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## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

STRONGLY URGING THE LEGISLATURE TO POST ALL AMENDMENTS MADE TO  
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS ONLINE IMMEDIATELY IN INSTANCES WHEN  
HARD COPIES OF THE AMENDMENTS OR AMENDED LEGISLATION ARE  
DISTRIBUTED AT COMMITTEE HEARINGS.

1 WHEREAS, transparency is government's obligation to share  
2 information with citizens, and it is as the heart of how  
3 citizens holds their public officials accountable; and  
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5 WHEREAS, a more transparent government begins with  
6 providing the people the opportunity to tell their elected  
7 officials what they think of a piece of legislation, before it  
8 comes up for a vote; and  
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10 WHEREAS, giving the people adequate time to review and  
11 comment on proposed bills and legislation will improve the  
12 quality of legislation and enhance trust in government; and  
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14 WHEREAS, legislation is often amended before it finally  
15 passes out of the legislature, and citizens must have an  
16 opportunity to examine the amendments in depth; and  
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18 WHEREAS, occasionally before an amended bill is voted on by  
19 a committee, the committee chair or another committee members  
20 will distribute hard copies of proposed amendments or copies of  
21 a proposed amended bill to committee members before a vote; and  
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23 WHEREAS, when hard copies of the proposed amendments or  
24 amended legislation are distributed to the committee, they are  
25 not readily available to the public unless an individual goes  
26 through the extra effort of contacting the committee chair's  
27 office to obtain a copy; and  
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29 WHEREAS, when a proposed amended bill is made available in  
30 hard copy in a capitol office or distributed at a hearing, it



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1 should also be posted online immediately for citizens to access  
2 electronically; and  
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4 WHEREAS, when hard copies of proposed amended legislation  
5 are distributed to committee members before a vote, it is clear  
6 these amendments have been made in advance of the hearing and  
7 this practice undermines transparency because by doing this, the  
8 committee is moving forward with text that has not been  
9 available for public review and comment before its passage out  
10 of the committee; and  
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12 WHEREAS, in instances when proposed amended legislation is  
13 prepared before a hearing, the proposed bill should be made  
14 available online to the public before the hearing on that bill  
15 so the public has the opportunity to make comments on the  
16 proposed amended bill at the hearing; now, therefore,  
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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
19 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
20 of 2011, the Senate concurring, that the legislature is strongly  
21 urged to post a hardcopy of proposed amendments or proposed  
22 amended legislation online immediately following the conclusion  
23 of the hearing, when such amendments are distributed at a public  
24 hearing; and  
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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that whenever proposed amendments or  
27 proposed amended legislation has been prepared before a hearing,  
28 those proposed changes must be posted online before the hearing  
29 on that legislation; and  
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
32 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Speaker of the House  
33 of Representatives, the President of the Senate, and the  
34 respective leaders and floor leaders of the House and Senate  
35 Majority and Minority Caucuses.  
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OFFERED BY: Guthrie Yuckter

Janice  
Spivack

[Signature]  
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*Coincidence*

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*Barbara Maramba*

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