STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2424

Honolulu, Hawaii

## FEB 1 0 2020

RE: S.B. No. 2038

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi President of the Senate Thirtieth State Legislature Regular Session of 2020 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Government Operations, to which was referred S.B. No. 2038 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BOARD MEMBERS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to permit two or more board members to attend a state of the city, state of the county, state of the State, or state of the judiciary address without violating "sunshine" laws where meetings must be open to the public and allow for public comment. These ceremonial and informative addresses are a necessary function of public service. The dual benefit is that board members are seen partaking in civic events, and also that they are able to hear an important speech.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Office of Information Practices, Office of the Mayor of the County of Hawai'i, and one member of the Maui County Council.

Your Committee finds that when members of a board attend a ceremonial government event, such as State of the State, State of the City, or State of the County address, they often find themselves together listening to a presentation that includes matters that may likely be board business in the foreseeable future. Although the presentation is primarily ceremonial in nature, their attendance at the same event and their interaction with each other may be viewed as a technical violation of the Sunshine Law. This measure would specifically allow multiple



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board members to attend largely ceremonial events provided that they do not discuss potential board business between themselves and no commitment to vote is made.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Government Operations that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2038 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

> Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Government Operations,

LAURA H THIELEN,



## The Senate Thirtieth Legislature State of Hawai'i

## Record of Votes Committee on Government Operations GVO

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral: Date:				
961078	GVO, J	IVC	D	28 2	2020
The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.					
If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
THIELEN, Laura H. (C)					
INOUYE, Lorraine R. (VC)		V			
BAKER, Rosalyn H.					
KANUHA, Dru Mamo					
FEVELLA, Kurt		V			
		•			
TOTAL	,	5			
Recommendation:					
Adopted Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature:					
Amarica Monge					
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod					
File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy					

\*Only <u>one</u> measure per Record of Votes