

**SYLVIA LUKE**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR  
*Ke Ke'ena O Ka Hope Kia'āina*

32<sup>nd</sup> Legislature, State of Hawaii  
House Committee on Finance  
February 27, 2024

Testimony on  
**H.B. 2482 – RELATING TO MEETING NOTICES**

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support of H.B. 2482 with proposed amendments as attached**. We have been in discussion with the Office of Information Practices and both of our offices agree that the proposed language which strikes the additional meeting posting requirements is clearer and reduces confusion.

Board meeting notices are statutorily required to be posted on the electronic calendars maintained by the State and the counties and each board or commission must maintain a list of names and postal or electronic mail addresses of persons who request notification of meetings. In addition, my office currently receives facsimile or hand-delivered physical copies of meeting notices and posts these documents daily in the Chamber of the State Capitol for the public to view. However, Hawai'i is a state of islands with numerous geographical barriers and it is impractical for those who live on the neighbor islands to fly to Oahu or for those who live on the windward or leeward of Oahu to drive to the Capitol to view these notices. Further, due to increased security measures at the State Capitol and other government facilities, it is unreasonable for residents and interested parties to physically enter a government building to view posted notices.

Chapter 92-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, already ensures that residents and interested parties have a variety of methods to view board and commission notices and agendas: electronically available on an online calendar, posted physically at the board's office and the site of the meeting when feasible, and via email or physical mail. The proposed amendments will increase efficiency and decrease paper usage for state departments and agencies while ensuring public access to notices.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of H.B. 2482 with proposed amendments.

H.B. NO. 2482  
PROPOSED H.D. 1

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO MEETING NOTICES.

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

SECTION 1. Section 92-7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

"(b) No less than six calendar days prior to the meeting, the board shall post the notice on an electronic calendar on a website maintained by the State or the appropriate county and post a notice in the board's office for public inspection. The notice shall also be posted at the site of the meeting whenever feasible. ~~[The board shall file a copy of the notice with the office of the lieutenant governor or the appropriate county clerk's office and retain a copy of proof of filing the notice, and the office of the lieutenant governor or the appropriate clerk's office shall timely post paper or electronic copies of all meeting notices in a central location in a public building, provided that a failure to do so by the board, the office of the lieutenant governor, or the appropriate county clerk's office shall not require cancellation of the meeting. The copy of the notice to be provided to the office of the lieutenant governor~~

~~or the appropriate county clerk's office may be provided via electronic mail to an electronic mail address designated by the office of the lieutenant governor or the appropriate county clerk's office, as applicable.]"~~

SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

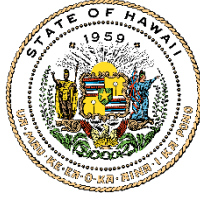
SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

INTRODUCED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

BY REQUEST

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'  
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CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES  
ENFORCEMENT  
ENGINEERING  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION  
LAND  
STATE PARKS

Testimony of  
DAWN N.S. CHANG  
Chairperson

Before the House Committee on  
FINANCE

Tuesday, February 27, 2024  
10:00 AM  
State Capitol Conference Room 308 and Videoconference

In Consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 2482  
RELATING TO MEETING NOTICES

House Bill 2482 requires that the Office of the Lieutenant Governor or the appropriate county clerk's office ensure access to paper or electronic copies all meeting notices and deletes the requirement to post notices in a central location in a public building. **The Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) supports this bill.**

This bill recognizes that most people get meeting notices on-line in the comfort of their home or office. It allows for those who still want a paper copy to be provided one at Lieutenant Governor's office, or the appropriate County Clerk's office. This bill will save trees, reduce waste, and help in the response against climate change.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment in support of this measure.

# OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRACTICES

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NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT BUILDING  
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To: House Committee on Finance

From: Cheryl Kakazu Park, Director

Date: February 27, 2024, 10:00 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

Re: Testimony on H.B. No. 2482  
Relating to Meeting Notices

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill, which would replace the Sunshine Law requirement for the Lieutenant Governor (LG) or appropriate County Clerk to post meeting notices in a central location in a public building with a requirement that they “ensure access” to those notices. The Office of Information Practices (OIP) offers **comments and a suggested amendment that has the LG’s concurrence.**

Under current law, a board must provide a copy of its notice to the LG or Clerk, who must then post a paper or electronic copy in a central location in a public building. The LG has historically met this requirement by posting paper copies in the Capitol basement and the Clerks have historically posted paper copies in a prominent county office building. However, the current law does not require either those specific locations or the posting of paper copies. The LG, for example, could meet this requirement by posting it on an electronic monitor, if one was installed, that would scroll through meeting notices at a location where the public can enter the State building without going through security.

Even after the primary method of posting notice became electronic posting on an electronic calendar in 2014, the requirement for boards to provide meeting notices for the LG and Clerks to post in a public location remained in the Sunshine Law because at that time the Legislature wanted to ensure that people who were accustomed to looking at meeting notices posted in a central location by the LG or Clerk could still do so. Ten years later, S.B. 3171's proposed change would not require any sort of affirmative posting of notices by the LG or Clerk, but instead would just require that the LG or Clerk make paper or electronic copies of meeting notices available to the public. Since the same information is already available on the electronic calendars maintained by the State and the counties, specifying that the LG or Clerk must provide notices on request would not add much in the way of additional public outreach.

OIP therefore questions what additional value to the public would be provided by having the LG and Clerks provide copies of notices upon request. If this Committee believes that after 10 years the public has fully adapted to electronic posting and it is no longer necessary for meeting notices to also be posted in a central location, **it would be more straightforward for this Committee to simply eliminate the requirement for boards to file a copy of their notices with the LG or Clerk in the first place**, rather than continuing to require boards to do this additional filing. To do so, beginning at bill page 1 line 8, this Committee should **delete the remainder of subsection (b) after the sentence stating "The notice shall also be posted at the site of the meeting whenever feasible."**

Thank you for considering OIP's testimony.