

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3071

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR - 7 2010

RE: S.C.R. No. 193
S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2010
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations, to which was referred S.C.R. No. 193 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE OWNER OF THE HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN TO PROVIDE SUFFICIENT TIME TO FIND A NEW OWNER FOR THE NEWSPAPER TO PRESERVE TWO INDEPENDENT DAILY NEWSPAPERS IN THE COMMUNITY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to urge the owner of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin, Oahu Publications, Inc., to provide sufficient time to find a new owner for the newspaper, in order to preserve two independent daily newspapers in the community.

Testimony in support of the measure was submitted by two private organizations and four individuals. Written testimony presented to your Committee may be reviewed on the Legislature's website.

Your Committee finds that there are many benefits to having two independent newspapers serving the community. Two editorial voices encourage citizens to examine various viewpoints. Two newspapers may each send a reporter to cover and report on a single story, which allows a different view point. Where there is only one newspaper, the decision by that newspaper not to cover a particular story means that an important story may not be covered at all; whereas when there are two newspapers, it is more likely that at least one will decide to cover the story. Additionally, having only one newspaper means that the newspaper does not have

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any competition for advertising rates, which may lead to an increase in rates for businesses seeking to advertise in the newspaper, which would be, to a certain extent, at the mercy of the sole newspaper's rates. Allowing additional time for a potential buyer of the Honolulu Star-Bulletin to find out about the sale, perform due diligence, and put together financing to purchase the newspaper would increase the chances that the newspaper would continue to serve the community, rather than be closed or merged with The Honolulu Advertiser.

Your Committee notes that, during the hearing, Senator Slom raised a concern regarding a potential conflict he may have regarding this measure, and decided not to vote on this measure.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive changes for purposes of style and accuracy.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 193, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.C.R. No. 193, S.D. 1.

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


BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Fifth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary and Government Operations
JGO

Bill / Resolution No.:* <i>SCR 193</i>	Committee Referral: <i>JGO</i>	Date: <i>3/29/10</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
TANIGUCHI, Brian T. (C)	✓			
TAKAMINE, Dwight Y. (VC)				✓
BUNDA, Robert	✓			
GABBARD, Mike	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	✓			
SLOM, Sam				✓
TOTAL	<i>4</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>1</i>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>Clarence K. Nishihara</i>				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

Excused

*Only one measure per Record of Votes