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TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2018

Friday, February 9, 2018
2:00 p.m.

TESTIMONY ON H.B. NO. 2449, H.D. 1, RELATING TO BROADBAND ACCESS FOR SENIORS.

TO THE HONORABLE ROY M. TAKUMI, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

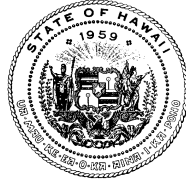
The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (“Department”) appreciates the opportunity to testify on H.B. 2449, H.D. 1, Relating to Broadband Access for Seniors. My name is Ji Sook “Lisa” Kim, and I am the Department’s Cable Television Administrator. The Department supports this bill with the requested amendment below.

This bill requires the Department to conduct a feasibility study on deploying broadband technology at county- and state-run senior centers.

The Department has staff that is able to gather the desired information on existing broadband capacity and the feasibility of deploying broadband technology to county- and state-run senior centers. However, the Department would prefer to work in coordination with an agency with expertise in the field of aging to assist on aspects of the study related to the costs to develop digital literacy programs for seniors, including distance learning, and the identification of federal or private funding sources for senior

programs and facilities. The Department thus requests that the bill be amended to provide for such coordination.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of this bill.



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Testimony COMMENTING on HB2449 HD1
RELATING TO BROADBAND ACCESS FOR SENIORS.

REPRESNATIVE ROY TAKUMI, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE
Hearing Date: February 9, 2018 Room Number: 329

1 **Fiscal Implications:** N/A.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health supports the intent of HB2449 HD1 but
3 defers to the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs for details about feasibility, cost,
4 and implementation.

5 The Department of Health has prioritized telehealth as a strategic goal to improve health care
6 access. A ubiquitous high-speed internet infrastructure is indispensable, as well as a telehealth-
7 ready health care workforce, but it is also important to have a patient population ready to take
8 advantage of this new access. Seniors generally have significant and complex medical
9 complications which may make mobility difficult, and thus telehealth in a senior living facility
10 would be ideal. It stands to reason that seniors who are tech-savvy seem more likely to trust new
11 modalities such as telehealth. A feasibility study that includes input from a health perspective
12 would be valuable to assure the public policy discussion on this issue is well informed.

13 **Offered Amendment:** N/A.

HB-2449-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/8/2018 1:57:37 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/9/2018 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities	Support	No

Comments:

HB-2449-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 2:31:52 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/9/2018 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
pat gegen		Support	No

Comments:

HB-2449-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/7/2018 12:34:01 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/9/2018 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Margaret Maupin		Support	No

Comments: