

THE SENATE  
THE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2021

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

NOTICE OF DECISION MAKING

DATE: Thursday, March 4, 2021  
TIME: 10:00AM  
PLACE: Conference Room 211 & Videoconference  
TIMESLOT: WAM

**THE STATE CAPITOL IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC DURING THE ONGOING COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

A live stream of all Senate Standing Committee meetings will be available on the [Senate YouTube Channel](#).

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A G E N D A

The following measure(s) were previously heard in their respective subject matter committees:

<a href="#">SB 39, SD1</a> <a href="#">(SSCR526)</a> <a href="#">Status &amp; Testimony</a>	RELATING TO HOUSING. Removes limit on the type of eligible costs for exemption from general excise tax for development of affordable rental housing certified by the Hawaii housing finance and development corporation. Amends Hawaii Revised Statutes to allow persons or firms to receive other direct or indirect financing for construction projects from any other governmental contracting agency. (SD1)	HOU, WAM
<a href="#">SB 463, SD1</a> <a href="#">(SSCR14)</a> <a href="#">Status &amp; Testimony</a>	RELATING TO GARDENS. Authorizes the Department of Education to develop programs to encourage the development of gardens on school property. Authorizes the Hawaii Community Development Authority to develop programs that provide incentives to establish gardens in housing projects, communities, and schools. (SD1)	EDU, WAM
<a href="#">SB 465, SD1</a> <a href="#">(SSCR369)</a> <a href="#">Status &amp; Testimony</a>	RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION. Requires the auditor to perform an operational audit of the academic and financial plans of the department of education. Appropriates funds. (SD1)	EDU/GVO, WAM
<a href="#">SB 466, SD1</a> <a href="#">(SSCR370)</a> <a href="#">Status &amp; Testimony</a>	RELATING TO A SCHOOL FACILITIES AGENCY. Amends Act 72, Session Laws of Hawaii 2020, to require that the school facilities agency complies with the Hawaii Public Procurement Code. Authorizes the school facilities agency to have additional powers and duties. Specifies additional uses for the school facilities special fund. Provides the executive director of the school facilities agency with authority relating to capital improvement projects for the school facilities agency. (SD1)	EDU/GVO, WAM

<a href="#"><b>SB 478, SD1</b></a> <a href="#">(SSCR10)</a> <a href="#">Status &amp; Testimony</a>	RELATING TO FARMS. Creates an exclusion from income tax for the lesser of a percentage of gross annual income or an amount of gross annual income earned by a farmer from farming activities. Applies to taxable years beginning after 12/31/2020. (SD1)	AEN, WAM
<a href="#"><b>SB 479, SD1</b></a> <a href="#">(SSCR67)</a> <a href="#">Status &amp; Testimony</a>	RELATING TO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION. Requires the department of agriculture to collaborate with agricultural growers and researchers to develop and implement a program to safely distribute disease- and insect-free tropical plant materials to Hawaii farmers. Requires the department of agriculture to adopt rules to specify the plant species and varieties that warrant additional regulations. Appropriates funds. (SD1)	AEN, WAM
<a href="#"><b>SB 614, SD1</b></a> <a href="#">(SSCR473)</a> <a href="#">Status &amp; Testimony</a>	RELATING TO TAXATION. Retroactively exempts from state income tax, unemployment compensation and pandemic unemployment assistance (PUA) received from March 1, 2020, to December 31, 2020. Requires the department of taxation to allow taxpayers to credit the state income tax deducted and withheld from their unemployment compensation and PUA during that time period against their overall state tax liability. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)	LCA, WAM
<a href="#"><b>SB 645, SD1</b></a> <a href="#">(SSCR283)</a> <a href="#">Status &amp; Testimony</a>	RELATING TO TAXATION. Extends the period in which a county may adopt a surcharge on state tax, under certain conditions. Authorizes the use of county surcharge revenues for affordable and workforce housing infrastructure. (SD1)	PSM, WAM
<a href="#"><b>SB 651</b></a> <a href="#">(SSCR84)</a> <a href="#">Status &amp; Testimony</a>	RELATING TO RENAMING KAHULUI AIRPORT ACCESS ROAD. Renames Kahului Airport Access Road on Maui as the Mayor Elmer F. Cravalho Way.	TRS, WAM
<a href="#"><b>SB 659, SD1</b></a> <a href="#">(SSCR217)</a> <a href="#">Status &amp; Testimony</a>	RELATING TO LOW-INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDIT. Allows the low-income housing tax credit to be allocated among the partners or members of the taxpayer earning the credit in any manner by the parties. Extends increases made to the low-income housing tax credit from 12/31/21 to 12/31/27. (SD1)	HOU, WAM
<a href="#"><b>SB 830, SD1</b></a> <a href="#">(SSCR560)</a> <a href="#">Status &amp; Testimony</a>	RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT. Directs the department of human resources development to convene a working group of stakeholders to update and create policies and procedures relating to telework and alternative work schedules to address the caregiving responsibilities and other needs of state employees and submit a report on its proposed telework and alternative work schedule policies and procedures, including any recommendations on proposed legislation or specific budget requests, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2022. (SD1)	GVO/LCA, WAM

<a href="#"><u>SB 1159, SD1</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(SSCR1)</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Status &amp; Testimony</u></a>	RELATING TO EMPLOYMENT SECURITY. Sets the rate of employer contributions to the State Unemployment Compensation Trust Fund for calendar years 2021, 2022, and 2023, at schedules D, F, and G, respectively, under the Hawaii employer security law. Allows the director of labor and industrial relations to modify the annual contribution rate computation method for all employers for calendar years 2021 and 2022, by omitting from the calculation, benefits charged against their accounts. Amends the definitions of benefit year and week. Conforms the manner of filing partial unemployment benefits claims to those of total and part-total unemployment benefits claims. Effective date of amendments to the contribution rate schedule and computation method is retroactive to 1/1/2021. (SD1)	LCA, WAM
<a href="#"><u>SB 1237, SD1</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(SSCR175)</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Status &amp; Testimony</u></a>	RELATING TO TAXATION. Reduces the cap amounts of the renewable energy technologies income tax credit. Effective January 1, 2022. (SD1)	EET, WAM
<a href="#"><u>SB 1275, SD1</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(SSCR483)</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Status &amp; Testimony</u></a>	RELATING TO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. Requires each state government branch to establish a shared leave program for state employees. Precludes state government branches from prohibiting leave sharing between employees of different departments or bargaining units because of administrative infeasibility. Allows a public employee to designate beneficiaries to the employee's unpaid vacation allowance and wages through a statement that is not verified or written. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)	LCA, WAM
<a href="#"><u>SB 1297</u></a> <a href="#"><u>(SSCR469)</u></a> <a href="#"><u>Status &amp; Testimony</u></a>	RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST MAUIGROWN COFFEE, INC. Extends the authorization to issue special purpose revenue bonds to assist MauiGrown Coffee, Inc., with the operation and expansion of its farm and mill.	AEN, WAM

**Decision making meeting only, no oral testimony will be accepted.**

Persons wishing to submit written testimony may do so up to 24 hours prior to the hearing. Click [here](#) to submit written testimony.

**All testimony received by the Hawai'i Senate is posted on the Hawai'i Legislature's website, which is accessible to the public. Please do not include private information that you do not want disclosed to the public.**

The cable TV broadcast and/or live stream of this meeting will include closed captioning. If you require other auxiliary aids or services to participate in the public hearing process (i.e., interpretive services (oral or written) or ASL interpreter), please contact the committee clerk at least 24 hours prior to the hearing so that arrangements can be made.

**FOR AMENDED NOTICES:** Measures that have been deleted are stricken through and measures that have been added are underscored. If a measure is both underscored and stricken through, that measure has been deleted from the agenda.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE COMMITTEE CLERK AT (808)586-6800.

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Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz  
Chair