
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO SUPPORT AMENDMENTS TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES RULES AND ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MANUAL TO IMPOSE A DUTY OF A MEMBER TO ENSURE THEIR PERMANENT AND SESSION EMPLOYEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ARE ENGAGING IN PRACTICES THAT ARE NOT VIEWED AS A CONFLICT OF INTEREST TO THE SCOPE OF THEIR DUTIES BY TESTIFYING BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE DURING NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS.

1 WHEREAS, elected officials and appointed officers are
2 responsible for ensuring that their employees are held to the
3 highest standards of conduct; and

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5 WHEREAS, the increasing need for transparency and
6 accountability of the Legislature and its employees directly
7 correlates with the responsibilities and duties of the members
8 of the House of Representatives and its appointed officers; and

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10 WHEREAS, during the current economic crisis, the appearance
11 of impropriety and misuse of work time by permanent and session
12 legislative employees, under the direct supervision of a House
13 Member may raise questions from fellow legislators and staff, as
14 well as the general public, about the misappropriation of funds
15 for salaries of employees of the House of Representatives;

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17 WHEREAS, it appears to be a conflict of interest and
18 contrary to the duties listed in section 20.9 of the House
19 Administrative and Financial Manual for permanent and session
20 employees under the direct supervision of a Member of the House
21 of Representatives to testify before the Legislature as
22 individual citizens or members of public interest groups; and

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24 WHEREAS, the Rules of the House of Representatives and the
25 House Administrative and Financial Manual do not impose a duty
26 upon members of the House of Representatives to ensure their



1 permanent and session employees are engaging in practices that
2 are not viewed as a conflict of interest; now, therefore,

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4 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
5 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
6 of 2009, that the members of the House of Representatives are
7 urged to support amendments to the House of Representatives
8 Rules and the Administrative and Financial Manual, to impose a
9 duty upon the members to ensure their permanent and session
10 employees are engaging in practices that are not viewed as a
11 conflict of interest to the scope of their duties by testifying
12 before the Legislature during working hours, as defined by
13 section 22.1 of the Administrative and Financial Manual, unless
14 the employee files a request for vacation or unpaid leave of
15 absence, which qualifies under chapter 23 of the House of
16 Representatives Administrative and Financial Manual, with the
17 Speaker of the House of Representatives and the request is
18 approved prior to the time the employee testifies.

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20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that due to time constraints or
21 waiver of the 48-hour notification, session and permanent
22 legislative employees may omit filing paperwork with Speaker's
23 office and testify before the Legislature under their member's
24 own discretion to ensure said employee makes up requisite missed
25 work time.

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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the amendments to the House of
28 Representatives Rules and the Administrative and Financial
29 Manual include a requirement that any approved request, or lack
30 thereof, for vacation or leave of absence for the purpose of
31 allowing an employee of the House of Representatives to testify
32 be distributed in advance to members of the committee before
33 which the employee will testify; and

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35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
36 Resolution be transmitted to the Speaker, the Majority Leader,
37 the Minority Leader, the Chief Clerk, the Sergeant-at-Arms, and
38 each member of the House of Representatives.

