



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
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JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

**Before the
Senate Committee on Technology
and
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
Friday, March 15, 2019
3:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 414**

**On the following measure:
H.B. 821, H.D. 2, RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

Chair Keohokalole, Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committees:

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 purpose of this bill is to: (1) authorize the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) to enter into a public-private partnership to plan, build, and manage strategic broadband infrastructure, including a cable landing station in Kakaako, and to encourage cloud-based companies to use this infrastructure; (2) exempt the cable landing station to be built from certain state and all county permitting requirements for a period of five years; and (3) appropriate unspecified funds for the cable landing station.

The Department supports public and private efforts to enhance and facilitate the deployment of, and access to, competitively priced broadband services across the

State. A key component to the provision of broadband in the State, indeed the lifeline for the State's connectivity to the rest of the world, is transpacific fiber. However, advancements in submarine fiber optic technology now allow transpacific crossings to bypass the State. For this reason, and because of the expected exponential growth in demand for broadband capacity by consumers and businesses in the State, as well as the potential for the development and attraction of new businesses that rely on high capacity connection, the State has taken active steps to encourage new transpacific fiber system landings in Hawaii. This includes DBEDT's current transpacific fiber optic cable landing station project in Kakaako.

The Department thus strongly supports this bill as an important next step, by providing the necessary funding to allow DBEDT to enter into a public-private partnership to plan, build, and manage the planned cable landing station. This cable landing station would be immensely valuable to Hawaii because it would strongly encourage more cable landings. More cable landings would mean increased bandwidth capacity to meet the growing demand by consumers and to encourage and support growing technology and telecommunications industries in the State. Further, it would create competition, which could translate into lower pricing for backhaul services and lower broadband service prices for consumers.

The Department defers to DBEDT on the specific provisions of the bill and to the appropriate State and county agencies regarding the provisions providing exemptions from permitting and approval requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



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
SENATE COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY
AND
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Friday, March 15, 2019
3:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

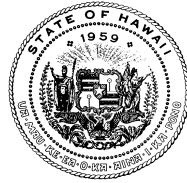
In consideration of
HB 821, HD2
RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

Chairs Keohokalole and Wakai, Vice Chairs English and Taniguchi and members of the Committee. The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) **strongly supports** HB821, HD2, which authorizes the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to enter into a public-private partnership to plan, build, and manage key strategic broadband infrastructure that benefits the State, including a cable landing station in Kakaako, on the island of Oahu.

As recommended by the Broadband Task Force, this bill recognizes the importance of the construction of an open access, carrier neutral cable landing station to attract transpacific fiber optic cables to Hawaii to develop the State into a strategic communications and knowledge hub for the Pacific region.

DBEDT appreciates the intent of providing the project with exemptions from State and County permitting requirements. However, we note that the project can be completed without exemptions as long as sufficient funding is appropriated as requested in the Executive Budget Request.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB821 HD2
RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS.**

**WRITTEN
TESTIMONY
ONLY**

SENATOR GLENN WAKAI, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

SENATOR JARRETT KEOHOKALOLE, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY

Hearing Date: March 15, 2019

Room Number: 330

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

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) supports the authority for the
3 Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to enter into a public-private
4 partnership to plan, build, and manage key strategic broadband infrastructure that benefits the
5 State, including a cable landing station in Kakaako, on the island of Oahu. As recommended by
6 the Broadband Task Force, this bill recognized the importance of the construction of an open
7 access, carrier neutral cable landing station to attract transpacific fiber optic cables to Hawaii to
8 develop the State into a strategic communications and knowledge hub for the Pacific region.

9 Telehealth is a strategic priority for DOH and a cost-effective and high-quality means of bringing
10 health care access to underserved areas. However, since several areas of the State lack robust
11 broadband connectivity, adoption is stymied.

12 **Offered Amendments:** N/A.

13



Written Statement of
Len Higashi
Acting Executive Director
Hawaii Technology Development Corporation
before the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
and the
Senate Committee on Technology
Friday, March 15, 2019
3:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

In consideration of
HB821, HD2
RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS.

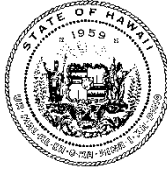
Chairs Wakai and Keohokalole, Vice Chairs Taniguchi and English, and Members of the
Committees,

The Hawaii Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) **supports** HB821, HD2 that authorizes the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to enter into a public-private partnership to plan, build, and manage key strategic broadband infrastructure that benefits the State, including a cable landing station in Kakaako, on the island of Oahu, encourage cloud-based companies to take advantage of this infrastructure, exempts the station from certain State and county permitting and land use laws, and appropriates funds.

As part of HTDC's vision to create 80,000 new innovation jobs in Hawaii earning \$80,000 or more by 2030, HTDC supports initiatives aimed at promoting technology and innovation jobs. HTDC is nearing completion for the construction phase of the Entrepreneurs Sandbox in Kakaako. The project was built through State, Federal, and private sector funds. In the future, HTDC has plans to build an incubator adjacent to the Entrepreneurs Sandbox. The cable landing station will be a key asset for both facilities and help create the critical mass required for innovation to flourish.

HTDC defers to DBEDT on the technical aspects of this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



SARAH ALLEN
ADMINISTRATOR
BONNIE KAHAKUI
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE**

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TESTIMONY
OF
SARAH ALLEN, ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
AND
TECHNOLOGY

March 15, 2019, 3:30 P.M.

HB821, HD2
RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Chairs Wakai and Keohokalole, Vice Chairs Taniguchi and English, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB821, HD2. The State Procurement Office (SPO) supports the intent of the bill and offers the following comments:

Bill Verbiage - Section2(b), Page 6, Lines 6-9 states:

“(b) The partnership shall develop internal policies and procedures for the procurement of goods, services, and construction that are consistent with the goals of public accountability and public procurement.”

Concern: It is not appropriate for private entities on contract with the State to be involved in determining internal procurement policies and procedures for government agencies.

Current Law: The Hawaii Public Procurement Code (Code) and associated Hawaii Administrative Rules already provides guidance on procurement policies and procedures. In addition, House Bill HB889, HD1, supported by many of the same legislators, is recommending incorporating Public Private Partnership (P3) language within the Code as well as requiring a Task Force, with members at the highest level, to determine procedures for P3s.

Recommendation:

- (a) SPO recommends deleting this paragraph in its entirety.
- (b) Alternatively, SPO recommends adjusting the verbiage to read as follows:

(b) The partnership shall develop internal policies and procedures for the procurement of ~~goods, services, and construction~~ broadband infrastructure that are in alignment with the Hawaii State Procurement Code HRS 103D, and its associated Rules, consistent with the goals of public accountability and public procurement.

The SPO has been participating in procurement strategy with the DBEDT Leadership and Broadband Director on this P3 for over a year and is well informed on this cable-landing requirement as well as the large systemic system that should be considered to enable faster and cheaper internet access to the Hawaiian Islands.

Thank you.



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Technology
and

Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism
Friday, March 15, 2019 at 3:30 p.m.

By

Garret T. Yoshimi, Vice President for Information Technology/Chief Information Officer
University of Hawai'i System

HB 821 HD2 – RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Chairs Keohokalole and Wakai, Vice Chairs English and Taniguchi, and members of the committees:

The University of Hawai'i strongly supports HB 821 HD2 which authorizes the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to enter into a public-private partnership to plan, build, and manage key strategic broadband infrastructure that benefits the State, including a cable landing station in Kaka'ako, on the island of O'ahu. This bill recognizes the critical importance of the construction of an open access, carrier neutral cable landing station, together with support for convenient interconnection with terrestrial fiber networks to enable the efficient exchange of traffic with other submarine cable systems and local terrestrial networks, to attract transpacific fiber optic cables to Hawai'i. The resulting outcomes will help to ensure Hawai'i's future viability in the global economy, and provide the critical telecommunications infrastructure to keep our community from being isolated from the rest of the world on the wrong side of the digital divide.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on HB 821 HD2.



HB821 HD2
RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
Senate Committee on Technology

March 15, 2019

3:30 p.m.

Room 414

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) Committee on Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment will recommend that the Board of Trustees **OPPOSE** HB821 HD2, which would allow for blanket exemptions from Chapters 343, 205A, and 171 of Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), as well as all county permitting requirements, for the development of a fiber-optic landing station in Kaka'ako. **The broad exemptions proposed in this measure would not meaningfully facilitate the construction of a contemplated landing site in Kaka'ako; moreover, these exemptions would subvert laws and processes that help to protect natural and cultural resources from avoidable and unnecessary impacts, and provide critical opportunities for stakeholders and the general public to provide valuable input in project planning and implementation.**

First, OHA notes that the Chapter 343 environmental review process is critically important to sound project planning that can avoid or mitigate unnecessary impacts to our state's natural and cultural resources; an exemption from the environmental review process for the Kaka'ako landing station would accordingly inhibit the transparent consideration of a potentially vast range of avoidable impacts that may be associated with a landing station, and would set a dangerous precedent for any future high-priority telecommunications projects. The environmental review process embodied in Chapter 343 plays a vital role in the preservation of Hawai'i's limited natural and cultural resources. It provides a critical opportunity for stakeholders, government agencies, the Native Hawaiian community, and the general public to provide valuable insights into possible social, environmental, and cultural impacts of agency and applicant actions, and ensures that agencies explicitly consider these impacts as they make planning decisions. This environmental review process demonstrates our state's well-founded desire for careful, responsible planning that reflects the highly limited and often fragile nature of our islands' resources. Notably, an environmental review of a proposed landing station would include a review of the impacts of associated activities, such as ground disturbing activities as well as the placement and installation of undersea cable lines upon or through potentially sensitive nearshore habitat. Therefore, a wholesale exemption from the environmental review process for the proposed landing station could result in a vast range of irreparable and potentially avoidable harm to natural and cultural resources. Such an exemption may also set a dangerous precedent for other similar projects in the future, severely undermining the integrity of our environmental policy and laws on a broader scale.

OHA notes that an environmental review exemption may also not necessarily expedite or otherwise meaningfully facilitate the construction of the contemplated Kaka‘ako landing station; in fact, the only other fiber-optic landing station in Hawai‘i, the Hawaiki Kapolei landing station, successfully complied with environmental review requirements and was built in only a few years. Accordingly, the Chapter 343 exemption in this measure may significantly compromise our state’s fundamental environmental review laws and the natural and cultural resources they are intended to protect, with little added “benefit” to the development of the proposed landing station.

Second, Chapter 205A’s procedural protections for the special management area are also designed to ensure sound project planning and development that can avoid permanent losses of valuable resources and help to ensure access to public beaches, recreation areas, and natural reserves; an exemption from this process for the proposed Kaka‘ako landing site could allow harmful impacts and impede access to the marine environment, disallow public input on the same, and set a dangerous precedent for similar future projects. Similar to the Chapter 343 exemption, an exemption of the proposed fiber-optic landing site from Chapter 205A’s permitting processes would exclude the public and stakeholders from providing important information about possible impacts to the marine resources and public use of the nearshore area within and adjacent to the selected landing site. An exemption would also eliminate a critical opportunity to substantively ensure that project planning minimizes or avoids such impacts. Although there is currently a Chapter 205A exemption for underground utilities, the proposed fiber-optic landing site’s relatively ambiguous scope could also allow much more extensive construction to escape Chapter 205A’s protections, including buildings, security infrastructure, and other necessary operational structures that may result in substantially greater impacts than an underground utility line.¹ More generally, allowing a Chapter 205A exemption would also set a precedent leading to the exemption of other similar projects that may collectively and significantly compromise the environmental and cultural integrity and public use of our ever more limited shoreline areas. Again, an exemption of this nature also would not necessarily “benefit” the development of the proposed Kaka‘ako landing site, as the aforementioned Hawaiki Kapolei landing station expediently completed the Chapter 205A special management area permitting and setback variance processes without significant delay.

Third, HB821 HD2’s proposed exemption from Chapter 171 would unnecessarily undermine the public’s and Native Hawaiian community’s interests in the selected Kaka‘ako fiber-optic landing site. Chapter 171 establishes transparent and accountable processes and safeguards for the disposition of public lands, which protect the interests of Native Hawaiians as well as the general public in our public land base, including “ceded” and public land trust lands. For example, Chapter 171’s appraisal procedures seek to ensure a commensurate return to the state from private entities who benefit from public lands and resources; its legislative approval requirements for the sale, gift, or exchange of

¹ See Tetra Tech, Inc., Hawaiki Submarine Cable Kapolei Landing Final Environmental Assessment, 1-13 (2017), available at http://oeqc2.doh.hawaii.gov/EA_EIS_Library/2017-05-23-OA-FEA-Hawaiki-Submarine-Cable-Kapolei-Landing.pdf. The proposed Kapolei landing station site plan included a 3,850 square foot building, a separate sound-dampened generator room, and a parking area.

public lands (HRS 171-64.7) also provide a level of accountability and transparency in any proposal to permanently alienate public lands, including “ceded” lands to which Native Hawaiians have never relinquished their claims. An exemption from these and other requirements would potentially compromise the interests of both Native Hawaiians and the general public in public lands used or affected by the Kaka’ako landing site, and again set a dangerous precedent for future similar projects. Notably, Chapter 171 includes numerous provisions that could provide specific accommodations for the contemplated landing site project depending upon the site selected and the entities tasked with carrying out the project, without a wholesale exemption from all of the Chapter’s provisions in their entirety.

Lastly, the proposed exemption from all county permitting relating to land use, zoning, infrastructure, and permitting raises grave concerns regarding county-level regulations and processes that directly and indirectly protect natural and cultural resources and sites, including permitting processes that effectuate Chapter 6E’s state historic preservation review laws. Notably, county permitting requirements may include infrastructure considerations as well as public review and comment requirements that minimize risks to natural and cultural resources, and help to minimize impacts to the public interest in public areas, including safe public shoreline access and use. As part of their permitting processes, counties also send any proposed projects that might impact historic and cultural resources, such as iwi kupuna, to the State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD) for review and compliance with Chapter 6E. This mechanism of automatic administrative review is critical to effectuating the laws that protect our historic and cultural sites from inappropriate disturbance or even destruction. Allowing the proposed Kaka’ako landing site project to bypass all county permitting processes could result in unintended and avoidable impacts to public lands and the natural and cultural resources they contain, and effectively prevent proper historic preservation review thereby threatening valuable Native Hawaiian cultural and historical resources. Notably, HRS § 27-45 already allows for streamlined permitting processes for broadband-related projects that should sufficiently expedite county procedures for the contemplated Kaka’ako landing station, without a wholesale exemption from county permitting review and authority – as it did for the Hawaiki Kapolei Landing Station. Moreover, the 2012 *Hawaii Broadband Strategic Plan* reaffirmed that such streamlining is preferable to the creation of outright exemptions.

For the above reasons, OHA respectfully requests that the Committees **HOLD** HB821 HD2. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON
TECHNOLOGY
&
ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM**

H.B. 821, HD2

Relating to Telecommunications

Friday, March 15, 2019
3:30 p.m., Agenda Item # 2
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

Mindy E. Hartstein
Director of Pole Infrastructure Enterprise
Hawaiian Electric Companies

Aloha Chair Keohokalole and Chair Wakai, Vice Chair English and Vice Chair Taniguchi,
and Members of the Committees,

My name is Mindy E. Hartstein and I am testifying on behalf of the Hawaiian
Electric Company, Inc., Maui Electric Company, Limited and Hawai'i Electric Light
Company, Inc. (collectively, "the Hawaiian Electric Companies") in support of H.B. 821,
HD2, Relating to Telecommunications.

Facilitating the creation of key strategic broadband infrastructure, including the
construction of an open access, carrier neutral cable landing station used to attract
transpacific fiber optic cables, is critical and necessary in providing sufficient capacity
for the State's ever-increasing broadband demands of the future

The Hawaiian Electric Companies use broadband services to assist with key
renewable and resiliency efforts such as our distributed energy resources opportunities
and in providing innovative grid modernization solutions, as well as serving as a major
infrastructure provider for broadband through the approximately 170,000 distribution
poles and other Company assets used to attach broadband communications equipment.

As an infrastructure owner, the Companies believe the appropriation of funds for the establishment of an open access, carrier neutral cable landing station in support of the Hawaii broadband initiative is paramount for robust connectivity, economic viability, and to create renewable, resilient, and sustainable communities for the future.

Accordingly, Hawaiian Electric Companies support H.B. 821, HD2. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

March 13, 2019

Testimony to the
Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism and the
Committee on Technology

HB821 HD2 Relating to Telecommunications

In 2015, the Economic Development Alliance of Hawaii was tapped by the State of Hawaii to spearhead the most recent Comprehensive Economic Development Strategies (CEDS) process. This process is prescribed by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA). It is a collaborative process engaging numerous stakeholders to articulate an economic roadmap to ensure stable long-term economic vitality for all residents of the state. The CEDS process utilized cluster-based strategies which identified actionable initiatives that nurture economic resilience and growth. Each CEDS is developed for a 5-year period with the goal of promoting economic diversification and long-term stability which benefit all of Hawaii's people

The 2015 CEDS report underscored the expansion of broadband as an essential component and major objective in achieving the state's economic development goals in the Research, Innovation, and Technology Sector.

EDAH supports HB821 HD2 as it represents essential infrastructure in the overall quest for diversifying Hawaii's economy and allowing Hawaii's residents, educational institutions, and businesses to compete in a global economy.

The Economic Development Alliance of Hawaii (EDAH) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. It is comprised of the leaders of the state's four Economic Development Boards, Hawaii Business Roundtable, the University of Hawaii, and the business community. EDAH works with the public and private sectors and community-based organizations and individuals to spur economic growth and sustainability throughout the State of Hawaii. We identify opportunities and challenges in our economy, develop strategies for addressing them, and implementing solutions through the EDBs in conjunction with community partners and relationships.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Unemori Skog



Chair
Economic Development Alliance of Hawaii



Statement of Scott Schwertfager, CEO, Ocean Networks 708 Henley Fields Circle, Johns Creek, GA 30097

Testimony presented before the
Senate Committees on TEC/EET

Friday, March 15, 2019 3:30pm
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

In consideration of

**HB 821 HD2
RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS.**

Chairs Keohokalole and Wakai, Vice Chairs English and Taniguchi; members of the Committees. Ocean Networks parent corporation and builder of the South American Pacific Link system, **Strongly Supports** HB821 HD2 which authorizes the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to enter into a public-private partnership to plan, build, and manage key strategic broadband infrastructure that benefits the State, including a cable landing station in Kakaako, on the island of Oahu.

My name is Scott Schwertfager. I live in Johns Creek, GA and I am the CEO of Ocean Networks, Inc. Ocean Networks is developing a submarine cable system that's planned to connect Oahu, Hawaii to the west coast of South America, Central America and the continental United States (Naples, Florida). The System is called South America Pacific Link or SAPL.

Based on our 25 years of submarine cable experience with the state of Hawaii, we have concerns about landing the SAPL cable system there. There are two main issues: 1) The extended timeframe for obtaining permits 2) The cost of connectivity from a cable landing station to a cross-connect facility (data center). Submarine cable systems typically meet at a neutral data center (such as Oahu's DR Fortress) where different cable systems can cross-connect with each other and then provide connectivity to different parts of the world. Hawaii is an excellent mid-Pacific location for cable systems to cross-connect with each other. However, based on the issues mentioned above, cable systems have been bypassing Hawaii. We are of the opinion that a state-owned carrier neutral cable landing station in conjunction with connectivity to DR Fortress would alleviate the issues of landing submarine cables in Hawaii. In

my opinion, submarine cables are vital for Hawaii's economic growth, they are necessary to attract new business such as large data centers i.e. Federal Government, Amazon, Google, Microsoft, Facebook, Netflix. Cable systems and the proposed neutral cable station is an important infrastructure for Hawaii, they should be viewed as the infrastructure of an airport that is necessary for tourism of Hawaii. They will attract transpacific fiber optic cables and the digital content they carry. This will assist Hawaii to develop into a strategic communications and knowledge hub for the Pacific region.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 821 HD2.



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Melissa Bruhl
SVP Commercial Operations
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808-343-2917

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 821 HD2
Before the Senate Committees on TEC/EET

Aloha Chairs Keohokalole; Wakai Vice Chairs English; Taniguchi and members of the Committee.

RTI supports HB 821 HD2 which requires DBEDT to establish a public-private partnership to plan, build and manage key strategic broadband infrastructure as well as establish an open access, carrier neutral cable landing station. As the largest investor in the SEA-US Cable System segment between Guam-Hawaii-California, RTI is committed to the core principles of neutrality which have led to us becoming the world's largest independent cable owner.

The lack of neutral cost-effective backhaul in Hawaii is the largest impediment to realizing the economic potential derived from local and global connectivity infrastructure investments that is now being realized by others. Embracing a neutral cable landing station and cost-effective backhaul, which will provide neutral connectivity between-and-among existing cable stations, will attract new undersea cables while helping to unlock the economic potential with Hawaii's existing undersea cables.

Overall, the appropriation to support this bill is critical to Hawaii's relevance in the Asia Pacific region to not only align itself with the growth in undersea cable construction but also to help establish Hawaii as a critical hub in the Pacific.

RTI has witnessed firsthand the benefits associated with neutral cable stations and connectivity in the United States, Asia and Australia, and, accordingly, we strongly support passage of HB 821 HD2.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 821 HD2.

HB-821-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2019 8:42:58 PM

Testimony for TEC on 3/15/2019 3:30:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Luella Costales | Testifying for Oahu Economic Development Board | Support | No |

Comments:

HB-821-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 9:02:11 PM

Testimony for TEC on 3/15/2019 3:30:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Omar Sultan | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

HB-821-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2019 12:14:50 AM

Testimony for TEC on 3/15/2019 3:30:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Jacqui Hoover | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

In order to ensure that Hawaii establishes and maintains a sustainable and competitive edge in today's rapid-paced global economy, we must be able to successfully perform fundamental activities including and not limited to, economic development, education, governance, health and well-being, technology and innovation.

To ensure the aforementioned, it is critically important to eliminate the digital divide by creating and implementing policies, processes and the environment necessary to plan, develop, build and deploy vital and foundational broadband infrastructure and leverage broadband to attract investors and collaborators working together efficiently and cohesively to enhance opportunities, quality of life and shared prosperity for and by all in Hawaii.

Mahalo for allowing us to speak in support of HB821 HD2.