STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2719

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 16 2024

RE: S.B. No. 2636

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2024
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Government Operations and Labor and Technology, to which was referred S.B. No. 2636 entitled:

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

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

(1) Require a board to offer remote testifiers an option to be seen and heard by the board and the public when offering remote testimony; and

(2) Authorize a board to remove or block any person who intentionally disrupts or compromises the conduct of a meeting.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Public First Law Center and one individual.

Your Committees received comments on this measure from the University of Hawai'i System and Office of Information Practices.

Your Committees find that some boards refuse to permit individuals to testify by videoconference without giving certain rights, such as registering in advance of a meeting. Existing law concerning remote meetings permits this behavior as long as the meeting has a telephone conference option. However, this process establishes a tiered system that denies remote testifiers the

opportunity to be seen by the board while testifying. This measure will allow remote testifiers to feel confident that the board is receiving the full benefit of their testimony and they are not being ignored in favor of the in-person attendees who the board members can see.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Government Operations and Labor and Technology that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2636 and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committees on Government Operations and Labor and Technology,

HENRY J.C. AQUINO, Chair

ANGUS L.K. MCKELVEY, Chair

The Senate
Thirty-Second Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Government Operations
GVO

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
SB 2636	GVO/LBT, JDL	2-15-24

☐ The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.

If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

☑ Pass, unamended 2312 ☐ Pass, with amendments 2311 ☐ Hold 2310 ☐ Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K. (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)	✓			
SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn	✓			
AWA, Brenton	✓			
TOTAL	5	—	—	—

Recommendation: ☑ Adopted ☐ Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: Mike Gabbard

Distribution: Original — File with Committee Report; Yellow — Clerk's Office; Pink — Drafting Agency; Goldenrod — Committee File Copy

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

Revised: 12/27/23

The Senate
Thirty-Second Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Labor and Technology
LBT

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
SB2636	GVO/LBT, JDC	2/15/2024

☐ The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.

If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

☒ Pass, unamended 2312 ☐ Pass, with amendments 2311 ☐ Hold 2310 ☐ Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
AQUINO, Henry J.C. (C)	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y. (VC)	X			
IHARA, Jr., Les	X			
LEE, Chris				X
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
TOTAL	4			1

Recommendation: ☒ Adopted ☐ Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:

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Revised: 12/27/23