



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

1010 Richards Street, Room 118 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
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NOTICE OF MEETING

Disability and Communication Access Board

Standing Committee on Communication Access Meeting

April 25, 2023

10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The Disability and Communication Access Board will be meeting in-person. The public is welcome to participate.

Public In-Person Meeting Location

Kamamalu Building
1010 Richards Street, Room 003A and 003B
Honolulu, HI 96813

Public Testimony

Written Testimony -To ensure the public as well as its Board members receive such testimony in a timely manner, written testimony should be submitted 24 hours prior to the scheduled meeting date and time. Any written testimony submitted after such time cannot be guaranteed to be distributed in time for the meeting. Written testimony may be submitted by one of the methods listed below:

- By email to: dcab@doh.hawaii.gov

- By U.S. Postal Mail:

Kirby Shaw, Disability and Communication Access Board, 1010 Richards Street,
Room 118, Honolulu, HI 96813

- By facsimile to: (808) 586-8129

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Introductions
- III. Statement from Public and Written Testimonies Submitted
- IV. Approval of Meeting Minutes of February 28, 2023
- V. Old Business
 - A. Communication Access Program
Report on number of interpreters with the Hawaii State Sign Language Interpreter Credential and number of interpreters enrolled in the Continuing Education Program. Update.
 - B. Communication Access Specialist Vacant Position Announcement
Continuous recruitment announcement on various employment websites.
 - C. Plan of Action
Objective 3.4.3 Pursuant to Act 172-22, participate in a Working Group on Accessible Government Documents and Develop Electronic Information Technology Accessibility Standards titled, "Hawaii Electronic Information Technology Disability Access Standards" to be implemented by all state entities with the Office of Enterprise Technology Services. Progress report.
 - D. Status of Communication Access Related Legislation
House Bill (HB), Senate Bill (SB), House Draft (HD), Senate Draft (SD), House Concurrent Resolution (HCR), House Resolution (HR), Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR), Senate Resolution (SR)

HB 818 HD2 SD2 and SB 608 SD1, Relating to Prescription Drugs
Requires pharmacies to provide accessible prescription drug label information to individuals who have difficulty seeing or reading prescription drug container labels and inform the public that prescription drug label information is available in alternate accessible formats for individuals who have difficulty seeing or reading prescription drug container labels. Requires the Board of Pharmacy to adopt certain rules by December 31, 2023.

HB 388 HD1 SD2, Relating to Education
Adopts the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard. Requires the department of education to obtain instructional materials in accessible formats for eligible students.

HB 716, Relating to Elections
Requires the office of elections to prepare a voter information guide that includes candidate statements and statements on ballot questions.
Appropriates funds to the department of the attorney general, legislative

reference bureau, and counties for the preparation of the ballot analyses. Appropriates funds to the office of elections for the preparation and distribution of the voter information guides. Measure deferred on February 8, 2023.

HB 818 and SB 609 SD1, Relating to Hearing Aids

Requires health insurance policies and contracts issued on or after 01/01/2024 to provide coverage for the cost of hearing aids at a minimum of \$1,500 per hearing aid for each hearing-impaired ear every thirty-six months. Effective 01/01/2024.

HB 830, Relating to the Hawaii School for the Deaf and Blind

Requires the Department of Education to meet with Hawaii School for the Deaf and Blind stakeholders and members of the Hawai'i deaf community regarding the development of a plan to transition the Hawai'i School for the Deaf and Blind to a conversion charter school. Requires a report to the Legislature.

Measured deferred on February 14, 2023.

HB 834 HD1 SD1 and SB 610, Relating to American Sign Language

Recognizes American Sign Language as a fully developed, autonomous, natural language with its own grammar, syntax, vocabulary, and cultural heritage.

HB 933 HD2 SD1 and SB 611, Relating to Telecommunications Access for Individuals with Print Disabilities

Requires the Public Utilities Commission to use Universal Service Fund moneys to provide for telecommunications access to certain information for individuals with print disabilities.

HB 935 and SB 609 HD2, Relating to Hearing Aids

Exempts from the general excise tax, gross receipts received from the sale of hearing aids.

HB 1219 HD1 and SB 1219, Relating to Public Safety

Requires and appropriates moneys for the provision of free voice communication services in the State's youth and adult correctional facilities. Prohibits state agencies from deriving revenue or financial benefits from the provision of communication services to persons confined in state correctional facilities. Appropriates funds for the Hawai'i state automated victim information and notification program. (HD1)

HB 935, Measure deferred on February 15, 2023.

SB 1219, referred to PSM/CPN, WAM/JDC.

SB 8, Relating to Administrative Rules

Requires all state agencies adopting, amending, or repealing a rule to make the full text of the rules of the agency available on the website of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor in a digitally accessible and searchable format.

Measure deferred on February 2, 2023.

SB 108, Relating to Access to Instructional Materials

Adopts the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard for use by the Department of Education in preparation of instructional materials for eligible students. Defines "eligible student" in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the Copyright Act. Requires the Department of Education to obtain instructional materials in accessible formats whenever available from the publisher or the National Instructional Materials Access Center when materials are not available from the publisher in the appropriate, accessible format needed by an eligible student. Requires instructional materials to be sufficient for grade level progress of eligible students. Requires the Department of Education to provide assistive technology devices and services for eligible students. Reports requirements for publishers to provide computer diskettes conforming to American Standard Code for Information Interchange.

SB 607, Relating to Access to Instructional Materials

Adopts the National Instructional Materials Accessibility Standard for the purposes of providing instructional materials to eligible students in a timely manner and requires the Department of Education to coordinate with the National Instructional Materials Access Center. Authorizes the Department to assist non-public elementary and secondary school and alternative educational program in obtaining accessible instructional materials. Requires all elementary schools, secondary schools, and alternative educational programs to provide eligible students with accessible instructional materials, assistive technology devices, and assistive technology services at the same time print instructional materials are provided to other students.

SB 814 SD2 HD2, Relating to Electronic Information Technology Accessibility for Persons with Limited English Proficiency

Requires the Office of Enterprise Technology Services, in consultation with the Office of Language Access and a working group composed of stakeholders, to develop and publish, and periodically review and update, electronic information technology multilingual accessibility standards to be adopted by all state entities.

HB 109 and SB 813 SD1 HD2, Relating to Court Interpreters

Requires the Judiciary to increase the hourly fees, mileage reimbursement rate, and commuter-time compensation rate for court interpreters. Appropriates funds.

- E. Address Shortage of American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreters in Hawaii HCR 186 HD1, HR 191 HD1, SCR 32 SD1, SR 26 SD1, Requesting the Disability and Communication Access Board to Establish an American Sign Language Interpreter Workforce Working Group to Promote Increasing the Number of American Sign Language Interpreters in the State

Requires the Disability and Communication Access Board to serve as chairperson of the working group that consists of a representative from the Department of Education, Department of Human Services Division of

Vocational Rehabilitation, Member of Deaf and Blind Task Force, Professor from the University of Hawaii who teaches ASL, Senator selected by the President of the Senate, Representative selected by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Individual who currently serves as an ASL interpreter and additional representatives invited by the DCAB.

The working group with administrative assistance of the Department of Health is requested to submit an interim 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 2024 and a final report no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2026. The working group to be dissolved on June 30, 2026.

VI. New Business

- A. Pending Deaf Interpreter Workshop or Seven (7) Day Training
Developing a Deaf Interpreter workshop or seven (7) day training to encourage deaf individuals to study and prepare for the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. test to become Certified Deaf Interpreter
- B. FY 2023-2024 Plan of Action – Communication Access
Review and discuss the current FY 2022-2023 Plan of Action, Communication Access goals and objectives for the FY 2023-2024 Plan of Action

VI. Open Forum

Public comment on issues on the agenda for consideration for Committee agenda at the next meeting.

VII. Announcement of Next Meeting

VIII. Adjournment

If you require an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, contact Cindy Omura at (808) 586-8121 and email at dcab@doh.hawaii.gov as soon as possible. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled.

An American Sign Language interpreter and a Real Time Captioner will be provided.

Upon request, this notice is available in alternate/accessable formats.

The agenda and materials for this meeting are also available for inspection at DCAB's office located at 1010 Richards Street, Room 118, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 and on DCAB's website at: <https://health.hawaii.gov/dcab/dcab-agendas-and-minutes/>.