
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO BROADBAND.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 PART I

2 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that equitable access to
3 high-speed broadband internet is a pressing challenge for the
4 State. The legislature further finds that there is a
5 significant amount of federal funds available to support state
6 broadband initiatives and that some of these programs require
7 matching funds from the State or other non-federal partners.
8 The legislature also finds that the composition of the working
9 group established pursuant to Act 231, Session Laws of Hawaii
10 2022, should be amended to facilitate its purpose in determining
11 the appropriate governance structure to implement, operate, and
12 maintain broadband infrastructure development in the State.

13 The purpose of this Act is to:

14 (1) Provide the matching funds required to receive federal
15 funds for state broadband initiatives; and



1 (2) Require the office of the lieutenant governor to
2 convene and chair the working group established
3 pursuant to Act 231, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022.

4 PART II

5 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$33,000,000 or so
7 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 to
8 provide required matching funds for the Broadband Equity,
9 Access, and Deployment Program.

10 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
11 budget and finance for the purposes of this Act; provided that
12 the moneys appropriated by this section shall not lapse at the
13 end of the fiscal year for which the appropriation is made;
14 provided further that all moneys from the appropriation
15 unencumbered as of June 30, 2026, shall lapse as of that date.

16 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the funds received
17 by the State of Hawaii from the Infrastructure Investment and
18 Jobs Act (IIJA), the sum of \$95,000,000, or so much thereof as
19 may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 for the Broadband
20 Equity, Access, and Deployment Program.



1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
2 budget and finance for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
5 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and
6 \$ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
7 year 2024-2025 for additional matching fund requirements for
8 federal fund programs related to broadband.

9 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
10 of budget and finance for the purposes of this Act; provided
11 that the moneys appropriated by this section shall not lapse at
12 the end of the fiscal year for which the appropriation is made;
13 provided further that all moneys from the appropriation
14 unencumbered as of June 30, 2026, shall lapse as of that date.

15 PART III

16 SECTION 5. Act 231, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, section
17 2, is amended by amending subsections (a) through (c) to read as
18 follows:

19 "(a) The [~~University of Hawaii and Hawaii broadband and~~
20 ~~digital equity office~~] office of the lieutenant governor shall
21 jointly convene a working group to determine the appropriate



1 governance structure to implement, operate, and maintain
2 broadband infrastructure development in the State.

3 (b) The working group shall consist of the following
4 members, or their designees:

5 (1) The president of the University of Hawaii [~~who shall~~
6 ~~serve as co chair~~];

7 (2) The strategic broadband coordinator [~~who shall serve~~
8 ~~as co chair~~];

9 (3) The director of finance;

10 (4) The director of commerce and consumer affairs;

11 (5) The comptroller;

12 (6) The director of business, economic development, and
13 tourism;

14 (7) The director of health;

15 (8) The superintendent of education;

16 (9) The chairperson of the Hawaiian homes commission;

17 [and]

18 (10) The mayors of the counties [~~-~~]; and

19 (11) The lieutenant governor, who shall serve as chair.



1 (c) The [~~co-chairs~~] chair of the working group shall
2 invite the following individuals to become members of the
3 working group:

- 4 (1) The governor;
5 (2) The State's congressional delegation;
6 (3) Representatives from private sector partners; and
7 (4) Others as recommended by the working group."

8 PART IV

9 SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
10 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

11 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2050.



Report Title:

Broadband Funds; Office of the Lieutenant Governor; Broadband Infrastructure Development; Working Group; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates general funds for federal broadband programs matching fund requirements. Requires the Office of the Lieutenant Governor to convene and chair the working group established pursuant to Act 231, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022. Effective 1/1/2050. (SD1)

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