

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 27 2025

RE: S.B. No. 1651
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred S.B.
No. 1651, 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:

- (1) Require board packets to be posted no later than 7:45
a.m. on the third business day before a public meeting;
and
- (2) Require boards to provide notice to persons requesting
notification of meetings at the time the board packet is
made available for public inspection.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Public First Law Center and two individuals.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the
Department of Human Services; Office of Information Practices;
Hawaii Public Housing Authority; Hawai'i State Commission on
Fatherhood; Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender,
Queer Plus Commission; and Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits
Trust Fund.



Your Committee finds that board meetings provide the public with an opportunity to engage in community matters, offer insight, and interact with government officials. While board meetings are open to the public, most board meeting packets are not publicly available until a short time before the board meeting begins, leaving community members with little time to understand the topics to be discussed, evaluate and examine documents, and formulate informed testimony. Therefore, this measure ensures greater participation by community members through the timely posting of board packets.

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. 1651, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.

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



KARL RHOADS, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Judiciary
JDC

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 1651, SD 1	GVO, JDC	2/20/25		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313 </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
RHOADS, Karl (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)				✓
CHANG, Stanley	✓			
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
TOTAL	4			1
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;"> </div>				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: small;"> Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: x-small;"> File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy </div>				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes