

JAN 22 2026

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC MEETINGS.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 92-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding two new definitions to be appropriately
3 inserted and to read as follows:

4 ""Business day"" means Monday through Friday, excluding
5 state holidays designated under section 8-1 and observed
6 pursuant to section 8-2, unless otherwise determined by the
7 chief executive pursuant to section 78-1.6.

8 "Chief executive" has the same meaning as defined in
9 section 76-11."

10 SECTION 2. Section 92-7.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
11 amended to read as follows:

12 **§92-7.5 Board packet; filing; public inspection; notice.**
13 (a) At the time the board packet is distributed to the board
14 members, but no later than three full business days before the
15 meeting, the board shall also make the board packet available
16 for public inspection in the board's office[+] during regular
17 business hours; provided that nothing in this section shall



1 require creation of a board packet; provided further that
2 nothing in this section shall prohibit the distribution of
3 public testimony to board members before the meeting. At the
4 time the board packet is made available for public inspection in
5 the board's office, the board shall provide notice to persons
6 who have requested notification of meetings pursuant to section
7 92-7(e) that includes a list of the documents that were compiled
8 by the board and distributed to the board members before a
9 meeting for use at that meeting and that the board packet is
10 available for inspection in the board's office and shall provide
11 reasonably prompt access to the board packet to any person upon
12 request. The board shall not be required to mail board packets.
13 As soon as practicable, the board shall accommodate requests for
14 electronic access to the board packet and shall post the board
15 packet on its website.

16 (b) For purposes of this section:

17 "Board packet" means documents that are compiled by the
18 board and distributed to board members before a meeting for use
19 at that meeting, to the extent the documents are public under
20 chapter 92F; provided that this section shall not require
21 disclosure of executive session minutes, license applications,



1 or other records for which the board cannot reasonably complete
2 its redaction of nonpublic information in the time available
3 before the public inspection required by this section.

4 ~~["Business day" has the same meaning as defined in section~~
5 ~~11-1.]~~

6 "Regular business hours" means between the hours of 7:30
7 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on business days, unless otherwise determined
8 by the chief executive pursuant to section 78-1.6."

9 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
10 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

11 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

12

INTRODUCED BY: Karl Rhode



S.B. NO. 2449

Report Title:

Public Meetings; Business Days; Board Packets; Public Inspection; Regular Business Hours

Description:

Defines "business day" as used in Part I of Chapter 92, HRS, governing public meetings. Clarifies that board packets, if created, shall be made available for public inspection in the board's office during regular business hours, no later than three full business days before the public meeting. Defines "regular business hours".

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