



DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

MIKE MCCARTNEY  
DIRECTOR

## DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

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Statement of  
**MIKE MCCARTNEY**  
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Wednesday, February 20, 2019  
4:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

In consideration of  
**HB 533, HD2**  
**RELATING TO BROADBAND.**

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and members of the Committee. The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) **Supports** HB533, HD2, which establishes the Hawaii Broadband Office within DBEDT; establishes the position of State Broadband Strategy Office; requires the Director of DBEDT to convene and chair the Broadband Advisory Council; and amends the Council's purpose and membership.

DBEDT recognizes that broadband is important to business and is essential to maintain Hawaii's global competitiveness. Therefore, DBEDT supports the creation of the broadband office and the restructuring of the Broadband Advisory Council to meet the duties set forth in the measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN  
LT. GOVERNOR

**STATE OF HAWAII  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

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CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN  
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs**

**Before the  
House Committee on Finance  
Wednesday, February 20, 2019  
4:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**On the following measure:  
H.B. 533, H.D. 2, RELATING TO BROADBAND**

Chair Luke and Members of the Committee:

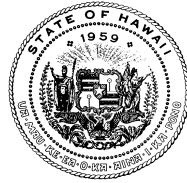
My name is Ji Sook “Lisa” Kim, and I am the Cable Administrator of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs’ (Department) Cable Television Division. The Department supports this bill.

The purposes of this bill are to: (1) establish the Hawaii Broadband Office within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT), including the creation of a state broadband strategy officer position to head the office; (2) rename the Broadband Assistance Advisory Council to the Broadband Advisory Council and amend the council’s membership and duties; and (3) transfer the amended duties of the council to DBEDT.

The Department recognizes the strong relationship between broadband access and economic development, as well as broadband’s importance in fostering education, health, community building, and civic engagement throughout the State. Accordingly, the Department supports the approach taken by this measure to create a central office

solely focused on facilitating the availability of affordable broadband access services through the development of the State strategy and policies, coordination of efforts among public and private broadband stakeholders, and the securing of funding and investment for broadband infrastructure, services, and programs. The Department defers further comment to DBEDT with respect to the overall program scope of the proposed broadband office and its required funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**  
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**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB533 HD2  
RELATING TO BROADBAND.**

REP. SYLVIA LUKE, CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Hearing Date: February 12, 2019

Room Number: 308

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** Unspecified general fund appropriation.
- 2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports the creation of the Hawaii
- 3 Broadband Office and State Broadband Strategy Officer proposed by HB533 SD1.
- 4 A robust broadband infrastructure is essential to assure ubiquitous and high quality access to
- 5 telehealth services, especially in rural or remote areas of the state. Hawaii's health care provider
- 6 shortage continues to worsen, and although telehealth utilization has been increasing over the
- 7 past several years, it is far from being a standard of care.
- 8 Increasing the adoption of telehealth is a strategic priority for the Department of Health, and it
- 9 would benefit greatly from coordination with a dedicated broadband resource.
- 10 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.
- 11

**HB-533-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/19/2019 3:43:00 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/20/2019 4:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments:



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
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**LATE**

**Date:** 02/20/2019  
**Time:** 04:00 PM  
**Location:** 308  
**Committee:** House Finance

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** HB 0533, HD2 RELATING TO BROADBAND.

**Purpose of Bill:** Establishes the Hawaii Broadband Office within DBEDT. Establishes the position of State Broadband Strategy Officer. Requires the Director of DBEDT to convene and chair the Broadband Advisory Council and amends Council purpose and membership. Appropriates funds. (HB533 HD2)

**Department's Position:**

The Department of Education (Department) supports HB533 HD2.

A strategic focus on improving broadband in the state is vital in today's society which leverages and consumes broadband services in greater numbers. This is especially the case in the educational setting, where curriculum, assessment, and learning tools continue to move towards online and digital delivery.

Hawaii's schools and students leverage broadband on a daily basis and use continues to grow annually, especially with the Department's strategic focus on modernization and school design.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

The Hawaii State Department of Education seeks to advance the goals of the Strategic Plan which is focused on student success, staff success, and successful systems of support. This is achieved through targeted work around three impact strategies: school design, student voice, and teacher collaboration. Detailed information is available at [www.hawaiipublicschools.org](http://www.hawaiipublicschools.org).