



HAWAII STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

State of Hawaii · Bishop Square, 1001 Bishop Street, ASB Tower 970 · Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Committee: Committee on Government Operations
Bill Number: S.B. 955
Hearing Date/Time: January 29, 2019, 2:45 p.m.
Re: Testimony of the Hawaii State Ethics Commission in **SUPPORT** of
S.B. 955, Relating to Public Financial Disclosure Statement

Dear Chair Thielen and Committee Members:

The Hawaii State Ethics Commission (“Commission”) supports S.B. 955, which adds Executive Directors to the list of state officials whose financial disclosure statements are public.

The Commission supports legislation that promotes openness and transparency in government; publicizing the financial disclosure statements of executive directors (such as the undersigned, the Executive Director of the Hawaii State Ethics Commission) will help to ensure the public’s trust in state officials.

The Commission recognizes the importance of recruiting and maintaining highly qualified employees, and the Legislature has expressed some concern to the Commission in the past that public financial disclosure statements can be a deterrent to public service (particularly for volunteers on boards and commissions). On balance, however, the Commission believes that publication of executive directors’ and deputy directors’ financial disclosure statements is good public policy.

Thank you for your continuing support of the Commission’s work and for considering the Commission’s testimony on S.B. 955.

Very truly yours,

Daniel Gluck
Executive Director and General Counsel



49 South Hotel Street, Room 314 | Honolulu, HI 96813
www.lwv-hawaii.com | 808.531.7448 | voters@lwv-hawaii.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
Tuesday, January 29, 2019 2:45 PM Hearing in State Capitol Room 404

SENATE BILL 955, RELATING TO PUBLIC FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

TESTIMONY

Douglas Meller, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Thielen, Vice-Chair Inouye and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports SB 955 which provides that the financial disclosure statements of the executive directors of state agencies are public records.

We suggest amending SB 955 to automatically require a public financial disclosure statement from the board and the executive director or chief executive officer of any new state agency which will control use of public lands and/or significant public funds. During the 2018 session the Legislature almost transferred jurisdiction for all state airports to a proposed Airport Corporation without requiring public financial disclosure from the board and chief executive officer of the proposed Airport Corporation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

SB-955

Submitted on: 1/28/2019 2:53:26 PM

Testimony for GVO on 1/29/2019 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

SB-955

Submitted on: 1/29/2019 1:52:15 AM

Testimony for GVO on 1/29/2019 2:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy Gonce	Individual	Support	No

Comments: