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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INFORMATION ACCESS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that thousands of Hawaii  
2 residents experience disabilities such as visual impairments,  
3 dyslexia, and physical impairments that prevent them from  
4 directly accessing conventional print media. Many printed  
5 materials are available through governmental and nonprofit  
6 agencies in accessible formats such as braille, large print, or  
7 audio recording. However, the legislature finds that it is  
8 generally not practical to provide time-sensitive information  
9 such as a local daily newspaper in these specialized formats.  
10 The legislature also finds that even in a media environment  
11 where information is frequently available in multiple formats  
12 that are portable and widely accessible, telephone-based audible  
13 information access remains an important service for many  
14 individuals.

15           The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds to maintain  
16 a telephone-based audible information access service.

17           SECTION 2. The vocational rehabilitation and services for  
18 the blind division of the department of human services shall



1 develop a program to charge a reasonable fee to enable  
2 individuals who are not blind, visually-impaired, or print-  
3 disabled to access newspapers, magazines, and television  
4 listings twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, by means of  
5 a touch-tone telephone, the Internet, or by downloading the  
6 electronic information to a digital talking book player or MP3  
7 playing device.

8 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
9 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
10 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2012-2013 to  
11 maintain a telephone-based audible information access service.

12 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the vocational  
13 rehabilitation and services for the blind division of the  
14 department of human services for the purposes of this Act;  
15 provided that the appropriation authorized under this Act shall  
16 be expended on a contract for services.

17 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2030.



**Report Title:**

Telephone-based Audible Information Access Service;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds for the Vocational Rehabilitation and Services for the Blind Division of the Department of Human Services to contract for a telephone-based service to maintain a telephone-based audible information access service. Effective July 1, 2030. (SB2435 HD1)

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

