
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARINGS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 21, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
2 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
3 read as follows:

4 "§21- Legislative committee public hearings by
5 videoconference; notice; quorum. (a) A legislative committee
6 may hold a public hearing by videoconference; provided that the
7 videoconference system used by the committee shall allow both
8 audio and visual interaction between members of the committee
9 and members of the public attending the hearing at any
10 videoconference location. A public hearing may be held by
11 viodeoconference only with the approval of the committee's
12 chairperson.

13 (b) The hearing notice required by the rules of the house
14 of representatives and the senate shall specify all locations at
15 which committee members will be deemed physically present during
16 a viodeconference legislative committee hearing. The notice
17 shall also specify that the public may attend the meeting at any
18 of the specified locations.



1 (c) A public hearing held by videoconference shall be
2 terminated only if the audio and video communication cannot be
3 maintained with all locations during the testimony of members of
4 the public and the questioning of public testifiers by the
5 committee members, even if a quorum of the committee is
6 physically present in a single location. If all public
7 testimony has been given and members of the public have been
8 questioned by the committee members and the audio and video
9 combination of the public hearing is lost after public testimony
10 and any questioning of the committee is completed, the committee
11 shall be allowed to continue the discussion at issue on the
12 public hearing and to reach a conclusion despite the loss of
13 audio and video."

14 SECTION 2. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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HB 2140

Report Title:

Legislature; Committee Hearings; Videoconferencing

Description:

Authorizes legislative standing committees to hold videoconference public hearings; establishes notice and other procedural requirements.

