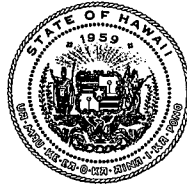


LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



LATE

CHIYOME LEINAALA FUKINO, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P.O. Box 3378
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801-3378

In reply, please refer to:
File:

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations

S.B. 1105, Relating to Legislative Hearings and Procedures

**Testimony of Chiyome Leinaala Fukino, M.D.
Director of Health**

February 12, 2009, 9:30am

1 **Department's Position:** The Department of Health (DOH) believes we understand what this bill is
2 attempting to accomplish, but we are confused by its seemingly contradictory language. If this bill
3 moves forward, we respectfully recommend that the ambiguities be clarified.

4 **Fiscal Implications:** Potentially significant but unquantified additional work load for both the executive
5 and legislative branches.

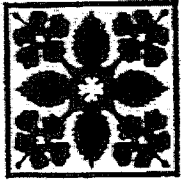
6 **Purpose and Justification:** Every year, the DOH prepares and submits approximately eighty reports to
7 the Hawaii State Legislature. The DOH has the largest number of such reports across departments.
8 These reports are required of the department through statutory mandate, Act, resolution or budget
9 proviso. The DOH has been committed to providing reports that are informative, critically developed,
10 and submitted in a timely manner to assist the Legislature in its charge. Generally speaking, the DOH is
11 proud of its diligence and commitment to provide complete and comprehensive reports.

12 In the preamble and in the new part being proposed, the bill speaks to "reports to the legislature
13 of studies and audits, including annual reports." In a subsequent section the bill states that it does not
14 apply to annual reports or reports of a "routine nature." We respectfully suggest that all statutorily
15 mandated annual reports are, in fact, routine by design. In fact, the majority of the reporting DOH is

1 required to do is routine. Audits and studies are most commonly done by the legislative auditor and the
2 legislative reference bureau, not the executive agencies, so this measure would seem to primarily target
3 those two legislative offices. They are included in the bill's mandate.

4 The department suggests that language be developed that brings the intent of the measure more
5 closely into focus. Otherwise, the department suggests that the measure is potentially more cumbersome
6 and confusing, especially since the Legislature has existing authority that it can and does exercise when
7 it currently requests briefings of departments, at will.

8 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Hawai'i Women's Political Caucus

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A State Chapter of the
National Women's
Political Caucus

February 9, 2009

LATE

TO: Senator Brian T. Taniguchi Chair
Senator Dwight Y. Takamine, Vice Chair and
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations

FROM: Faye Kennedy, President, Hawai'i Women's Political Caucus

RE: SB1105 Relating to Legislative Hearings and Procedures.
(Thursday, February 12, 2009 at 9:30am in Room 016)

POSITION: SUPPORT

Good morning, Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Takamine and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations. I am Faye Kennedy representing the Hawai'i Women's Political Caucus and submitting testimony in support of SB1105 which requires any report of a study or an audit made by an Executive department or agency, and by the Legislative Reference Bureau or Auditor, to be submitted to the Clerk of each House, Senate President, Speaker of the House, and Chairs of the appropriate subject matter committee of each house. It also requires a public hearing or informational briefing, except if waived by the President of the Senate. It excludes certain annual or routine reports.

This bill holds accountability by the Legislature to follow up on legislative studies, audits and reports that have been approved. It creates procedures for the filing and consideration of the reports, studies and audits and will minimize them from slipping through the cracks.

The Hawai'i Women's Political Caucus was established in 1981 and is a multi-partisan organization committed to increasing women's participation in the political process and increasing their representation in elected and appointed office. HWPC also supports male candidates committed to its goals. HWPC is dedicated to equality in employment, stopping all violence against women, and improving the health and well-being of women and families.

On behalf of the Hawaii Women's Political Caucus, I urge your Committee to pass this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony in support of SB1105.