

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **411**

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 20 2015

RE: S.B. No. 723
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and
Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 723 entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to promote
transparency and accessibility in county government by permitting
county council members to jointly attend and speak at certain
community meetings or presentations; provided that the meetings or
presentations are events open to the public.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this
measure from the Office of Information Practices; League of Women
Voters of Hawaii; Society of Professional Journalists, Hawaii
Chapter; Civil Beat Law Center for the Public Interest; Common
Cause Hawaii; and one individual.

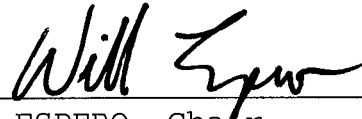
Your Committee finds that county council members are expected
to determine how community members feel about policy issues and
enact legislation addressing issues when advisable, yet compliance
with state law has required council members to leave community
meetings or decline invitations to attend community meetings.
Your Committee further finds that permitting council members to
attend these public meetings will not jeopardize openness in
government because council members do not have control over
agendas, discussions, or outcomes of meetings conducted by non-
council members.



Your Committee has amended this measure by inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 723, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 723, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Labor.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs,



WILL ESPERO, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
PSM

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 723	Committee Referral: PSM, JDL	Date: 2-17-15		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313</div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
ESPERO, Will (C)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (VC)	✓			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood	✓			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.	✓			
SLOM, Sam	✓			
TOTAL	5	-	-	-
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
Distribution: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: small;"> <div>Original File with Committee Report</div> <div>Yellow Clerk's Office</div> <div>Pink Drafting Agency</div> <div>Goldenrod Committee File Copy</div> </div>				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes