



SB 2497
RELATING TO PUBLIC BOARDS
Senate Committee on Government Operations

February 2, 2016

1:15 p.m.

Room 414

The Administration of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) will recommend to the OHA Board of Trustees Committee on Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment a position of **COMMENT** on SB2497.

This bill would terminate the term of a public board member who fails to attend four consecutive board meetings duly noticed to all members of the board.

We believe it unlikely that the bill was intended to apply to members of a publicly elected board. In any event, such an application would raise fundamental questions regarding the right of the voters to choose their own representatives.

In this light, we recommend that the bill be amended by adding the following language to what the bill identifies as subsection (d) of section 92-15.5, HRS:

“; provided that this section shall not apply to publicly elected boards.”

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.