Commission to Improve Standards of Conduct

Members:

Judge Daniel R. Foley (Ret.), Chair;

Robert D. Harris, Executive Director and General Counsel of the State Ethics Commission, Vice Chair;

Kristin E. Izumi-Nitao, Executive Director of the Campaign Spending Commission;

Nikos Leverenz, Common Cause Hawaii Advisory Board Member;

Barbara C. Marumoto, Former State Representative;

Janet Mason, Legislative Committee Member, League of Women Voters of Hawaii; and

Florence T. Nakakuni, Former U.S. Attorney for the District of Hawaii.

Note: Ms. Sandy Ma, Executive Director of Common Cause Hawaii, resigned from the Commission effective June 17, 2022, and Mr. Nikos Leverenz was appointed by Speaker of the House of Representatives Scott K. Saiki to fill that vacancy via memorandum on the same day.

Resources:

The Commission's website, which includes related materials and information such as House Resolution No. 9 (Regular Session of 2022), the Commission's Interim Report, and meeting notices and minutes, can be found here: Committees (hawaii.gov))

Recordings of the Commission's public meetings may be viewed on the House of Representatives' YouTube channel found here: <u>Hawaii House of Representatives - YouTube</u>

The Commission may be contacted via email at standardsofconduct@capitol.hawaii.gov

I. Call to Order/Roll Call

Chair Foley convened the meeting at 2:00 p.m. All Commissioners were present for the meeting.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the August 17 and August 24, 2022, meetings of the Commission were approved and adopted.

III. Public Testimony

The Commission received written public testimony from the Office of Information Practices, Kokua Council, and three individuals.

The Commission heard oral public testimony from two individuals pertaining to:

- Sunshine Law and open decision-making; and
- Term limits.

IV. Consideration of Draft Bills Related to Public Meetings

Commissioner Leverenz introduced the following draft bills for discussion and decision-making:

A. Recordings of Public Meetings

The draft bill can be found here: <u>CISC - Public Agency Meetings (hawaii.gov)</u>.

Vice Chair Harris motioned for the draft bill to be deferred to work on language to delineate the requirements between certain boards and commissions. Commissioner Izumi-Nitao seconded the motion. Chair Foley put the motion to a vote. The motion was carried.

B. Relating to Sunshine Law

The draft bill can be found here: <u>CISC - Sunshine Laws (hawaii.gov)</u>.

Vice Chair Harris motioned for the draft bill to be adopted. Commissioner Marumoto seconded the motion. Chair Foley put the motion to a vote. The motion was carried.

V. Consideration of Draft Bill Relating to Uniform Information Practices

Commissioner Leverenz introduced the following draft bill for discussion and decision making:

A. Public Records Bill

The draft bill can be found here: <u>CISC - Open Records Law (hawaii.gov)</u>.

The commissioners reached a consensus to defer the draft bill to work on language that addresses certain executive agency and public comments.

VI. Consideration of Draft Bill Relating to Elections

The draft bill can be found here: <u>CISC - Voter Education (hawaii.gov)</u>

Commissioner Mason introduced the draft bill for discussion and decision making.

The Commission deferred the draft bill to allow Commissioner Mason to reach out to the Office of Elections for comments on the draft bill.

VII. Draft Bill for a Proposed Constitutional Amendment for Term Limits

The draft bill can be found here: CISC - Term Limits (hawaii.gov)

Commissioner Mason introduced the bill for discussion and decision making.

Chair Foley proposed an amendment to the bill to increase the term limit from eight to sixteen years. Commissioner Marumoto seconded the motion. Chair Foley put the motion to a vote. Vice Chair Harris and Commissioners Izumi-Nitao, Leverenz, Marumoto, and Nakakuni supported the amendment. Commissioner Mason opposed the amendment. The motion was carried.

The Commission then voted on whether to adopt the amended bill. Chair Foley and Commissioners Izumi-Nitao, Marumoto, and Nakakuni voted to adopt the bill. Vice Chair Harris and Commissioners Leverenz and Mason opposed adoption. The amended bill was adopted.

VIII. Discussion of Future Meetings and Next Steps

The Commission is planning on holding the following meetings:

- October 19, 2022: Bills on campaign spending (excluding public funding which will be presented in November); and
- October 26, 2022: Bills on ethics and the legislative process.

Commissioner Nakakuni is working with the Law Enforcement Coalition on bills that already received a public hearing. Once finalized, those bills will be scheduled for a meeting, most likely for the meeting scheduled on October 26, 2022.

The Commission plans on holding meetings in early November, possibly November 2 and 9, 2022, to address deferred matters. The three bills deferred from today's agenda, unless stated otherwise, will be scheduled for the first meeting in November.

Due to other obligations, Chair Foley may have limited availability from the last week of October through the first three weeks of November. Vice Chair Harris will serve as the acting Chair during Chair Foley's absence..

IX. Other matters

Commissioner Marumoto requested that the Commission issue a strong statement or bill for greater transparency from political action committees and other entities that make campaign donations.

The Commission's next meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.