
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO VIDEOCONFERENCING.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that active citizen
2 participation in government is necessary for a healthy
3 democracy. However, the ability of neighbor island residents to
4 fully participate can be diminished by their geographic distance
5 from the state capitol. Advances in communication technology
6 make it possible to expand opportunities for citizen
7 participation in government, and every effort should be made to
8 use this technology to increase access to government for
9 neighbor island residents. The legislature also finds that
10 videoconferencing equipment is already in place in several
11 locations in the county of Hawaii, and is used by the county
12 council for the purpose of expanding citizen access to
13 government.

14 The purpose of this Act is to require the house of
15 representatives to coordinate with the county of Hawaii and to
16 implement rules to establish a pilot videoconferencing program



1 to allow county of Hawaii residents to provide live oral
2 testimony through audio or audiovisual technology.

3 SECTION 2. (a) The house of representatives shall
4 establish, by rule, procedures for a pilot project to enable the
5 house to use audio or audiovisual technology at legislative
6 committee hearings to receive live oral testimony from county of
7 Hawaii residents. The house of representatives shall coordinate
8 with the county of Hawaii to identify sites or facilities that
9 have existing audio and audiovisual capabilities that could be
10 used to allow residents to present live oral testimony from the
11 county of Hawaii.

12 (b) In carrying out the duties prescribed under subsection
13 (a), the house of representatives shall consult with the chief
14 information officer, who shall ensure that the audio or
15 audiovisual technology to implement this section:

- 16 (1) Satisfies the technical requirements of the State's
17 existing network infrastructure;
- 18 (2) Adheres to best practices;
- 19 (3) Is compatible with multiple platforms; and
- 20 (4) Is provided appropriate resources and support.



1 (c) The house of representatives shall consult with the
2 disability and communication access board to ensure that all
3 activities conducted pursuant to this section comply with the
4 requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

5 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
7 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2015-2016 and the
8 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
9 2016-2017 for the use of audio or audiovisual technology to
10 enable county of Hawaii residents to present live oral testimony
11 at legislative committee hearings.

12 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the house of
13 representatives for the purposes of this Act.

14 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015, and
15 shall be repealed on June 30, 2017.

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H.B. NO. 1054

Report Title:

Audiovisual Technology; Videoconferencing; Legislative Hearings; Testimony; Teleconferencing; Hawaii County

Description:

Requires the House of Representatives to implement rules for a pilot program to enable the house to receive live oral testimony from the County of Hawaii through audio or audiovisual technology. Requires consultation with the County of Hawaii, the chief information officer, and the Disability and Communication Access Board. Appropriates moneys to establish audio or audiovisual systems. Repealed on 6/30/17.

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