

JAN 26 2022

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that providing equitable
2 access to the legislative process for nearly 450,000 residents
3 on the neighbor islands is a priority to improving the function
4 of the legislative process at the Capitol. With the rising
5 costs of airfare and lodging, providing designated locations or
6 state offices on neighbor islands where citizens can participate
7 remotely in the legislative process will help reduce the
8 financial burden of traveling to O'ahu. The legislature further
9 finds that providing access for residents to participate in the
10 legislative process is a basic right of citizenship in the State
11 and should continue to be a priority.

12 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to require the
13 office of enterprise technology services to convene a working
14 group to identify state office buildings that may be used to
15 increase access to legislative hearings for neighbor island and
16 rural O'ahu residents, including residents with disabilities.



1 SECTION 2. (a) The office of enterprise technology
2 services shall establish a working group to conduct a study to
3 identify state office buildings that are able to provide
4 equitable telecommunication access to allow residents of the
5 counties of Hawai'i, Kaua'i, and Maui, and residents of rural
6 areas in the city and county of Honolulu, including residents
7 with disabilities, to participate remotely in legislative
8 hearings.

9 (b) Members of the working group shall include, at a
10 minimum, representatives from each county and from the
11 department of accounting and general services, department of
12 education, and University of Hawai'i system, and a person with a
13 communication disability.

14 (c) The working group shall submit a report of its
15 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
16 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
17 to the convening of the regular session of 2023.

18 (d) The working group shall dissolve on June 30, 2023.
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1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2022.

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INTRODUCED BY:

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Report Title:

Office of Enterprise Technology Services; Study; State Office Buildings; Telecommunication; Accessibility; Legislative Hearings

Description:

Requires the Office of Enterprise Technology Services to establish a working group to conduct a study to identify state office buildings that can provide equitable telecommunication access to allow residents of the counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui, and rural areas of the City and County of Honolulu, including residents with disabilities, to participate remotely in legislative hearings. Requires a report to the Legislature. Dissolves the working group on 6/30/2023.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

