H.R. NO. 44

## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE NEEDS AND COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AUDIO AND VIDEO TECHNOLOGY TO PROVIDE ACCESS FOR ALL STATE RESIDENTS TO TESTIFY IN-PERSON ON LEGISLATION.

1 WHEREAS, legislative rules and practices encourage robust 2 debate provided through testimony from members of the public; 3 and 4 WHEREAS, many important legislative issues may 5 6 disproportionately impact citizens on the neighbor islands; and 7 8 WHEREAS, the constrictive and fast-paced legislative timetable can place a severe financial hardship on neighbor 9 island residents wishing to actively participate in the 10 democratic process; and 11 12 13 WHEREAS, modern audio and video technology and the Internet make it possible for individuals to virtually attend and provide 14 15 testimony in legislative hearings; and 16 17 WHEREAS, the public and its ability to engage lawmakers and participate fully in the democratic process would greatly 18 benefit from safe, stable, and secure Internet-based 19 20 telecommunications access; and 21 22 WHEREAS, there are operational and technical issues that must first be worked through in order to implement such a 23 24 program; now, therefore, 25 26 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session 27 of 2018, that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to 28 conduct a study on the needs and costs associated with the 29 30 implementation of audio and video technology to provide all 31 state residents with the opportunity to provide oral testimony 32 at all legislative hearings; and 33



## H.R. NO. 44

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislative Reference Bureau is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than December 1, 2018; and

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this 7 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Legislative 8 Reference Bureau.

9 10

11

OFFERED BY: Nicle E. Lower

MAR - 2 2018

