
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARDS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that county neighborhood
2 and advisory boards provide local communities with opportunities
3 to participate in government. Likewise, community outreach
4 boards serve as an intermediary between residents and government
5 leaders to understand local concerns, gather and disseminate
6 information, and create solutions in a collaborative
7 environment. As community outreach boards serve as a grassroots
8 tool, ensuring open access to board activities is essential to
9 thriving communities statewide.

10 Therefore, the purpose of this Act is to:

- 11 (1) Define "community outreach board"; and
12 (2) Include community outreach boards in existing
13 provisions of the sunshine law that relate to
14 neighborhood boards.

15 SECTION 2. Section 92-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 amended by adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted
17 and to read as follows:



1 "Community outreach board" means a board established to
2 serve in a community advisory capacity under a county
3 department."

4 SECTION 3. Section 92-81, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended as follows:

6 1. By amending its title and subsections (a) and (b) to
7 read:

8 "[~~f~~]§92-81[~~}]~~ Neighborhood board; community outreach
9 board; notice and agenda; public input; quorum. (a) [~~Any~~
10 ~~contrary provision in this chapter notwithstanding,~~]
11 Notwithstanding any provision in this chapter to the contrary,
12 the provisions of this part shall apply to neighborhood boards
13 overseen by a neighborhood commission of the city and county of
14 Honolulu, and [~~such~~] other neighborhood boards and community
15 outreach boards as may be created in other counties and overseen
16 by a county-based [~~commission.~~] department.

17 (b) The agenda required to be included in written public
18 notice of a [~~neighborhood~~] board meeting may include an
19 opportunity for the board to receive public input on issues not
20 specifically noticed for consideration at the forthcoming
21 meeting."



1 2. By amending subsection (d) to read:

2 "(d) A quorum for a meeting of a neighborhood board or
3 community outreach board shall be required for:

4 (1) Conducting official board business;

5 (2) Discussions prior to and related to voting; and

6 (3) Voting required to validate an act of the board as
7 part of official board business.

8 A neighborhood board or community outreach board may receive
9 information or testimony on a matter of official board business
10 without a quorum; provided that the board shall not make a
11 decision on the issue. The board members, at the next meeting
12 of the neighborhood board, shall report the matters presented as
13 information or testimony."

14 SECTION 4. Section 92-82, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
15 amended to read as follows:

16 "**§92-82 Permitted interactions of neighborhood board and**
17 **community outreach board members.** (a) Neighborhood board and
18 community outreach board members may attend meetings or
19 presentations [~~located on Oahu~~] on matters relating to official
20 board business; provided that the meeting or presentation is
21 open to the public, does not charge a fee or require



1 registration, and is not specifically and exclusively organized
2 for or directed toward members of the board; and provided
3 further that no member makes a commitment to vote on any of the
4 issues discussed.

5 (b) Neighborhood board and community outreach board
6 members who attend meetings or presentations allowed by
7 subsection (a) may ask questions relating to official board
8 business of persons other than fellow board members."

9 SECTION 5. Section 92-83, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended to read as follows:

11 "[+]§92-83[+] Neighborhood board meeting; community
12 outreach board meeting; unanticipated events; public interest.

13 An unanticipated event that occurs after public notice of a
14 neighborhood board or community outreach board meeting has been
15 issued, but before the scheduled meeting, may be the subject of
16 discussion at the scheduled meeting if timely action on the
17 matter is necessary for public health, welfare, and safety. At
18 a duly noticed meeting, a board may take action on an
19 unanticipated event in the public interest that is not on the
20 agenda in the same manner as if the board had held an emergency
21 meeting to take action on the issue, pursuant to section 92-8."



1 SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

3 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2112.



Report Title:

Neighborhood Boards; Community Outreach Boards; Sunshine Law;
Public Meetings; Permitted Interactions

Description:

Defines "community outreach board" to mean a board established to serve in a community advisory capacity under a county department. Includes community outreach boards under existing provisions of the Sunshine Law regarding neighborhood boards. Authorizes neighborhood board or community outreach board members to attend meetings or presentations related to official board business statewide. Takes effect 7/1/2112. (SD1)

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

