

From: [Inga Gibson](#)
To: [Standards of Conduct](#)
Cc: [Gary Hooser](#); [Kat Brady](#)
Subject: Testimony 10-26-22 Legislative rule change recommendations
Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 10:27:23 AM

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Dear Honorable Chair Foley and Members of the Commission,

Kat Brady of Community Alliance on Prisons, Gary Hooser of Pono Hawaiian Initiative and I have discussed and summarized the below legislative rule changes, based on community input and long-standing concerns from the public with our state legislature's lack of transparency, the concentration of power resting with a few individuals, and lack of accountability to the public who policymakers have pledged to serve. We have listed the issues in what we believe are order of importance.

Thank you for your consideration of supporting the below proposed recommendations. We look forward to further discussion on these important changes.

I will be testifying at the hearing this afternoon.

Best, Inga

1. Hearing appeal process

At the beginning of each session after all bills have been assigned to Committee, each Committee Chair shall post on the bill page those bills they intend not to be given a hearing. Each Chair shall be directed to hold one hearing time slot for full Committee discussion and voting on those bills that the Chair has listed for deferral/non-consideration and where the public may testify to the Committee for reconsideration.

2. Voting in Committee

In accordance with our state constitution, all bills must be brought for a vote and all members of all committees must vote Yes, No or with reservations on each bill heard in Committee unless expressly excused by the Chair for illness, absence or a written disclosed conflict submitted to the Chair and noted in the Committee report. All discussions on the bills during the hearing will be conducted publicly.

3. Conflict of Interest

For floor votes, all members must present in writing to the Speaker and Vice-Speaker or President and Vice-President, potential conflicts of interest and their request to vote or not vote. These disclosures will be recorded in the journal to allow for public inspection.

4. Conference Committee process

All bills passing both chambers must be scheduled for Conference. Leadership must appoint all Conference Committee members by the 3rd day of transmittal to Conference.

5. Fiscal bill referral process

No bill without a fiscal request may be referred to Finance or Ways and Means unless a fiscal note or blanked dollar appropriation is attached.

6. By Request bills

No bill may be introduced By Request without disclosing the name of the requestor and their affiliation. Bills may be introduced by "Constituent request" if that person has no affiliation with any company/agency or organization.

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