
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD, IN
COLLABORATION WITH THE OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY
SERVICES, TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP ON ACCESSIBLE
GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS.

1 WHEREAS, an accessible document is a document created to be
2 as easily readable by a sighted reader as a low-vision or non-
3 sighted reader; and

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5 WHEREAS, accessible documents allow individuals who use
6 screen readers to navigate through the document, utilize the
7 properties to move from one part of a document to another, hear
8 descriptions of photographs and images from image tags, and have
9 equal access to the information; and

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11 WHEREAS, public agencies that are required to provide
12 accessible documents do not always have staff that understand
13 how to make the information accessible; and

14
15 WHEREAS, the increasing use of technology to communicate
16 can also present complications and challenges, such as the
17 various state agency websites that post public meeting notices,
18 agendas, and attached resource documents that may not
19 necessarily all be in accessible formats, especially when
20 attachments are scanned copies; and

21
22 WHEREAS, the State's Disability and Communication Access
23 Board serves as the public advocate of persons with disabilities
24 by providing advice and recommendations on matters relating to
25 access, with an emphasis on state and county legislative matters
26 and administrative rules, policies, and procedures, and also
27 provides technical assistance and guidance to state and county
28 entities to meet state, federal, and county requirements for
29 access for persons with disabilities; and

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1 WHEREAS, the State's Office of Enterprise Technology
2 Services, headed by the Chief Information Officer, is charged
3 with organizing, managing, and overseeing statewide information
4 technology governance, including establishing, coordinating, and
5 managing a program to provide a means for public access to
6 public information and developing and operating an information
7 network; now, therefore,

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9 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
10 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
11 of 2021, the Senate concurring, that the Disability and
12 Communication Access Board, in collaboration with the Office on
13 Enterprise Technology Services, is requested to convene a
14 working group on accessible government documents; and

15
16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
17 to:

- 18
19 (1) Research other states' laws and use of technologies to
20 provide government documents, including documents
21 provided by private entities under contract with the
22 State, in accessible formats;
23
24 (2) Evaluate and recommend strategies to improve the
25 provisions of government documents, including
26 documents provided by private entities under contract
27 with the State, in accessible formats, including
28 identifying means for effective and efficient
29 oversight; and
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31 (3) Make recommendations to the Legislature about how to
32 further the policy of providing accessible government
33 documents; and
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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a representative of the
36 Disability and Communication Access Board and representative of
37 the Office of Enterprise Technology Services are requested to
38 serve as co-chairs of the working group and invite one
39 representative from each of the following entities to serve as
40 working group members:
41



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- 1 (1) The Center on Disability Studies at the University of
- 2 Hawai'i at Manoa;
- 3
- 4 (2) The Office of the Lieutenant Governor;
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- 6 (3) The Department of Accounting and General Services;
- 7
- 8 (4) The Information Technology and Systems Department at
- 9 the Judiciary;
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- 11 (5) The Department of the Attorney General;
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- 13 (6) The Office of the Chief Clerk of the House of
- 14 Representatives;
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- 16 (7) The Office of the Chief Clerk of the Senate;
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- 18 (8) The Office of Information Practices;
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- 20 (9) The Civil Rights Commission;
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- 22 (10) The Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of the
- 23 Department of Human Services;
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- 25 (11) An advocacy group for blind persons;
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- 27 (12) An advocacy group for deaf persons; and
- 28
- 29 (13) Other interested individuals; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Disability and
 32 Communication Access Board is requested to submit a report on
 33 behalf of the working group of its findings and recommendations,
 34 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
 35 than forty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
 36 2022; and

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 38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the working
 39 group serve without compensation; and

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 41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 42 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Lieutenant Governor,

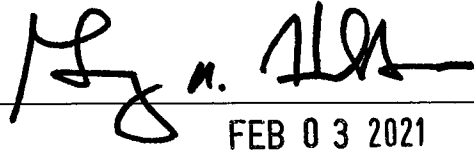


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1 Attorney General, Comptroller, Chairperson of the Disability and
2 Communication Access Board, Chief Information Officer,
3 Administrative Director of the Courts, Chief Clerk of the
4 Senate, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives, Director of
5 the Center on Disability Studies, Director of the Office of
6 Information Practices, Executive Director of the Civil Rights
7 Commission, President of the National Federation for the Blind -
8 Hawaii Chapter, Administrator of the Division of Vocational
9 Rehabilitation, and President of the Aloha State Association of
10 the Deaf.

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OFFERED BY:


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