

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2026

Honolulu, Hawaii

, 2025

APR 04

RE: S.B. No. 1651
S.D. 1
H.D. 2

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 1651, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC MEETINGS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to require:

- (1) Board packets to be posted two full business days before a public meeting; and
- (2) Boards to provide notice to persons who have requested notification of meetings when the board packets are made available for public inspection.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission; Disability and Communication Access Board; Public First Law Center; Society of Professional Journalists, Hawaii Chapter; and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Office of Information Practices.

2025-3158 SB1651 HD2 HSCR HMSO



Your Committee finds that in 2024, state law was amended to require board packets to be posted no later than two business days before a public meeting to give the public ample time to review the materials. However, some agencies have interpreted this amendment to mean that a board packet can be posted at any time during the second business day before the public meeting. This measure aims to clarify the deadline for posting board packets, ensuring adequate time for boards to prepare their materials and for the public to review them before the meeting.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Clarifying that board packets must be posted no later than two full business days before the meeting; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Your Committee notes that the intent of this measure is for board packets to be posted no later than six hours before the close of business on the second business day before the meeting.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1651, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1651, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Judiciary &
Hawaiian Affairs,



DAVID A. TARNAS, Chair



HSCR 2026

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 1651 (SDI HDI)		Committee Referral: LAB, JHA		Date: 04/02/2025	
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.					
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)					
JHA Members		Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. TARNAS, David A. (C)		✓			
2. POEPOE, Mahina (VC)		✓			
3. BELATTI, Della Au		✓			
4. COCHRAN, Elle					✓
5. HASHEM, Mark J.		✓			
6. KAHALOA, Kirstin		✓			
7. PERRUSO, Amy A.		✓			
8. TAKAYAMA, Gregg		✓			
9. TODD, Chris		✓			
10. GARCIA, Diamond		✓			
11. SHIMIZU, Garner M.		✓			
TOTAL (11)		10	0	0	1
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)					
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____					
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO					