JAN 2 5 2017

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE SUNSHINE LAW.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the sunshine law
- 2 protects the public's interest by requiring state and county
- 3 boards to conduct their business in meetings open to the public.
- 4 Open meetings allow for public participation and scrutiny and
- 5 ensure that the formation and approval of public policy is
- 6 completed as transparently as possible. However, a limited
- 7 exemption from the sunshine law is necessary to permit a
- 8 majority of board members to discuss internal organizational
- 9 decisions such as when a council, commission, or board is
- 10 reorganizing after an election or other infusion of new members.
- 11 The legislature further finds that the integrity of the current
- 12 sunshine law will remain intact as a public discussion and
- 13 public vote will still be required on public policy matters over
- 14 which the board has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or
- 15 advisory power.

S.B. NO. 1209

- 1 The purpose of this Act is to remove the limit on the
- 2 number of board members that are allowed to hold private
- 3 discussions on the selection of the board's officers.
- 4 SECTION 2. Section 92-2.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 5 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:
- 6 "(c) Discussions between two or more members of a board[$_{T}$
- 7 but less than the number of members which would constitute a
- 8 quorum for the board, concerning the selection of the board's
- 9 officers may be conducted in private without limitation or
- 10 subsequent reporting."
- 11 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 12 and stricken.
- 13 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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S.B. NO. 1209

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S.B. NO. 1209

Report Title:

Public Agency and Meetings; Permitted Interactions of Members

Description:

Removes the limit on the number of board members allowed to have private discussions regarding the selection of the board's officers.

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