

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

773

Honolulu, Hawaii

**MAR 05 2021**

RE: S.B. No. 947  
S.D. 2

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2021  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 947, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO A BROADBAND AND DIGITAL EQUITY OFFICE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish the Hawaii Broadband and Digital Equity Office within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

More specifically, this measure establishes the Hawaii Broadband and Digital Equity Office and requires it to, among other things:

- (1) Develop and implement specific strategies and plans to aggressively increase broadband affordability, penetration, and competitive availability in the State;
- (2) Work closely with and assist the counties to promote coordinated state and county broadband planning; and
- (3) Promote, advocate, and facilitate the implementation of the findings and recommendations of the Hawaii Broadband Task Force established by Act 2, First Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2007.



Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Human Services; AARP Hawaii; Hawaii Primary Care Association; Hawaii Broadband Hui; Transform Hawaii Government; Hawaiian Affairs Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii; and two individuals.

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs submitted written comments on the measure.

Your Committee finds that the establishment of a Hawaii Broadband and Digital Equity Office will help the State work toward ensuring that all individuals and communities have the necessary information technology capacity to fully participate in society, democracy, and the economy.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical nonsubstantive amendments for purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 947, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 947, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Ways and Means,




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DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-First Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Ways and Means**  
**WAM**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
<b>SB 947, SD 1</b>	<b>GVO, WAM</b>	<b>2/26/21</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (VC)	X			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	X			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	X			
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.	X			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.				X
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.	X			
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10</b>			<b>1</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original    Yellow    Pink    Goldenrod File with Committee Report    Clerk's Office    Drafting Agency    Committee File Copy				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes