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STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1226 -98

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Honolulu, Hawaii
 April 8, 1998
 RE: S.B. No. 2983
 S.D. 2
 H.D. 2

Honorable Joseph M. Souki
 Speaker, House of Representatives
 Nineteenth State Legislature
 Regular Session of 1998
 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Finance, to which was referred S.B. No. 2983, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRACTICES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to bring together the administration of the open meetings law and the open records law under the Office of Information Practices (OIP) by:

- (1) Making OIP responsible for the administration of the open meetings law; and
- (2) Moving OIP from the Department of the Attorney General to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.

Common Cause Hawaii, the Honolulu Community-Media Council, the League of Women Voters of Hawaii, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and several individuals submitted testimony in support of this measure. The Department of the Attorney General submitted testimony in opposition to this measure. OIP, the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, Hawaii Clean Elections, the Society of Professional Journalists, and several individuals submitted comments.

Your Committee has amended this bill by:

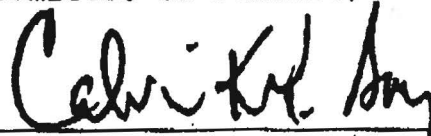
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- (1) Clarifying that complaints of board noncompliance may be submitted to the Lieutenant Governor and the Lieutenant Governor may forward unresolved complaints to the Attorney General or the prosecuting attorney for enforcement; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for purposes of clarity and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Finance that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2983, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2983, S.D. 2, H.D. 2.

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



CALVIN K.Y. SAY, Chair