

OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRACTICES

STATE OF HAWAII
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To: House Committee on Government Reform

From: Cheryl Kakazu Park, Director

Date: February 11, 2022, 9:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

Re: Testimony on H.B. No. 2025
Relating to the Sunshine Law

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill, which would apply the requirement for a board member participating in a remote meeting to state who else is present, only to those persons present who are 18 or older. The Office of Information Practices (OIP) offers comments.

The Sunshine Law's newly effective remote meetings provision requires a board member participating from a nonpublic location to state who, if anyone, is present at the same location. This gives the public some information about off-camera voices or presences they may notice with a board member and prevents speculation as to whether they represent a lobbyist or a household member or child. OIP interprets the current provision not to specifically require identifying everyone present by name, but instead to allow for a statement such as "my children are in and out of the room" without specifically identifying the children in question. However, considering that very few lobbyists or developer representatives are under 18 years of age, and assuming others have no serious concern about the proposed change, **OIP has no objection to the proposed amendment to the law.**



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David Y. Ige
Governor

John De Fries
President and Chief Executive Officer

Statement of
JOHN DE FRIES

Hawai'i Tourism Authority
before the
COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

February 11, 2022
9:30 a.m.
State Capitol
via videoconference

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL NO. 2025
RELATING TO SUNSHINE LAW BOARDS

Aloha Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Wildberger, and members of the Committee on Government Reform.

The Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA) appreciates the opportunity to offer testimony in **support** of HB2025, which requires that the mandatory disclosure of the names of persons who are physically with a board member attending a public meeting by an online method only apply to the disclosure of the names of adults, and not minors, who are physically with the board member.

We are supportive of this measure as there may be times when board members may have their minor children with them during a virtual board or committee meeting. This may be due to various reasons, unanticipated and unavoidable. Protecting minors is paramount and would provide peace of mind to our board members.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony in **support** of HB2025. Mahalo.

HB-2025

Submitted on: 2/10/2022 2:38:32 PM

Testimony for GVR on 2/11/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

All meetings have to Heled in person!!!