

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1021

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 01 2019

RE: S.B. No. 335
S.D. 2

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2019
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred S.B. No. 335, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC MEETINGS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to ensure equal access for persons with disabilities to notices of public meetings.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Affirmative Action Committee of the Oahu County Committee, and O'ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Information Practices and Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission.

Your Committee finds that all community members, including persons with disabilities, should have equal access to open government meetings and forums. Your Committee also finds that under Hawaii's existing sunshine law, individuals can request mailed hard copies of meeting notices, but this method does not provide the same access and rights as that of individuals who can access meeting notices electronically. This measure takes steps to ensure persons with disabilities have equal access to hard copies of public meeting notices, either by request through the



mail or through postings at the Office of the Lieutenant Governor or the office of the appropriate board or commission. By refining the sunshine law and mandating more stringent requirements for public meeting notices, all community members, including persons with disabilities, should have equal access to public meetings and the ability for equal participation in the governmental process that influences decisions shaping the quality of life for all residents in Hawaii.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 335, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 335, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary,

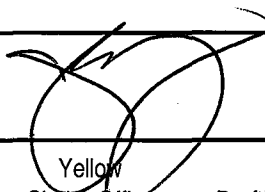


KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary
JDC

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 335, SD 1	Committee Referral: G1VO, JDC	Date: 2/22/19		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye ✓	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn (VC)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike	✓			
KIM, Donna Mercado	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt				✓
TOTAL	4	0	0	1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes