

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 15 2019

RE: S.B. No. 684
S.D. 1

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 684 entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Exempt members of a county council from the limitation on the number of members that may attend an informational meeting or presentation on matters relating to official board business; and
- (2) Clarify that such meetings for which two or more members of a board, but less than a quorum, may attend shall be meetings that are open to the public.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor, one member of the Kaua'i County Council, and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Office of Information Practices, Civil Beat Law Center for the Public Interest, League of Women Voters of Hawaii, Hawaii Chapter Society of Professional Journalists, and Common Cause Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that informational meetings and presentations open to the public provide the opportunity for

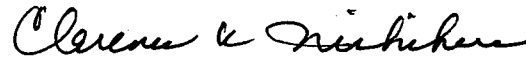


individuals who have an interest to attend and learn more about the subject matter being discussed. However, there is currently limited flexibility under state law for a county council member to attend such meetings and presentations as an individual with a similar private interest. This measure allows council members to stay informed on developing policy issues throughout their respective counties to fulfill their duty and better serve the public.

Your Committee has amended this measure by inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 684, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 684, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental, and Military
Affairs,



CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, Chair



The Senate
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
PSM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
SB 684	PSM, JDC	2-12-2019

The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312 Pass, with amendments 2311 Hold 2310 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (C)	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn (VC)				✓
BAKER, Rosalyn H.	✓			
HARIMOTO, Breene	✓			✓ RJB
FEVELLA, Kurt				✓
TOTAL	3	-	-	2

Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:
Rosalyn H Baker

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*Only one measure per Record of Votes