



Hawaii Senate's Green Initiative: Paperless and Beyond

Senator Les Ihara, Jr.

Majority Policy Leader
Hawaii Senate

July 27, 2010



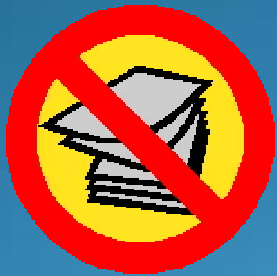
State of Hawaii – Senate

- 1.2 million residents on 7 islands and 4 counties
- 25 Senators elected to four-year staggered terms
- 60-day annual sessions convene 3rd Wednesday in January

Hawaii Senate's Paperless Initiative

- Senate President Colleen Hanabusa announced a “sustainability platform” on Opening Day of the 2007 legislative session
- Senate Leadership proposed “Paperless Initiative” as part of sustainability platform
- Senator David Ige appointed Senate Technology Leader to oversee paperless initiative
- Interim work groups recommended legislative and administrative “paperless” processes

Senate Paperless Initiative: Two Goals



- Reduce paper waste produced by the Senate



- Enhance public access to the legislative process using technology

2008 – Year One: Paperless Chamber Sessions

- 2008 Senate floor sessions went “paperless”
- Senators and chamber staff used computer laptops, instead of paper documents
- Order of the Day posted on website with interactive links to agenda items



Senate Paper Sessions



To Paperless Sessions



Paperless Order of the Day

THE SENATE
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII
TWENTY-FIFTH
STATE
REGULAR

TWENTY-FIFTH
MARCH 2, 2010

Invocation by The Reverend Norman
Waipahu United Church

Roll Call

Approval of the Journal

ORDER OF THE DAY

[\(See Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2341\)](#)

[Testimony](#) [Prior Versions](#) [Status](#)

[S.B. 2695, S.D. 1](#)

“RELATING TO NON-GENERAL FUNDS.”
(WAM)

(Transfer of Non-general Funds)

[\(See Stand. Com. Rep. No. 2345\)](#)

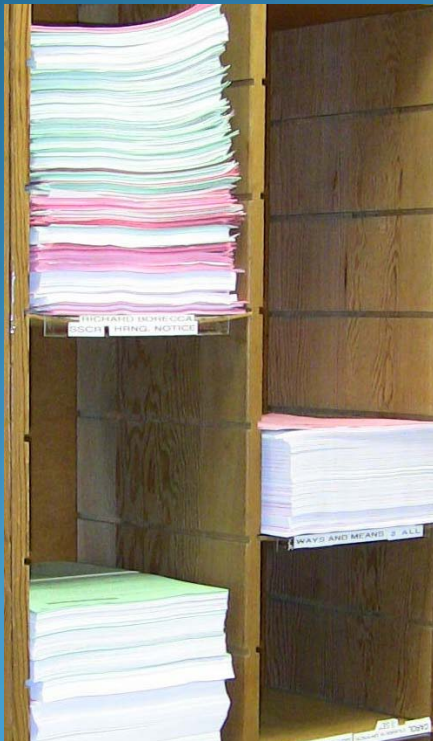
[Testimony](#) [Prior Versions](#) [Status](#)

[S.B. 2007, S.D. 1](#)

“RELATING TO BUDGETARY POWERS.”
(WAM)

(Budgetary Powers; Legislature; Governor)

2008 – Year One: Eliminated Unlimited Access to Paper Documents



- Eliminated print shop mailboxes & senators' hardcopies
- Offered free CD's of documents
- Enhanced senate web documents and OCR'd PDFs (searchable)



Paper Waste Reduction Year One – 2008:

- Saved 6.7 million sheets of paper, or 1,340 cases of copier paper
- Senate reduced paper consumption by 68%
- Saved a forest of trees – 804 the first session



2009 – Year Two: Paperless Committee Hearings



- Senate eliminates hardcopy documents in committee hearings
- Started accepting testimonies electronically, by email and via legislative website
- Hearing notices have hyperlinks to bills, and all testimonies available on-line by start of public hearings

Senate Hearing Notice

THE SENATE
THE TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2010
COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES
Senator Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Thursday, March 11, 2010
TIME: 2:15 pm
PLACE: Conference Room 016
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

A G E N D A

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES.
Creates and implements a silver alert program to be operated concurrently with the Maile Amber Alert program, to be activated on behalf of a missing senior citizen in the appropriate county. Effective July 1, 2020. (HB744 HD2)

RELATING TO MEDICAID ELIGIBILITY.
Requires the Department of Human Services (DHS) to provide presumptive eligibility coverage to patients who have been waitlisted for Medicaid. Requires DHS to submit a report to the Legislature of its findings and recommendations regarding costs and other issues related to Medicaid presumptive eligibility. Requires DHS to conduct a study

HMS, WAM

HB 744, HD2
(HSCR605-10)

Testimony
Status

HB 2091, HD1
(HSCR662-10)

Testimony



Year Two – 2009 Session: Public Access & Green Results

- 1,770 people received hearing notices by email
- Over 40,000 testimonies sent electronically and posted online, saving 90,000 sheets of paper
- 8 million RSS hits (feeds); 80,000 different people visited legislative website over 791,000 times
- Senate reduced paper consumption by another 33%; saved about one million sheets of paper

2010 – Year Three: Beyond Paperless

- Three committees sent “Tweets” during hearings; may be expanded in 2011 session 
- Website enhancement planned – Senators to generate web content: including newsletters, flickr photos, YouTube videos, news stories and hearing broadcasts 
- Senate participates in Green Government Challenge 

2010 – Year Three: Green Government Challenge

- Senate wide recycling of paper and plastics
- Energy saving settings on monitors and printers
- Procurement of recycled paper products
- Energy conservation signage in Senate offices
- Staff training on green practices
- Green “message” in Senate e-mail signatures
- Administrative forms converted to fillable forms



2010 – Year Three

Paperless Results (cumulative):

- Total 80% paper reduction in three years
- Annual savings of \$560,000 to Senate budget (less 8 million sheets of paper, 40% reduction in Sgt-at-Arms session staff, fewer copier machines)

Electronic Access Results (2010 session):

- 2,542 people received hearing notices by email
- 4,237,000 RSS hits (feeds) in last month of session
- 1,760 Senate Twitter followers

For More Information on the Senate Paperless Project and Senate Green Government Challenge



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