

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the State Ethics Commission and Common Cause Hawaii.

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 H.B. No. 948 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by all members of the Committee except Representatives Amaral, Bunda, Hirono, Menor and Takamine.

**SCRep. 519 Judiciary on H.B. No. 1593**

The purpose of this bill is to provide for an extension of time from December 31, 1993 to December 31, 1994 for all State and county government agencies to complete the public records report required by Section 92F-18(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Pursuant to 92F-18(b), HRS, each State and county government agency is required to complete and file a public records report that describes the records it routinely uses or maintains. The reports must designate which records are public or confidential, and provide other information such as the records' location and uses.

Initially, the public records report was to be generated on paper with a completion date of July 1, 1989. However, due to the tremendous volume of information to be collected and reported, to be cost effective and efficient, automation was found to be critical for the project's ultimate success. Consequently, in 1989, 1991, and 1992, the Legislature extended the time for the agencies' completion of the records report and allowed for the development of an automated records report system. Accordingly, the Office of Informational Practices (OIP), advised all agencies to not begin the records report until the installation of the automated records report system was completed.

In 1992, the Legislature appropriated funds for the hiring of critically needed support staff and consultants for the implementation of the automated records report system for when the installation was finally completed. However, due to severe budget restrictions that were imposed in July 1992, the appropriated funds were eliminated from OIP's budget. The elimination of these funds has severely strained the staff and resources of OIP and other government agencies in completing the records report. Because of the impact of the unexpected budgetary restrictions on the records report project, it will be impossible for the OIP to provide the support and assistance necessary for government agencies to complete the records report by December 31, 1993. Hence, the need for an extension of time.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the OIP.

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 H.B. No. 1593 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by all members of the Committee except Representatives Bunda and Hirono.

**SCRep. 520 Judiciary on H.B. No. 921**

The purpose of this bill is to amend the ethics code with respect to financial disclosure statements required to be filed with the Ethics Commission by delineating additional increments of amounts required to be reported.

Testimony in strong support of the bill was received by your Committee from representatives of the State Ethics Commission and Common Cause Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that under current law the dollar amount ranges when amounts are required to be reported on disclosure of financial interest statements are too low, for they reflect the economic conditions in 1980 when they were adopted. The proposed cap of \$1,000,000 will provide citizens with more information and allow them to make better judgments about possible conflicts of interest. Your Committee believes the new cap will help restore public faith in government.

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 H.B. No. 921 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Signed by all members of the Committee except Representatives Bunda and Hirono.

**SCRep. 521 Judiciary on H.B. No. 922**

The purpose of this bill is to delete provisions of the ethics code that allow financial disclosure statements filed with the State Ethics Commission to be returned to the filer after the three-year period following the termination of the filer's term of office.

The law currently requires the State Ethics Commission, at the end of the three-year period, to afford the filer the opportunity to request return of his or her disclosure statement. Contacting these individuals has proven to be a time consuming and costly task. Your Committee believes that mandating the return of disclosure forms to the filers is an unnecessary use of time and taxpayers money.

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