

JAN 23 2006

S.B. NO. 2107

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the public has a
2 legitimate interest in the governance and decision-making of
3 public utilities. This extends to nonprofit utility
4 cooperatives, which like all public utilities operate to provide
5 an essential public service. Requiring nonprofit utility
6 cooperatives to hold open meetings and maintain open records
7 promotes and protects this legitimate public interest.

8 The purpose of this Act is to require nonprofit utility
9 cooperatives to be subject to the open meeting and record
10 requirements of chapters 92 and 92F, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

11 SECTION 2. Chapter 421C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
12 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
13 and to read as follows:

14 "§421C- Utility cooperatives; open meetings; open
15 records. Any cooperative that:

16 (1) Provides services as a public utility, as defined in
17 chapter 269; and

18 (2) Is organized as a nonprofit pursuant to chapter 414D,



1 shall be subject to the requirements of chapters 92 and 92F,
2 unless otherwise restricted by law."

3 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

4 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

5

INTRODUCED BY:



By Request



SB2107

Report Title:

Public Utility Cooperatives; Open Meetings; Open Records

Description:

Applies the open meeting and record requirements of chapters 92 and 92F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to nonprofit utility cooperatives.

