
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO BROADCAST MORE
LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS AND POST THEM ON THE LEGISLATIVE
WEBSITE.

1 WHEREAS, transparency promotes accountability and provides
2 information for citizens about what their government is doing on
3 their behalf; and
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5 WHEREAS, transparency is government's obligation to share
6 information with citizens, while providing the people the
7 opportunity to tell their elected officials what they think of a
8 particular piece of legislation, before it comes up for a vote;
9 and
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11 WHEREAS, a more transparent government begins with public
12 engagement which enhances the government's effectiveness and
13 improves the quality of its decisions; and
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15 WHEREAS, without the ability to watch legislative hearings
16 and floor sessions, a huge segment of our population is excluded
17 from observing the legislative process; and
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19 WHEREAS, with fewer newspapers and TV news outlets in our
20 state, there is reduced news coverage pertaining to the
21 legislature, making citizens further removed from the
22 legislative process; and
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24 WHEREAS, the legislature has the opportunity to address the
25 lack of transparency and public participation by using the
26 technology we have at our disposal today through video,
27 webcasting, and audio transmission to the public; and
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29 WHEREAS, for our democracy to work properly, citizens are
30 making every effort to stay more closely informed and engaged



1 than ever before to engage in and become more involved in the
2 political processes; and

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4 WHEREAS, anyone that has the capability to view or monitor
5 government proceedings can easily keep informed and be able to
6 voice their approval or objection via email or post on a website
7 or blog a link to a precise segment of a particular hearing or
8 floor session; and

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10 WHEREAS, broadcasting hearings and floor sessions will
11 allow all interested citizens and stakeholders to evaluate,
12 scrutinize, or support their elected officials' work at their
13 discretion; and

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15 WHEREAS, although the House of Representatives broadcasts
16 selected hearings to the public, only the Senate makes the
17 broadcast available on-demand on the legislature's website; now,
18 therefore,

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20 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
21 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
22 of 2011, that the House of Representatives is requested to
23 broadcast video or transmit audio of committee hearings and
24 floor sessions to the public; and

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the video or audio transmission
27 be made available on the legislature's website for future
28 viewing; and

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30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
31 Resolution be transmitted to the Speaker of the House of
32 Representatives and the House Majority Leader.

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35 OFFERED BY:








