STATE OF HAWAI'I OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR 465 S. King Street, Room 500 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813-2917



MARION M. HIGA State Auditor

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December 31, 2007

The Honorable Colleen Hanabusa President of the Senate State Capitol, Room 409 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Madam President:

I transmit to you a copy of our report, Hawai'i Broadband Task Force Initial Report.

Act 2, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2007, created the Hawaii Broadband Task Force to 1) assess the removal of barriers to increasing broadband access, 2) identify opportunities for increased broadband deployment, and 3) enable the creation and deployment of new advanced communication technologies in Hawaii. The Office of the Auditor was charged with providing the task force with research and administrative support. This initial report includes both the preliminary findings from the short time the task force has been in existence in 2007 and the task force's proposed plans for 2008.

We hope that the report will assist you in reviewing the issues examined. We will place the report on our website, <u>www.state.hi.us/auditor</u>, and release it to the public and press, on Wednesday, January 2, 2008.

Sincerely,

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Marion M. Higa State Auditor

Enclosure

c:<sup>V</sup>Carol Taniguchi, Senate Clerk