

Honolulu, Hawaii

, 2021 MAR 25

S.B. No. 947 RE:

> S.D. 2 H.D. 1

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 S.B. No. 947, S.D. 2, entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

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

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Department of Education; Department of Transportation; Department of Human Services; AARP Hawai'i; Hawai'i Primary Care Association; Broadband Hui; Kona-Kohala Chamber of Commerce; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that the coronavirus 2019 pandemic has highlighted the importance of high quality and affordable broadband service access for all of the State's residents. quality broadband service has enabled students to continue learning through distance learning and employees to work from home. However, the lack of high quality broadband service access has detrimentally affected students and workers in rural and low socio-economic urban areas. This measure will establish a Hawaii Broadband and Digital Equity Office to develop and support a coordinated strategy for increased access to further enhance economic development, education, health care, and emergency services.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to January 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments 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 S.B. No. 947, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 947, S.D. 2, H.D. 1.

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



State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Thirty-first Legislature

HSCR 1508

Record of Votes of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Bill/Resolution No.:	Committee Referral: Date:		3/24/21	
SB 947 SD 2				1
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: Pass, unamended (as is) Pass, with amendments (HD) Hold Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
CPC Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. JOHANSON, Aaron Ling (C)				,
2. KITAGAWA, Lisa (VC)				
3. AQUINO, Henry J.C.				
4. HAR, Sharon E.				
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5. HASHEM, Mark J.				
6. KONG, Sam Satoru		Nitrita - 18. 59 Nitrilli - Immere dinaries estance - merce donni Matin		ennanian met sena attimationi malmatasa de-
7. MIZUNO, John M.	\checkmark			
8. MORIKAWA, Dee	✓			
9. ONISHI, Richard H.K.				
10 TADNAS David A	<u> </u>			
10. TARNAS, David A.				
11. MATSUMOTO, Lauren				
Marao Shao a O, Muni VII				
TOTAL (11)	1	0	0	\cup \cup
The recommendation is: Adopted				
If joint referral, did not support recommendation.				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				