

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

July 10, 2007

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 310

Honorable Members
Twenty-Fourth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, I am returning herewith, without my approval, House Bill No. 310, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to Technology."

The purpose of this bill is to establish the fifteen-member Hawaii Broadband Task Force appointed by the Senate President and the Speaker of the House. This bill requires the Office of the Auditor to provide the research and organizational support services to the task force and appropriates \$50,000 from general funds in fiscal year 2007-2008 to pay for the support.

Although creation of a broadband network in Hawaii is important, this bill is objectionable because it fails to recognize the proper and logical governmental agency to support the task force.

Assigning to the Office of the Auditor the responsibility to provide staff support for this effort is not consistent with the Auditor's statutory duties and is an inappropriate function of that office. Pursuant to section 23-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the Auditor's primary duties are to "conduct postaudits of the transactions, accounts, programs, and performance of all departments, offices, and agencies of the State and its political subdivisions" and to conduct "examinations to discover evidence of any unauthorized, illegal, irregular, improper, or unsafe handling or expenditure of state funds or other improper practice of financial administration."

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS
HOUSE BILL NO. 310
Page 2

The Department of Accounting and General Services is the state agency tasked with the management of the State's Internet and website systems. This Department also handles the planning and implementation of the State's communication networks. The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs has oversight over communications entities. Either of these departments would be a more appropriate state agency than the Office of the Auditor to provide staff support to a Broadband Task Force.

For the foregoing reasons, I am returning House Bill No. 310 without my approval.

Respectfully,



LINDA LINGLE
Governor of Hawaii