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEES ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS
AND
TOURISM

Friday, February 13, 2015
9:00 a.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 312
In consideration of

HB724 RELATING TO BROADBAND ACCESS AVAILABILITY IN RESORT AREAS.

Chairs Kawakami and Brower, Vice Chairs Kong and Ohno, and Members of the Committees on Economic Development & Business and Tourism.

The High Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) offers **comments** on HB724 relating to establishing a task force to create a master plan for the availability of universal high speed broadband access in Waikiki and other resort areas.

HTDC supports initiatives aimed at improving the infrastructure for ubiquitous high speed broadband throughout the state. Affordable access to broadband is a key component in improving Hawaii's reputation as a place for innovation and a place to do business. HTDC comments that a sustainable plan should be driven by the private sector and the communities with collaboration from the public sector.

HTDC defers to the appropriate Departments regarding the cost, administration, and efficiency of the program.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.