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# HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 2 THROUGH OCTOBER 6, 2023, AS DIGITAL  
INCLUSION WEEK IN THE STATE OF HAWAII.

1           WHEREAS, broadband services are essential infrastructure  
2 for the twenty-first century and play an important role in  
3 providing access to knowledge and opportunities from around the  
4 world; and

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6           WHEREAS, digital equity ensures that all individuals and  
7 communities have the information technology capacity needed for  
8 full participation in society, democracy, and the economy and is  
9 necessary for civic and cultural participation, lifelong  
10 learning, and access to essential services, such as  
11 telemedicine, distance learning, and the workplace; and

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13           WHEREAS, the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic heightened  
14 the demand for reliable, affordable internet connectivity as  
15 work, education, and access to essential services have shifted  
16 online; and

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18           WHEREAS, broadband access, where available, has helped to  
19 deliver public health information to vulnerable Hawaii residents  
20 who experience socioeconomic disparities and those who live in  
21 underserved and unserved communities; and

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23           WHEREAS, many rural, agricultural, and lower-income  
24 communities throughout the State lack access to reliable and  
25 affordable broadband due to the lack of infrastructure;  
26 discrimination in investment in delivering technology and  
27 technology-related services to specific areas or populations; or  
28 barriers derived from socioeconomic status, education, literacy,  
29 language, or disabilities; and

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31           WHEREAS, the State is committed to promoting digital  
32 inclusion to ensure that all individuals and communities,  
33 including the most remote and disadvantaged, have access to



1 information and communication technologies, including  
2 affordable, robust broadband internet service; internet-enabled  
3 devices that meet the needs of the user; access to digital  
4 literacy training; quality technical support; and applications  
5 and online content designed to enable and encourage self-  
6 sufficiency, participation, and collaboration; and  
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8 WHEREAS, to raise awareness of the need for digital equity  
9 and to promote digital inclusion, Senate Concurrent Resolution  
10 No. 25, S.D. 1, Regular Session of 2022, recognized October 3  
11 through October 7, 2022, as Digital Inclusion Week in the State;  
12 and  
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14 WHEREAS, Digital Inclusion Week is spearheaded by the  
15 National Digital Inclusion Alliance, which represents affiliated  
16 organizations working toward digital equity by crafting,  
17 identifying, and disseminating financial and operational  
18 resources for digital inclusion programs to raise awareness of  
19 solutions addressing home internet access, personal devices, and  
20 local technology training and support programs; now, therefore,  
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22 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
23 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
24 Session of 2023, that October 2 through October 6, 2023, is  
25 recognized as Digital Inclusion Week in the State to raise  
26 awareness of the need for digital equity and to promote digital  
27 inclusion; and  
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
30 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor; Director of Business,  
31 Economic Development, and Tourism; Strategic Broadband  
32 Coordinator of the Hawaii Broadband and Digital Equity Office;  
33 Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu; Mayor of the County of  
34 Maui; Mayor of the County of Kauai; and Mayor of the County of  
35 Hawaii.

