

A Bill for an Act Relating to the Establishment of a Legislative Scientific Advisory Committee.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. Chapter 23, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"PART . LEGISLATIVE SCIENTIFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sec. 23- Findings and purpose. The legislature finds that much of today's legislation entails scientific and technological implications and that the committee chairmen of the various legislative committees and individual legislators have frequently called upon the members of the State's scientific community to assist with questions of fact or technological assessment. The legislature further finds that the need for such scientific and technological aid is becoming more necessary with the rapidly growing technical and scientific advances being made in today's society. The purpose of this part is to provide the legislature with the necessary scientific and technical resources to aid them in making judicious decisions on legislation involving scientific or technical matters by establishing a legislative scientific advisory committee.

Sec. 23- Definition. As used in this part, "committee" means the legislative scientific advisory committee as created in this chapter.

Sec. 23- Establishment. There is established in the office of the legislative auditor for administrative purposes, a legislative scientific advisory committee for the purpose of aiding the legislature in evaluating and assessing the scientific and technical implications of proposed legislation.

Sec. 23- Composition; appointment. (a) The committee shall be composed of eleven members, all of whom except for the chairman shall be professional scientists representing the broad spectrum of the scientific community.

(b) The ombudsman, the legislative auditor, and the director of the legislative reference bureau shall submit a list of twenty-one names to the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives who shall appoint the members of the committee.

(c) The chairman of the committee, who shall not be a scientist, shall be appointed by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives and shall be an ex officio member of the committee.

Sec. 23- Term of appointment. The members of the committee shall be appointed for three-year terms except that five of the initial appointees shall serve a term of five years.

Sec. 23- Powers and duties. The committee shall:

(1) Respond to requests for scientific and technical information from the legislature; and

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- (2) Establish the necessary ad hoc subcommittees for the purposes of gathering information; provided that at least one member of the committee shall be a member of each ad hoc committee and shall report to the committee the activities of the ad hoc subcommittee.

Sec. 23- Expenses. The members of the committee shall serve without compensation but shall be reimbursed for all necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.”

SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved June 1, 1972.)