
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that every year laws are
2 enacted that require new studies and audits of various state
3 government departments of agencies. Many of these studies and
4 audits require an appropriation and also consume valuable time
5 and resources of the department, agency, office, or branch of
6 government tasked with preparing the study or audit. The
7 legislature also finds that the resultant report is often not
8 widely reviewed by the legislature or public and can sometimes
9 go completely unnoticed despite the fact that these reports can
10 contain valuable information. The legislature further finds
11 that mandating a public hearing or informational briefing would
12 facilitate greater discussion and analysis of the report,
13 consequently better serving the public interest.

14 The purpose of this Act is to require a public hearing or
15 informational briefing on certain audit reports and studies
16 enacted with an appropriation within one year of the receipt of



1 the report or study to properly review and consider the
2 information provided.

3 SECTION 2. Chapter 21, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
4 by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and to read
5 as follows:

6 "PART . HEARINGS OR BRIEFING ON REPORTS

7 §21- Procedures for consideration of reports. (a) The
8 report for any study or audit conducted by:

9 (1) The executive departments and agencies, including the
10 Hawaii health systems corporation;

11 (2) The auditor;

12 (3) The judiciary;

13 (4) The legislative reference bureau; or

14 (5) The Office of Hawaiian Affairs,

15 pursuant to state law and with funding appropriated by the
16 legislature, including any budget Act, shall be submitted by the
17 department, agency, office, or branch completing the study or
18 audit to the chair of the applicable subject matter committee of
19 each chamber and if no chair is currently appointed to that
20 committee, then to the presiding officer of that chamber. The
21 report shall comply with section 93-16.



1 (b) The respective chairs of the committees to whom a
 2 report is submitted under subsection (a) shall conduct a public
 3 hearing or informational briefing on the report within one year
 4 of the chair receiving the report. Upon request of the chair, a
 5 one-year extension of time or waiver of the requirement to
 6 conduct a public hearing or informational briefing may be
 7 granted by the president of the senate or the speaker of the
 8 house of representatives, as applicable; provided that the
 9 reasons for granting a one-year extension of time or waiver of
 10 the requirement under this part shall be posted on the
 11 legislature's website and publicly noticed at the state
 12 capitol."

13 SECTION 3. Chapter 21, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
 14 by designating sections 21-1 to 21-19 as part I and inserting a
 15 title before section 21-1 to read as follows:

16 **"PART I. INVESTIGATING COMMITTEES"**

17 SECTION 4. Sections 21-1, 21-2, 21-6, 21-13, 21-15, and
 18 21-19, Hawaii Revised Statutes, are amended by substituting the
 19 word "part" wherever the word "chapter" appears, as the context
 20 requires.

21 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2088.



Report Title:

Government Accountability; Legislative Hearings; Studies and Reports

Description:

Requires the Legislature to hold a public hearing or informational briefing within one year of receipt of a report by certain governmental departments or agencies that received an appropriation to conduct a study or audit and submit the report to the Legislature. (HB379 HD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

