

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 23, 2006

RE: S.B. No. 785  
S.D. 2  
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2006  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred S.B. No. 785, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC MEETINGS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to allow public meetings by video teleconferencing to continue even if the video portion of the transmission is interrupted or stopped.

The Office of Information Practices and Hawaii Health Systems Corporation testified in support of this bill.

Your Committee concurs with the basic intent of this bill but finds that, as drafted, certain provisions need greater clarity. Currently, a videoconference meeting must be terminated if both the audio and video transmissions cannot be maintained at all meeting locations. This bill initially requires that a videoconference meeting be terminated if just the audio transmission cannot be maintained. However, it then specifies the criteria that must be met to allow such a meeting to proceed with only the audio transmission.



Accordingly, your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Restoring the requirement that a videoconference meeting shall be terminated if both the audio and video transmissions cannot be maintained;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2096, to promote further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity and consistency.

As amended, a videoconference meeting must be terminated when both the audio and video transmissions cannot be maintained at all meeting locations. However, a meeting may continue with just the audio transmission alone if certain criteria are met.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 785, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 785, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Judiciary,



SYLVIA LUKE, Chair



