HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE POTENTIAL HEALTH RISKS OF 5G WIRELESS TECHNOLOGY, INCLUDING PEER REVIEWED SCIENTIFIC DATA ON 5G, AND A MORATORIUM BE IMPLEMENTED ON CURRENT AND FUTURE DEPLOYMENT OF 5G AND RELATED TECHNOLOGY UNTIL THE STUDY IS COMPLETED.

WHEREAS, the Precautionary Principle states "[w]hen an activity raises threats of harm to human health or the environment, precautionary measures should be taken even if some cause-and-effect relationships are not fully established scientifically"; and

WHEREAS, 5G refers to the fifth generation of wireless technology; and

WHEREAS, the intended purpose of 5G is to provide faster and higher capacity transmissions to carry the massive amount of data that the wireless industry projects will be generated from the Internet of Things, smart cities, driverless cars, video streaming, augmented reality, and more; and

WHEREAS, higher millimeter wave frequencies needed for 5G have never been used for the Internet and telecommunications technology and do not travel well through buildings, and will likely require development of numerous small cell wireless telecommunications facilities; and

WHEREAS, human exposure guidelines for radiofrequency microwave radiation used by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) are more than 20 years old, and address only thermal, not biological impacts of exposure; the guidelines have been the subject of an open FCC docket since 2013 with no resolution, creating an uncertain regulatory environment; and

WHEREAS, there have been studies that have shown exposure to various levels and frequencies of wireless radiation may cause harm to people and the surrounding environment; and
WHEREAS, oxidative damage, altered intracellular signaling, membrane effects, direct effects on proteins, and free radical production have all been identified as potential biological effects of exposure to radiofrequency microwave radiation; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, the International Agency for Research on Cancer of the World Health Organization classified radiofrequency electromagnetic fields as possibly carcinogenic to humans based on an increased risk of glioma, a malignant type of brain cancer, associated with wireless phone use; and

WHEREAS, a ten-year, $30-million dollar study was conducted by the National Toxicology Program of the United States Institutes of Health to determine whether exposure to radiofrequency radiation from cell phones and other wireless devices can cause cancer, and in 2018 concluded that high levels of radiofrequency radiation exposed to certain animals led to cancerous heart tumors; experts have labeled this study as "clear evidence" of a link between radiofrequency microwave radiation and increased cancer risk; and

WHEREAS, a 2018 study by the Ramazzini Institute in Italy found that male rats exposed to the radiofrequency radiation emitted by distant cell towers had a greater chance of developing heart tumors than those which were not exposed; and

WHEREAS, more than 250 medical and public health professionals have signed a joint statement urging government officials to consider the latest science on microwave radiation and human health, especially as it may be resulting in abnormal brain development in unborn children; and

WHEREAS, on April 25, 2018, the Honolulu City Council passed Resolution 18-34, FD1, which approves a non-exclusive license agreement with Mobilitie, LLC, to install small cell telecommunications facilities on city-owned street lights within the City's right-of-way; and

WHEREAS, on June 21, 2018, the Governor signed Act 49, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, which establishes a process to
upgrade and support next-generation wireless broadband
infrastructure throughout the State by standardizing the process
of 5G small cell wireless technology deployment; and

WHEREAS, these small cell telecommunication facilities will
be located near residences, schools, medical facilities,
restaurants, shopping centers, and government agencies; and

WHEREAS, the effects of 5G technology on biological life
remain uncertain and more research needs to be conducted on the
possible effects of introducing 5G technology on the State's
residents and the environment; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of
2020, that the Department of Health is requested to conduct a
study on the potential health risks of 5G wireless technology,
including peer reviewed scientific data on 5G; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting its study, the
Department of Health is requested to summarize existing
published reports and studies that have evaluated the effects of
5G wireless technology on biological life, highlighting any
information that can apply to the State; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
requested to implement a moratorium on current and future
deployment of 5G and related technology until the study is
completed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Health is
requested to submit a report of its findings and
recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
the Regular Session of 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health.
OFFERED BY:

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