

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3313

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR - 6 2006

RE: S.C.R. No. 151
S.D. 1

Honorable Robert Bunda
President of the Senate
Twenty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2006
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Transportation and Government Operations,
to which was referred S.C.R. No. 151 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE UNIVERSITY OF
HAWAII TO SPONSOR A SERIES OF PUBLIC POLICY DIALOGS ON OPEN
GOVERNMENT,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to request the University of
Hawaii to sponsor a series of public policy dialogs on open
government.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Office of Information Practices, College of Social
Sciences Public Policy Center at the University of Hawaii, and The
League of Women Voters of Hawaii.

Hawaii's open meetings law under chapter 92, part I, Hawaii
Revised Statutes, more commonly known as the Sunshine Law, governs
the manner in which state and county boards must conduct their
business. The intent of the Sunshine Law statute is to open up
the government process as much as possible for public scrutiny and
participation. Several board members have complained about some
of the Sunshine Law requirements being too stringent, and have
suggested that certain types of board business be exempt from the
Sunshine Law provisions.

Your Committee finds that a subject of this magnitude of
public interest - possibly revising the Sunshine Law - should be

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open to participation by as many pertinent government entities, community groups, and public interest advocates as possible. Your Committee believes that each session of the public policy dialogues should be duly noticed and follow procedures under the Sunshine Law, in order to set an example of open government in action.

Your Committee has amended this measure by requesting the Public Policy Center of the College of Social Sciences, as the proper entity within the University of Hawaii, to sponsor the dialogs.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation and Government Operations that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 151, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 151, S.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Transportation and
Government Operations,


LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair



