

MAR 05 2021

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 4 THROUGH OCTOBER 8, 2021, AS DIGITAL
INCLUSION WEEK IN THE STATE OF HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, broadband services are essential infrastructure
2 for the twenty-first century and play an important role in
3 providing access to knowledge and opportunities from around the
4 world; and

5
6 WHEREAS, digital equity ensures all individuals and
7 communities have the information technology capacity needed for
8 full participation in our society, democracy, and economy and is
9 necessary for civic and cultural participation, lifelong
10 learning, and access to essential services, such as
11 telemedicine, distance learning, and the workplace; and

12
13 WHEREAS, the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic
14 has heightened the demand for reliable, affordable internet
15 connectivity as work, education, as access to essential services
16 have shifted toward being provided online; and

17
18 WHEREAS, broadband access protects public health during the
19 COVID-19 pandemic, while addressing socioeconomic disparities
20 for the most vulnerable Hawaii residents who live in
21 underrepresented communities; and

22
23 WHEREAS, many rural, agricultural, and lower-income
24 communities throughout the State lack access to reliable and
25 affordable broadband due to the lack of infrastructure;
26 discrimination in investment in delivering technology and
27 technology-related services to specific areas or populations; or
28 barriers derived from socioeconomic status, education, literacy,
29 language, or disabilities; and

30
31 WHEREAS, the State is committed to promoting digital
32 inclusion to ensure that all individuals and communities,
33 including the most disadvantaged, have access to and the use of



S.C.R. NO. 67

1 information and communication technologies, including
2 affordable, robust broadband internet service; internet-enabled
3 devices that meet the needs of the user; access to digital
4 literacy training; quality technical support; and applications
5 and online content designed to enable and encourage self-
6 sufficiency, participation, and collaboration; and
7

8 WHEREAS, in his State of the State address on January 25,
9 2021, Governor David Ige called for the State to expand its
10 investments in digital technology of Hawaii 2.0, thereby
11 dedicating the State to being a leader in broadband access; and
12

13 WHEREAS, Digital Inclusion Week 2021 is put on by the
14 National Digital Inclusion Alliance, who represents affiliated
15 organizations working toward digital equity by crafting,
16 identifying, and disseminating financial and operational
17 resources for digital inclusion programs to raise awareness of
18 solutions addressing home internet access, personal devices, and
19 local technology training and support programs; now, therefore,
20

21 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
22 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the
23 House of Representatives concurring, that October 4 through
24 October 8, 2021, is recognized as Digital Inclusion Week in the
25 State to raise awareness of digital equity and promote digital
26 inclusion; and
27

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
29 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and
30 Director of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.
31
32
33

OFFERED BY: 

