

SCRep. 510      Public Employment and Government Operations on H.B. No. 1311

The purpose of this bill is to amend Section 92-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, subsection (b), by deleting the seventy-two hour public notice filing and posting requirement for meetings of public agencies and to require instead a period to be later specified.

According to testimony heard by your Committee, the current requirement of seventy-two hours is not sufficient for the public to be made aware of forthcoming public hearings; an extension of time beyond the presently required seventy-two hours would be of great help in preparing for such hearings.

Your Committee is in agreement that this bill be amended by inserting the figure of six calendar days, which doubles the current time required. This would allow public agencies sufficient time to distribute hearing notices and allow the public time to view these notices and be aware of scheduled hearings. This would also allow community groups and associations time to contact interested parties and research the upcoming issues.

Your Committee on Public Employment and Government Operations is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1311, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1311, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by all members of the Committee.