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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO TELECOMMUNICATION.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that providing access for  
2 residents to participate in the state legislative process is a  
3 basic right of citizenship in the State and should continue to  
4 be a priority. Providing equitable access to the legislative  
5 process for nearly four hundred fifty thousand residents on  
6 neighbor islands as well as those in rural Oahu is crucial to  
7 improving the functionality of the legislative process. With  
8 the rising costs of airfare, gas, and lodging, providing  
9 designated locations or state offices on neighbor islands and in  
10 rural Oahu where citizens can participate remotely in the  
11 legislative process will help reduce the financial burden of  
12 participation.

13           The purpose of this Act is to require the comptroller of  
14 the department of accounting and general services to identify  
15 certain state resources that can be utilized for  
16 telecommunication access to increase neighbor island and rural  
17 Oahu residents' participation in the state legislative process.



1 SECTION 2. (a) The comptroller of the department of  
2 accounting and general services shall identify state office  
3 buildings that are able to provide equitable telecommunication  
4 access to allow residents of the counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and  
5 Maui, and residents of rural areas in the city and county of  
6 Honolulu, including residents with disabilities, to participate  
7 remotely in legislative hearings.

8 (b) The comptroller shall submit a report of the findings  
9 and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the  
10 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
11 the regular session of 2024.

12 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

Department of Accounting and General Services; Comptroller;  
State Office Buildings; Telecommunications; Accessibility;  
Legislative Hearings; Report

**Description:**

Requires the Comptroller to identify state office buildings that can provide equitable telecommunication access to allow certain residents, including residents with disabilities, to participate remotely in legislative hearings. Requires a report to the Legislature. Effective 1/1/2050. (SD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

