

Honolulu, Hawaii

**FEB 13 2025**

RE: S.B. No. 1061  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2025  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Economic Development and Tourism, to which was referred S.B. No. 1061 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO DIGITAL EQUITY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for a Digital Navigator Pilot Program to offer technical assistance with computers and electronic devices to residents.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the University of Hawai'i system, Office of the Lieutenant Governor, and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the lack of digital equity is a pressing issue in the State, that has further isolated those in rural and socio-economically disadvantaged communities. By establishing a Digital Navigator Pilot Program to offer technical assistance with computers and electronic devices for members of the public this measure will promote online literacy, broadband access, and digital equity to enhance the State's overall economic development.

Your Committee notes the testimony submitted by the Office of the Lieutenant Governor regarding the consolidation of broadband assistance agencies. Your Committee further notes the Lieutenant



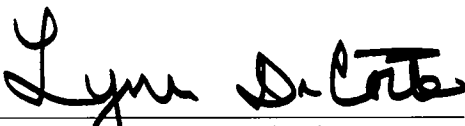
Governor's offer to work closely with relevant departments to centralize broadband responsibilities. Your Committee recognizes that this policy and offer merits further consideration and respectfully requests that subsequent Committees to which this measure is referred examine the matter.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language to include one Digital Navigator Pilot Program location on each of the islands of Molokai and Lanai;
- (2) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion;
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Development and Tourism that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1061, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1061, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

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

  
LYNN DECOITE, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-Third Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Economic Development and Tourism**  
**EDT**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">SB1061</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">EDT, WAM</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">2/11/2025</div>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313         </div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
DECOITE, Lynn (C)	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn (VC)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol	✓			
KIM, Donna Mercado	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	5	0	0	0
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 10px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted         <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted         </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <b>Distribution:</b>            Original            File with Committee Report         </div> <div style="text-align: center;">           Yellow            Clerk's Office         </div> <div style="text-align: center;">           Pink            Drafting Agency         </div> <div style="text-align: center;">           Goldenrod            Committee File Copy         </div> </div>				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes