

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 91

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 9, 2009

RE: H.B. No. 629

H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2009
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Labor & Public Employment, to which was referred H.B. No. 629 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO LIQUOR COMMISSION EMPLOYEES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to promote fairness in the political process by removing restrictions on county Liquor Commission employees from participating in political activities.

The Hawaii Government Employees Association testified in support of this bill.

Currently, county Liquor Commission employees face certain restrictions when participating in political activities, including requirements to notify their employer in writing of their political activities. This is unlike other public employees who are permitted, during their non-work hours, to actively work on political campaigns or other political activities to assist in the election or defeat of a candidate. This is due, in part, to the nature of the work of Liquor Commission employees.

Although your Committee notes that Liquor Commission employees should enjoy the rights to participate in the political process enjoyed by other public employees, their unique situation necessitates that some restrictions be maintained.

HB629 HD1 HSCR LAB HMS 2009-1667



Your Committee has amended this bill by:

- (1) Reinserting language prohibiting Liquor Commission employees from soliciting or receiving contributions, or receiving or transferring money or anything of value from a licensee for the purpose of supporting, advocating, or aiding in the election or defeat of a candidate for public office;
- (2) Reinserting penalty provisions; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor & Public Employment that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 629, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 629, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Labor & Public
Employment,



KARL RHOADS, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-fifth Legislature

HSCR 91

Record of Votes of the Committee on Labor & Public Employment

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 629	Committee Referral: LAB, JUD	Date: 1/30/09		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
LAB Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. RHOADS, Karl (C)	/			
2. YAMASHITA, Kyle T. (VC)	/			
3. AQUINO, Henry J.C.	/			
4. AWANA, Karen Leinani	/			
5. HANOHANO, Faye P.	/			
6. KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.	/			
7. LEE, Marilyn B.	/			
8. NAKASHIMA, Mark M.	/			
9. SAIKI, Scott K.	/			
10. SOUKI, Joseph M.				/
11. TAKUMI, Roy M.	/			
12. PINE, Kymerly Marcos	/			
TOTAL (12)	11	-	-	1
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 8pt;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____ 				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				