

THE SENATE
KA 'AHA KENEKOA

THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2025

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, February 4, 2025
TIME: 3:05 PM
PLACE: Conference Room 225 & Videoconference
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

PHOTO ID REQUIRED FOR ENTRANCE TO THE STATE CAPITOL
BUILDING HOURS: 7AM TO 5PM, MONDAY - FRIDAY

The Legislature is accepting written, videoconference, and in-person testimony at public hearings.
A live stream of all Senate Standing Committee meetings will be available on the [Senate YouTube Channel](#).

A M E N D E D A G E N D A

SB 1175

[Status &
Testimony](#)

RELATING TO PROCUREMENT.

Adds state contractor's performance assessment to information required to be included in the past performance database maintained by the State Procurement Office.

GVO, WAM

SB 1587

[Status &
Testimony](#)

RELATING TO RETAINAGE.

Allows procurement officers to withhold a retainage fee of one per cent of the total budget from contractors to ensure satisfactory project completion. Requires the retainage fee to be paid to contractors within a certain number of days of project completion.

GVO, WAM

SB 1543

[Status &
Testimony](#)

RELATING TO GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY.

Requires each purchasing agency to provide justification for hiring external consultants. Caps the amount each agency can spend on external consultants. Requires each agency to seek approval from the Legislature for consulting contracts exceeding a certain dollar amount. Requires each agency to disclose all contracts with external consultants. Requires annual reports to the Legislature. Requires the Compliance Audit Unit to conduct regular audits of agency consultant contracts to assess cost-effectiveness and compliance.

GVO, WAM

SB 1255

[Status & Testimony](#)

RELATING TO GOVERNMENT RECORDS.

Clarifies that government records subject to disclosure requirements under the Uniform Information Practices Act include information that is created, received, maintained, or used by private contractors in performance of a government function outsourcing contract. Establishes requirements for parties to government function outsourcing contracts. Establishes civil penalties. Requires reports to the Legislature. Allows the Office of Information Practices to conduct inquiries regarding compliance by a private contractor and investigate possible violations.

GVO, JDC

SB 1513

[Status & Testimony](#)

RELATING TO APPROPRIATIONS.

Prohibits the transfer of funds appropriated for positions to operating expenses, and vice versa, except to fulfill the Legislature's purpose for which the funds were appropriated.

GVO, WAM

SB 1616

[Status & Testimony](#)

RELATING TO CARE CENTERS.

Requires that new and newly renovated state buildings with a budget of \$5,000,000 or more include dedicated space for a child care center or an adult day care center.

GVO, WAM

SB 74

[Status & Testimony](#)

RELATING TO STATE CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS.

Establishes the Office of the State Architect within the Department of Accounting and General Services to be headed by the State Architect. Authorizes the State Architect to organize, manage, and oversee the design review of all state construction projects and issue design approvals. Establishes the Design Review Special Fund. Requires the State Architect to submit a report to the Governor and Legislature. Authorizes DAGS to provide centralized design review services for state construction projects and issue design approvals through the State Architect. Exempts state construction projects from county building permit, inspection, and certificate of occupancy requirements, subject to certain conditions. Makes appropriations.

GVO, WAM/JDC

SB 1205

[Status & Testimony](#)

RELATING TO STATE ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION.

Requires departments, offices, and other state agencies that make a final determination to reorganize to submit a report to the Legislature. Requires the report to include an estimated timeline for the completion of the reorganization and the divisions and positions affected by the reorganization.

GVO, WAM

SB 786[Status &
Testimony](#)**RELATING TO GOVERNMENT RECORDS.**

GVO, WAM/JDC

Beginning 1/1/2027, requires all government records required to be open to public inspection under the Uniform Information Practices Act to be made available in a disability-accessible format upon request. Requires the Governor, Chief Justice, and Mayor of each county to designate at least one agency within their respective government unit as a converting agency responsible for converting government records into a disability-accessible format. Establishes the process by which government records shall be converted into disability-accessible format upon request. Allows the converting agencies to consult with the Disability Communications Access Board. Requires the Office of Information Practices, Judiciary, and each county to adopt rules, regulations, or ordinances, including a provision that extends the time within which an agency must respond to requests for government records by 5 business days for records in disability-accessible formats, with exceptions for records pertaining to board meetings. Appropriates funds.

SB 1611[Status &
Testimony](#)**RELATING TO GOVERNMENT POSITIONS.**

GVO, JDC

Requires a person appointed to serve as the Governor's Senior Advisor for Mental Health and the Justice System, Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness, or another position that serves as a senior advisor to the Governor to obtain the advice and consent of the Senate. Requires the First Deputy Director of Human Services to obtain the advice and consent of the Senate; provided that if there is more than 1 deputy director in the Department of Human Services and no deputy director is designated as the 1st deputy director, then all persons holding the title of deputy director must obtain the advice and consent of the Senate.

SB 1637[Status &
Testimony](#)**RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN.**

GVO, JDC

Expands the authority of the Office of the Ombudsman by amending the definition of "administrative act" to include the lease of state agricultural lands.

SB 1651[Status &
Testimony](#)**RELATING TO PUBLIC MEETINGS.**

GVO, JDC

Requires board packets to be posted two or more full business days before a public meeting.

SB 1617[Status &
Testimony](#)**RELATING TO PUBLIC MEETINGS.**

GVO, JDC

Prohibits boards from beginning or continuing meetings after 9:00 p.m., excluding county council meetings.

SB 1253[Status &
Testimony](#)**RELATING TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.**

GVO, JDC

Clarifies that the prohibition against board and commission holdover members from holding office beyond the end of the second regular legislative session following the expiration of the member's term of office takes precedence over any conflicting statutes.

SB 1031

**Status &
Testimony**

RELATING TO ADVISORY REFERENDUMS.

Authorizes the Legislature to adopt any Concurrent Resolution to propose a non-binding advisory referendum question to the people, who may vote on the question during any general election. Imposes notice, certification, and reporting requirements on the Chief Election Officer.

GVO, JDC

SB 1306

**Status &
Testimony**

RELATING TO PROCUREMENT.

Establishes a procurement automation system special fund and aligns section 103D-203(b), HRS, with section 302A-1702, HRS, which added the Executive Director of the School Facilities Authority as a chief procurement officer.

GVO, WAM

**[Measure added
on 01-31-25]**

Decision Making to follow, if time permits.

All testimony received by the Hawai'i Senate is posted on the Hawai'i Legislature's website, which is accessible to the public. Please do not include private information that you do not want disclosed to the public.

Please go to the Legislature's website, <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov>, to submit **written testimony** at least 24 hours prior to the hearing. Create a free account on the website, or sign in to an existing account, then click on the "Participate" drop down menu and select the "Submit Testimony" option to get started. While submitting your written testimony, you will be prompted to indicate if you would also like to testify at the hearing in-person or remotely via videoconference.

Please note the following:

- The number of oral testifiers and/or time allotted to each testifier may be limited by the Chair when necessary to adhere to the committee hearing schedule. We may not be able to accommodate everyone who requests to testify orally.
- Testifiers for this hearing will be limited to **2 minutes** each.

If you wish to **testify via videoconference** during the hearing, please review the detailed step-by-step instructions for testimony procedures before you submit your written testimony. Here's a direct link to the instructions: <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/docs/testimonyinstructions.pdf>

For general help navigating the committee hearing process, please contact the Public Access Room at (808) 587-0478 or par@capitol.hawaii.gov. You can also visit their website at <https://lrh.hawaii.gov/par/>.

For special assistance: The cable TV broadcast and/or live stream of this meeting will include closed captioning. If you need an auxiliary aid/service or other accommodation due to a disability, please call the committee clerk at the telephone number listed below or email GVOcommittee@capitol.hawaii.gov. Requests made as early as possible have a greater likelihood of being fulfilled.

For amended notices: Measures that have been deleted are stricken through and measures that have been added are underscored. If a measure is both underscored and stricken through, that measure has been deleted from the agenda.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE COMMITTEE CLERK AT (808) 586-6070.

Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey
Chair