
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO BROADBAND.

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

1 SECTION 1. (a) There is established the position of
2 broadband coordinator within the department of business,
3 economic development, and tourism, which shall be exempt from
4 chapter 76, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and which shall report
5 directly to the director of business, economic development, and
6 tourism. The broadband coordinator shall create a state of
7 Hawaii broadband plan, with the assistance of the department of
8 business, economic development, and tourism, which shall be
9 finalized and submitted along with a report to the legislature
10 no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular
11 session of 2018. The state of Hawaii broadband plan shall
12 include, at a minimum:

13 (1) An analysis of current broadband infrastructure and
14 geographic broadband gaps;

15 (2) An inventory of current community broadband resources;



- 1 (3) Recommendations on improving digital literacy
2 including the development and use of school-based
3 programs;
- 4 (4) Initiatives to engage the public and obtain public
5 input on identifying current broadband resources and
6 needs, as well as future needs;
- 7 (5) Solutions for microwave, wireless, and fiber broadband
8 communication requirements, including the obtaining of
9 rights of way and state and county permitting
10 processes; and
- 11 (6) A list of necessary capital improvement projects to
12 implement the broadband plan.
- 13 (b) The broadband coordinator shall also develop and
14 include in its report to the legislature, legislation to
15 establish a broadband review panel to serve as a broadband
16 regulatory authority; provided that, at a minimum, the broadband
17 regulatory authority shall have the power to:
- 18 (1) Adopt rules for broadband infrastructure, design, and
19 permitting processes;
- 20 (2) Develop fair and equitable fee and lease rates for
21 broadband infrastructure; and



1 (3) Develop a statewide broadband form, and any other
2 forms as necessary.

3 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 and the
6 same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
7 2018-2019 for the establishment of one full-time equivalent
8 (1.00 FTE) permanent broadband coordinator position within the
9 department of business, economic development, and tourism to
10 develop the state of Hawaii broadband plan.

11 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
12 of business, economic development, and tourism for the purposes
13 of this Act.

14 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.
15

INTRODUCED BY:

[Handwritten signatures: G. J. Carr, James W. King, [Signature], [Signature], [Signature]]

JAN 20 2017



H.B. NO. 623

Report Title:

Broadband; State Plan; Coordinator; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes and funds a Broadband Coordinator position within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, to develop the State of Hawaii Broadband Plan. Requires a report.

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

