

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 08 2023

RE: S.B. No. 829
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2023
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism,
to which was referred S.B. No. 829 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BROADBAND,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate
state general funds to qualify for matching federal funds for
state broadband initiatives.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Office of the Lieutenant Governor; Department of Budget
and Finance; Department of Business, Economic Development, and
Tourism; University of Hawai'i System; Department of Research and
Development of the County of Hawaii; Hawai'i Primary Care
Association; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that equitable access to high-speed
broadband internet is an essential need for the State and is not
only important for remote-learning and remote-work, but telehealth
services, business activities, and for Hawaii to stay connected to
the world. Significant federal funding is available to support
state broadband initiatives, however, some of these programs
require matching funds from the State or other non-federal
partners. Your Committee believes that maximizing access to
federal funding is critical to addressing the problem of broadband
accessibility. This measure will increase high-speed broadband

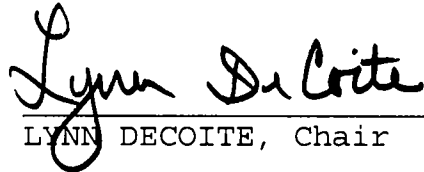


access in the State by appropriating state general funds to qualify for matching federal funds for state broadband initiatives.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purpose of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 829, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 829, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Energy, Economic
Development, and Tourism,


LYNN DECOITE, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Second Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
EET

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 829	Committee Referral: EET, WAM	Date: 2/2/23		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
DECOITE, Lynn (C)	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn (VC)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol	✓			
KIM, Donna Mercado	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	5	0	0	0
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes