

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

375

Honolulu, Hawaii

, 2021

FEB 18

RE: H.B. No. 809

H.D. 2

Honorable Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2021  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, to which  
was referred H.B. No. 809, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BROADBAND,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to improve broadband access  
and infrastructure in the State by:

- (1) Establishing the Hawaii Broadband Office within the  
Hawaii Technology Development Corporation;
- (2) Establishing the position of the State Broadband  
Strategy Officer;
- (3) Renaming the Broadband Assistance Advisory Council as  
the Broadband Advisory Council and amending its purpose  
and membership;
- (4) Requiring the Chief Executive Officer of the Hawaii  
Technology Development Corporation to convene and chair  
the Broadband Advisory Council; and
- (5) Appropriating funds for the creation and staffing of the  
Hawaii Broadband Office.



Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health, Department of Transportation, Hawaii Primary Care Association, and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Business, Economic Development, & Tourism; Hawaii Technology Development Corporation; and Maui Chamber of Commerce.

Your Committee finds that there is a strong relationship between broadband access and economic development, education, health, community building, and civic engagement throughout the State. Furthermore, broadband is essential to maintain Hawaii's global competitiveness and a modern lifestyle, as its use grows in all sectors, particularly in education, retail, and government services. This measure establishes the Hawaii Broadband Office and restructures the Broadband Assistance Advisory Council to improve broadband services throughout the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Specifying that existing members of the Advisory Council will continue to serve the remainder of their terms and requiring that vacancies be filled in a manner consistent with this measure; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 809, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 809, H.D. 2.



Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Consumer  
Protection & Commerce,



AARON LING JOHANSON, Chair



