

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



ELIZABETH A. CHAR, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
STATE COUNCIL
ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
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1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543
February 10, 2022

The Honorable Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Chair
Senate Committee Government Operations
The Thirty-First Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawai'i
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator Moriwaki and Committee Members:

SUBJECT: SB3212 Relating to Telecommunication

The Hawaii State Council on Developmental Disabilities **SUPPORTS SB3212**, which 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.

We have heard from a number of our intellectual/developmentally disability community members who have struggled in the past to take part in the legislative process because they lived in either a rural area or a neighbor island. Before COVID, it was notoriously difficult to take part in live hearings happening on Oahu. During COVID many of our folks have struggle with poor broadband connection and or lack of adequate technology to take part in live testimony. The Council supports this effort to bridge the gap in our community participation within the legislative process.

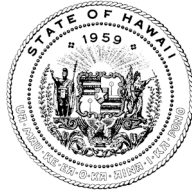
Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **support of SB3212**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daintry Bartoldus".

Daintry Bartoldus
Executive Administrator

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



DOUGLAS MURDOCK
CHIEF INFORMATION
OFFICER

OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

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Written Testimony of
DOUGLAS MURDOCK
Chief Information Officer
Enterprise Technology Services

Before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2022

SENATE BILL 3212
RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATIONS

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the committee:

The Office of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) **supports** the bill, which requires ETS to convene a working group to identify state office buildings that may be used to increase access to legislative hearings for neighbor island and rural Oahu residents, including residents with disabilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



HIPHI Board

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HIPHI Initiatives

Coalition for a
Tobacco-Free Hawai'i

Community Health
Worker Initiative

COVID-19 Response

Hawai'i Drug & Alcohol Free
Coalitions

Hawai'i Farm to School Hui

Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition

Hawai'i Public Health Training Hui

Healthy Eating + Active Living

Kūpuna Food Security Coalition

Date: February 9, 2022

To: Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair
Members of the Committee on Government Operations

Re: Support for SB 3212, Relating to Telecommunication

Hrg: February 10, 2022 at 3:05 PM via videoconference

The Hawai'i Public Health Instituteⁱ (HIPHI) is in **support of SB 3212**, which 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 telecommunications access to allow people to participate remotely in legislative hearings.

The pandemic has greatly increased our reliance on technology and broadband as school, work, healthcare, and the legislature pivoted into the virtual space. While the transition to a virtual legislative session has improved access for some, eliminating the need to travel to the State Capitol, it has also prevented others with limited or no internet access from participating at all, especially in rural and low-income communities.

HIPHI strives to eliminate racism, disparities and injustices to improve the health and wellness of all people. For us, this translates to moving beyond advocating *for* equity, but rather amplifying our work *against* inequity. Civic engagement is key to a healthy democracy, and everyone must be afforded the ability to participate in the legislative process. Identifying sites within state buildings that could allow people to participate remotely in the legislative hearings is a first step to creating a more inclusive and responsive democracy.

For these reasons, HIPHI respectfully requests that the Committee **PASS SB 3212**.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amanda Fernandes'.

Amanda Fernandes, JD
Policy and Advocacy Director

ⁱ Hawai'i Public Health Institute is a hub for building healthy communities, providing issue-based advocacy, education, and technical assistance through partnerships with government, academia, foundations, business, and community-based organizations.