

---

---

## HOUSE RESOLUTION

STRONGLY URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 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  
4

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  
9

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  
13

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  
17

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  
22

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  
28

29 WHEREAS, when a proposed amended bill is made available in  
30 hard copy in a capitol office or distributed at a hearing, it



1 should also be posted online immediately for citizens to access  
2 electronically; and  
3

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  
11

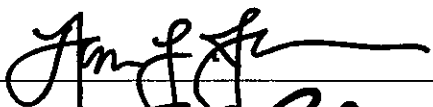

12 WHEREAS, in instances when proposed amended legislation is  
13 prepared before a hearing, the proposed bill should be made  
14 available online to the public before the hearing on that bill  
15 so the public has the opportunity to make comments on the  
16 proposed amended bill at the hearing; now, therefore,  
17

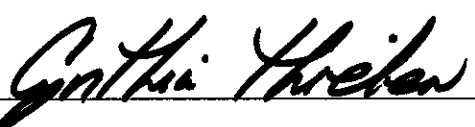
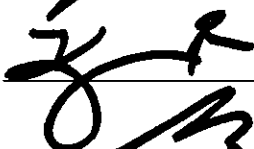
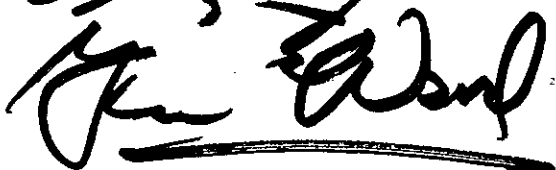
18 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
19 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
20 of 2011, that the House of Representatives is strongly urged to  
21 post a hardcopy of proposed amendments or proposed amended  
22 legislation online immediately following the conclusion of the  
23 hearing, when such amendments are distributed at a public  
24 hearing; and  
25

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  
30

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
32 Resolution be transmitted to the Speaker of the House of  
33 Representatives and the respective leaders and floor leaders of  
34 the House Majority and Minority Caucuses.  
35  
36  
37

OFFERED BY:

# H.R. NO. 18

Craig

Julian Mammuto

JAN 21 2011

