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**WRITTEN ONLY**

TESTIMONY BY SETH S. COLBY, Ph.D.  
ACTING DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS  
ON  
SENATE BILL NO. 2343

**February 3, 2026**  
**3:00 p.m.**  
**Room 225 and Videoconference**

RELATING TO THE LEGISLATURE

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

Senate Bill No. 2343 requires the Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB) to conduct a study, in collaboration with B&F, on the costs, savings, and potential productivity changes of transitioning to a continuous legislative calendar. While B&F would cooperate with LRB regarding the study, it would be difficult to determine the potential impact of such a change without more specific details.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

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## Written Comments

### **SB2343**

### **RELATING TO THE LEGISLATURE**

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi, Director  
Legislative Reference Bureau

Presented to the Senate Committee on Government Operations

Tuesday, February 3, 2026, 3:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 225 & Via Videoconference

Chair Angus L.K. McKelvey and Members of the Committee:

Good afternoon, Chair McKelvey and members of the Committee. My name is Charlotte Carter-Yamauchi, and I am the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau (Bureau). Thank you for providing the opportunity to submit written **comments** on **S.B. No. 2343, Relating to the Legislature**.

The purpose of this measure is to require the Bureau, in collaboration with the Department of Budget and Finance, to conduct a study on the costs, savings, and potential productivity changes of transitioning to a continuous legislative calendar. More specifically, the bill requires that the study include:

- (1) An estimate of the fiscal impact of transitioning to a continuous legislative calendar compared to the existing legislative calendar, including:
  - (A) Any additional costs or savings; and
  - (B) How much it would cost to fund a continuous Legislature each month;
- (2) The cost to fund each regular session from the Regular Session of 2015 through the Regular Session of 2025; and

- (3) A comparison of the productivity of other continuous legislatures with the Hawaii Legislature, including the number of bills introduced and passed in those legislatures.

The measure also requires the Bureau to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2027.

The measure further appropriates an unspecified sum for the Bureau, in collaboration with the Department of Budget and Finance, to conduct the study.

Although the Bureau takes no position on the merits of this measure, we have very serious concerns regarding the proposed required study and submit the following comments for your consideration.

As you may know, in December 2025—a mere two months ago—the Bureau submitted to the Legislature its report entitled *Sine Die Another Day: Should Hawaii's Legislative Sessions Be Longer?*, in response to House Concurrent Resolution No. 138, H.D. 1, S.D.1 (2024) (H.C.R. No. 138). That measure requested the Bureau to conduct a study of "a continuous legislature, extending the regular session, and adding additional recess days" to regular sessions, and included a cost analysis component as well.

For the reasons explained below, we anticipate that if S.B. No. 2343 is enacted as drafted, any new study regarding costs or savings related to transitioning to a continuous legislative calendar would be largely inconclusive, as was indicated in the recently completed study.

For that study, the Bureau requested detailed operational and financial information from the Chief Clerks of the House of Representatives and the Senate regarding the potential operational and financial impact that lengthened or continuous regular sessions might have on each body.<sup>1</sup> As noted in our report, the Bureau did not receive the requested information.<sup>2</sup>

The report further noted that "H.C.R. No. 138 is vague as to the number of additional session days, if any, that should be included in a 'continuous legislative calendar' or 'extended legislative calendar,' nor does H.C.R. No. 138 define the terms 'continuous' or 'extended'."<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU, *SINE DIE ANOTHER DAY: SHOULD HAWAII'S LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS BE LONGER?* at 68 (2025).

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> *Id.* at 22.

This lack of guidance hampered the Bureau's ability to review issues related to legislative costs and operations. As noted in the report:

It is difficult to even speculate on the effect that a lengthened or continuous regular session may have on legislative operations, costs, or staff without more specificity as to what is envisioned for a lengthened or continuous session. Without knowing exactly what a "longer" session is supposed to look like, projecting its impact is problematic.<sup>4</sup>

Accordingly, the Bureau concluded that the Legislature needed to make essential policy decisions regarding the potential length of regular sessions and related administrative matters. As stated in the report:

[C]onsidering the numerous issues, variables, and unknown facts related to establishing longer regular sessions, the Bureau respectfully suggests that the Legislature first determine the essential timing and framework for a desirable lengthened legislative calendar for both election and non-election years.

Once that first step is completed, the Legislature can then gather additional information from affected stakeholders, resolve how each chamber would address its staffing needs (e.g., longer terms of temporary session hire employment, more full-time, year-round permanent staff, etc.), and consider how to address other operational and cost issues. Parties having direct in-depth knowledge regarding potential fiscal, operational, administrative, legal, and labor impacts within the legislative environment could provide valuable insight and guidance.

The Bureau believes that establishing a specific and concrete proposal regarding the duration of a desirable regular session calendar, clarifying staffing needs and other operational issues, and producing cost information regarding the House of Representatives and Senate operations, including staffing, would facilitate further discussion and enable the preparation of a more complete and accurate assessment of the feasibility and cost of establishing a lengthened or continuous regular session.<sup>5</sup>

S.B. No. 2343 does not provide any of the essential guidance recommended by the Bureau. The bill effectively leaves it up to the Bureau and the Department of Budget and

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<sup>4</sup> *Id.* at 77. See also *id.* at v.

<sup>5</sup> *Id.* at 108-109. See also *id.* at vi.

Finance to decide what continuous sessions should look like, without any of the clarifications from the Legislature identified as being necessary to make an educated recommendation. Although the Bureau recognizes the financial expertise and professionalism of the BUF, the Bureau respectfully suggests that the BUF, as a department of the State's Executive Branch, is ill-equipped to help decide how the Legislature should schedule its regular sessions, or propose what legislative costs should be.

Regarding the issue of productivity, the Bureau also determined that it was difficult to validate H.C.R. No. 138's suggestion that longer sessions could lead to improved productivity—because there appeared to be no objective standard by which to measure productivity, and none was provided by H.C.R. No. 138.<sup>6</sup> Anecdotally, the Bureau's report noted that from 1992 to 2025, the sixty-day regular sessions were extended only four times.<sup>7</sup> The Bureau observed that "[c]ompletion of legislative business could reasonably be viewed as a measure of productivity, and the Legislature's rare use of extensions already permitted by the Constitution would appear to suggest that an extended or continuous regular session would not necessarily increase productivity."<sup>8</sup> Without further guidance on how the Legislature defines productivity within this context, further study of the issue would be fruitless.

The H.C.R. No. 138 study also considered other state legislatures. As the Bureau's report demonstrates, truly continuous state legislatures—that is, legislatures that actually meet in floor session for *at least ten months every year*<sup>9</sup>—are *rare* in the United States. Only legislatures in Massachusetts,<sup>10</sup> Pennsylvania,<sup>11</sup> Michigan,<sup>12</sup> and Ohio<sup>13</sup> meet this description. As noted above, S.B. No. 2343 does not provide any standard for measuring productivity, but seems to imply that "including the number of bills introduced and passed in [continuous] legislatures" could be an indicator of productivity. However, as the Bureau's report noted:

. . .[A]ny number of factors can affect the passage of bills. These may include, but are not limited to, limitations on the number of bills that may be introduced each session, a bill's content and fiscal impact, political goals and strategies, ideological differences, and public opinion. Moreover, there may be a substantial difference of opinion as to whether a particular action is productive or

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<sup>6</sup> *Id.* at v.

<sup>7</sup> *Id.* at 81.

<sup>8</sup> *Id.* (referencing HAW. CONST. art. III, § 10).

<sup>9</sup> In conducting the H.C.R. No. 138 study, the Bureau defined the word "continuous" to mean "any regular session calendar for which members of a legislative chamber are scheduled to formally convene during 10 or more months of each year." *Id.* at 22.

<sup>10</sup> *See id.* at 45.

<sup>11</sup> *See id.*

<sup>12</sup> *See id.*

<sup>13</sup> *See id.* at 30.

unproductive. Thus, passing any given bill may not necessarily be viewed as "productive" or "important," just as not passing any given bill may not necessarily be viewed as "unproductive."<sup>14</sup>

Without a clear standard to determine productivity, it would be difficult to evaluate, for comparison purposes, the overall productivity of the four continuous state legislatures. At best, the Bureau anticipates that an evaluation would likely rely on anecdotal factoids. For example, as noted in the Bureau's report, Pennsylvania<sup>15</sup> and Michigan<sup>16</sup> have had difficulty passing their state budgets in a timely manner. Further, the frequency of Ohio's regular floor sessions—held every five days, apparently in response to that state's constitution—has resulted in extremely brief sessions referred to derisively as "skeleton sessions," during which legislators perform little to no substantive work.<sup>17</sup>

The Bureau appreciates the appropriation of moneys included in the measure. However, if the intent is to provide moneys for the hiring of a contractor, we note several issues. First, we anticipate that any contractor would need the same legislative guidance that the Bureau concluded was necessary regarding the duration of longer regular sessions and an objective standard by which to determine productivity. Second, as we are required to adhere to the State Procurement Code in contracting services, the present timeframe proposed in the measure is insufficient. It is highly improbable that the Bureau would be able to scope such an undertaking, craft a Request for Proposals, select a contractor, and receive and approve the contractor's work product and deliver it to the Legislature within the brief timeframe provided in the measure. Third, even if the measure were to contain a State Procurement Code exemption, it seems unlikely that the Bureau would be able to obtain a qualified contractor and complete the study within the limited time provided.

In light of these issues, the Bureau respectfully suggests that if the Committee is inclined to further explore the possibility of continuous regular sessions, the Committee consider an alternative measure: S.B. No. 3216, Relating to a Regular Session Review Working Group. S.B. No. 3216 specifically follows up on the Bureau's H.C.R. No. 138 report by proposing the establishment of a Regular Session Review Working Group, co-Chaired by Legislators selected by President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives and comprised of knowledgeable stakeholders who will be able to significantly contribute to its work. The Working Group would be required to:

- (1) Study the feasibility of transitioning the Hawaii State Legislature's regular session from one that meets from mid-January to early May to one that is lengthened, which means any regular session that is of significantly longer duration than Hawaii's typical January-to-May regular session;

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<sup>14</sup> *Id.* at 80.

<sup>15</sup> *Id.* at 40.

<sup>16</sup> *Id.* at 42.

<sup>17</sup> *Id.* at 30.

- (2) Analyze the financial impacts and necessary costs to operate lengthened regular sessions, including staffing requirements, changes to legislative services, operational costs, office space needs, and impacts on legislation;
- (3) Analyze and recommend any constitutional, statutory, and legislative rule changes necessary to implement lengthened regular sessions;
- (4) Examine other states that have lengthened sessions, as deemed appropriate by the Working Group; and
- (5) Consider the findings and suggestions made by the Bureau in its H.C.R. No. 138 report.

The Working Group would also be required to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2028. The Bureau would be required to finalize the Working Group's report and draft any proposed legislation; provided that the Working Group submits a draft report to the Bureau no later than October 31, 2027.

S.B. No. 3216 appropriates \$100,000 each to the Senate and the House of Representatives to facilitate Working Group meetings, and exempts the Working Group from the Procurement Code in selecting a contractor.

If, however, the Committee prefers that the Bureau conduct another study, then the Bureau respectfully requests that S.B. No. 2343:

- (1) Specify the essential timing and effective framework for a lengthened legislative session calendar for election and non-election years;
- (2) Provide a clear standard for measuring "productivity";
- (3) Specifically require any state executive or legislative entity to provide the Bureau, or its contractor, with requested information or analysis within thirty days of any request;
- (4) Lengthen the duration of the study to at least two years; and
- (5) Exempt the Bureau from the Procurement Code for the purposes of the study.

Thank you again for your consideration.

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the Committee,

I respectfully submit my testimony in OPPOSITION to SB 2343 - Relating to the Legislature.

The bill requires the Legislative Reference Bureau, in collaboration with the Department of Budget and Finance, to conduct a study on the costs, savings, and potential productivity changes of transitioning to a continuous legislative calendar.

Although I'm not opposed to the idea of a continuous legislative calendar itself, and recognize it could have some benefits, I'm opposed to this study and wasting limited state funds on it.

Notably, the Legislative Reference Bureau already studied and submitted a report on this exact topic. See the attachment entitled:

### **SINE DIE ANOTHER DAY: Should Hawai'i's Legislative Sessions Be Longer?**

I'm concerned that the Legislature would want to spend any more money to study an issue that has already just been studied and was published only recently. Especially considering the financial situation facing our State, in which we apparently don't have money to afford the income tax breaks you all just boasted about and ran for reelection on just two years ago in 2024. Passing this bill would be a waste of limited state resources that should be used to help our people, rather than on another vanity study for the Legislature.

It seems to me that if the Legislature wants to be continuous and year-round, you folks could and should just do it. Why does the issue need to be studied again? If you want it, then do it. If you don't have the votes for it, then you just don't have the votes and can't do it, no matter how many times you study it over and over again.

I think I speak for everyone when I express how tired we are of all these studies that the Legislature passes every year and that never go anywhere. The Legislature is all talk and **no action**. Stop studying things and start **DOING** things.

Please don't waste our taxpayer dollars and kill this bill. Or, if you pass it, I expect our lower income taxes to go fully into effect and not paused like how the news is reporting is being planned.

**PLEASE DON'T PASS THIS WASTE OF MONEY BILL!**

Thank you.

Will

# ***SINE DIE* ANOTHER DAY: Should Hawaii's Legislative Sessions Be Longer?**

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Report No. 2, 2025

Legislative Reference Bureau  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii  
<https://lrb.hawaii.gov>

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2. Legislatives bodies – Term of office – United States – States.
3. Legislative calendars – Law and legislation.

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## **FOREWORD**

The Legislative Reference Bureau (Bureau) prepared this report in response to House Concurrent Resolution No. 138, H.D. 1, S.D.1 (2024) (hereinafter H.C.R. No. 138), which requested the Bureau to conduct a study of "a continuous legislature, extending the legislative session, and adding additional recess days" to the regular session.

To complete this study, the Bureau requested information from state and county agencies, the National Conference of State Legislatures, and officials in certain other states. The Bureau extends its appreciation to all those who generously provided information and assistance in the preparation of this report.

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi  
Director

December 2025

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## Introduction

The Legislative Reference Bureau (Bureau) prepared this report in response to House Concurrent Resolution No. 138, H.D. 1, S.D.1 (2024) (hereinafter H.C.R. No. 138), which requested the Bureau to conduct a study of "a continuous legislature, extending the regular session, and adding additional recess days" to the regular session. In addition, H.C.R. No. 138 requested that the Bureau:

- (1) Discuss the pros and cons of a continuous legislative session, extending the legislative session, and adding additional recess days;
- (2) Focus on what a continuous legislative calendar, extended legislative calendar, and a legislative calendar day with additional recess days for the State may look like, including bill and budget deadlines; and
- (3) Examine salary needs for full-time legislators and staff.

## Approach

In conducting this study, the Bureau:

- (1) Reviewed applicable state constitutional and statutory provisions and legislative rules impacting legislative sessions and the State's typical regular session calendar to establish a contextual basis for requirements and limitations that have shaped the current regular session framework and duration;
- (2) Solicited information regarding ways in which a lengthened or continuous regular session could affect costs and operations of those entities most likely to be directly affected by a longer regular session;
- (3) Examined the relevant legal provisions and legislative calendars of California, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Michigan, which have longer regular sessions than Hawaii, and of the councils of Hawaii's four counties, which meet year-round;
- (4) Explored certain legal and practical limitations to consider when contemplating a lengthened or continuous regular session;
- (5) Provided mock-up legislative calendars illustrating hypothetical longer regular sessions that utilize additional recess days for 2026 (election year) and 2027 (non-election year); and

- (6) Discussed other potential impacts and factors to consider with respect to a lengthened or continuous regular session, including a review of legislator and staff compensation.

## **Salient Points**

- The duration of Hawaii's annual regular session appears to generally fall within the same timeframe as regular sessions in a majority of other states. Also, some states that may technically have longer legislative sessions do not necessarily meet and conduct formal business throughout these entire periods.
- There does not seem to be a "one-size-fits-all" legislative session calendar model that the Hawaii State Legislature could easily adopt to lengthen its regular session, without making significant modifications and without necessitating significant statutory and constitutional amendments.
- Regular sessions are constitutionally mandated to commence annually at 10:00 a.m. on the third Wednesday in January and run for not more than 60 session days. The Constitution also requires that each chamber provide by rule for a bill introduction deadline. The Legislature appears to otherwise have broad discretion to determine its regular session calendar. It would seem that regular sessions may be lengthened or made continuous by adding recess days pursuant to an agreement between the House and Senate, which would not require constitutional or statutory amendments.
- Fiscal bills, which generally comprise a supermajority of all bills introduced each year, usually have an effective date of July 1<sup>st</sup> (the beginning of the fiscal year) to ensure timely passage and avoid creating economic uncertainty and disruption of public services. The legislative process should still prioritize enactment of these bills well before July 1, regardless of how long a regular session lasts.
- It is difficult to even speculate about the effect that a lengthened or continuous regular session could have on legislative operations, costs, or staff without more specificity. Without knowing exactly what a "longer" session is supposed to look like, projecting its impact is highly problematic. Further, the Bureau has not yet received specific projected operational and cost impacts from the House or Senate.
- H.C.R. No. 138 suggests that the productivity and transparency of the Legislature could be improved if the Legislature met every month of the year. However, it is difficult to validate these suggestions, as there appears to be no objective standard for measuring productivity and none was provided in H.C.R. No. 138, and it is not clear that increasing the duration of regular sessions alone would provide for greater legislative transparency.

- The Bureau respectfully suggests that the Legislature first determine the essential timing and framework for a desirable lengthened legislative calendar for election and non-election years. Establishing specific and concrete proposals regarding the duration of a lengthened regular session calendar would allow parties having direct in-depth knowledge regarding potential fiscal, operational, administrative, legal, and labor impacts within the legislative environment to more accurately frame staffing and budgetary needs and other operational issues. This approach would facilitate the preparation of a more complete and reliable assessment of the feasibility and cost of establishing a lengthened or continuous regular session.

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# Chapter 1

## INTRODUCTION

The Legislative Reference Bureau (Bureau) prepared this Report pursuant to House Concurrent Resolution No. 138, H.D. 1, S.D.1 (2024) (hereinafter H.C.R. No. 138).<sup>1</sup>

### OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

H.C.R. No. 138 made the following observations regarding the State's current legislative timetable:

- The Legislature has 60 session days per year, generally stretching from the middle of January until early May;
- Representatives and senators are part-time employees of the State;

H.C.R. No. 138 also commented that:

- "[T]he efficiency, productivity, orderliness, and transparency of the Legislature could be improved by requiring that the Legislature be in session during every month of the year, making the elected officials who comprise the Legislature full-time employees of the State[.]"

H.C.R. No. 138 requested that the Bureau "conduct a study of a continuous legislature, extending the legislative session, and adding additional recess days[.]"

H.C.R. No. 138 also requested that the study:

- "Discuss the pros and cons of a continuous legislative session, extending the legislative session, and adding additional recess days;"
- "Focus on what a continuous legislative calendar, extended legislative calendar, and a legislative calendar day [sic] with additional recess days for the State may look like, including bill and budget deadlines;" and
- "Examine salary needs for full-time legislators and staff[.]"

The Bureau prepared this Report in response to H.C.R. No. 138.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> H. Con. Res. 138, H.D. 1, S.D.1, 32<sup>nd</sup> Leg. (Haw. 2024) [hereinafter H.C.R. No. 138] is attached as Appendix 1-A.

<sup>2</sup> The Bureau notes that H.C.R. No. 138 did not formally request a report to the Legislature or indicate a timeline for completion of the study.

## **APPROACH**

In conducting this study, we first reviewed applicable legal provisions relating to the State's legislative sessions to establish a contextual framework of existing requirements and limitations to which a longer regular session would need to adhere or that would need to be amended to accommodate a longer regular session.

In an effort to obtain pertinent information for this study directly from knowledgeable primary sources, we inquired with the Senate and House Chief Clerks, the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS), the Department of Law Enforcement (DLE), the Office of the Auditor, the Hawaii State Ethics Commission, and the Office of the Ombudsman regarding costs or other foreseeable impacts to their operations that might potentially be associated with a lengthened or continuous regular session. The Senate and House Chief Clerks serve as the administrative officers of their respective legislative chambers, responsible for the Legislature's financial procedures, human resources, and operations; DAGS is responsible for maintenance of the Capitol building and grounds; DLE is responsible for the security of the Capitol and grounds, as well as elected officials, staff, and public visitors; and the Auditor, Ethics Commission, and Ombudsman lead attached legislative service agencies.

For comparative purposes, we examined the relevant legal provisions and legislative calendars of select jurisdictions that have longer regular sessions than Hawaii (i.e., California, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Michigan), as well as those pertaining to the councils of Hawaii's four counties. The Bureau also reviewed recently proposed legislation to make the Hawaii Legislature a continuing body operating in regular session throughout the calendar year. The Bureau considered the use of additional recess days to lengthen the duration of regular sessions and, solely for illustrative purposes, prepared mock-up legislative calendars for the 2026 and 2027 Regular Sessions, utilizing recess days to lengthen those sessions.

The Bureau notes that an assessment of the positive or negative effects of lengthened or continuous regular sessions, especially in the absence of specific criteria upon which to base the assessment, is largely subjective. Accordingly, the Bureau instead presents "factors to consider" with respect to efforts to lengthen or make continuous regular sessions, and attempts to highlight certain potential impacts that may result, to help inform future discussions.

## **ORGANIZATION OF THE REPORT**

The remaining chapters of this report provide the following:

- Chapter 2 reviews applicable Hawaii constitutional, statutory, and legislative rule provisions relating to the State's legislative sessions and the typical legislative calendar;
- Chapter 3 examines the lengthened regular sessions of certain other jurisdictions, including applicable legal provisions and budget-related deadlines, analyzes certain

## *INTRODUCTION*

legal and practical limitations to consider when contemplating a lengthened or continuous regular session, and provides mock-up legislative calendars illustrating hypothetical lengthened regular sessions that utilize additional recess days;

- Chapter 4 provides a non-exhaustive review of potential impacts and factors to consider with respect to a lengthened or continuous regular session, including a discussion of legislator and staff compensation; and
- Chapter 5 provides key observations and offers potential next steps for the Legislature to consider.

## Chapter 2

### HAWAII'S CURRENT LAWS AND PRACTICES

To provide meaningful context for discussing possible changes to the length of legislative sessions in Hawaii, this chapter addresses current laws and practices relating to the State's legislative sessions, along with historical background information regarding session lengths. More specifically, certain provisions within the Hawaii State Constitution and the HRS establish requirements relating to the timing, length, and conduct of, or events occurring within, state legislative sessions. Further, certain provisions of the Rules of the Senate and Rules of the House of Representatives are relevant to the legislative timetable.

The Bureau acknowledges that some of these provisions may ultimately prove to be more relevant than others to a consideration of lengthening Hawaii's regular sessions, depending upon the length of the regular session and how the legislative session calendar may eventually be reconfigured. However, given that there has been little clarity on these points thus far, the Bureau has attempted to present a broad overview of potentially relevant constitutional, statutory, and legislative rule provisions. Some provisions may be implicated by an effort to lengthen regular sessions. Other provisions may not necessarily be implicated or directly affected by a change in regular session duration but may be nevertheless relevant as basic foundational knowledge regarding the operations and timing of regular sessions and deadlines, processes, and priorities within, or tied to, the legislative calendar.

#### PART I: THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION AND POTENTIAL AMENDMENTS

#### Constitutional Provisions Relating to Legislative Sessions

##### *Current Requirements for Regular Sessions of the Legislature*

Current law provides for annual regular sessions of the Legislature for a duration of not more than 60 days.<sup>1</sup> Article III, section 10, of the Hawaii State Constitution governs procedural requirements for legislative sessions. Section 10 requires the Legislature to convene annually in regular session at 10:00 a.m. on the third Wednesday in January.<sup>2</sup> As noted above, regular sessions<sup>3</sup> are limited to a maximum of 60 session days, but they may be extended by a total of not

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<sup>1</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 10 establishes *a limit of 60 session days* for each regular legislative session (although such sessions may be extended for up to 15 additional session days). "Session days" refer to days on which each chamber of the Legislature is formally convened. This report uses the term "60-day regular sessions," or similar terms, as shorthand for referring to the Legislature's annual regular sessions. These terms are neither intended to imply that the Legislature is required to meet for the full 60 days each session, nor indicate that extensions are not possible. For further discussion on regular session days and extensions, see *infra* notes 3-5, 31-44 and accompanying text.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

<sup>3</sup> See *infra* notes 31-44 and accompanying text for a discussion of requirements related to special sessions.

more than 15 session days.<sup>4</sup> An extension of a regular session shall be granted by the presiding officers of both legislative chambers (i.e., the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives) at the written request of two-thirds of the members to which each house is entitled, or may be granted by the Governor.<sup>5</sup>

Section 10 also mandates a recess for at least five days at some time between the 20th and 40th session days of each regular session.<sup>6</sup> The Legislature establishes by concurrent resolution the dates of this mandatory five-day recess. In addition to the mandatory recess, any session may be recessed by concurrent resolution adopted by a majority of the members to which each house is entitled.<sup>7</sup> Section 10 further specifies that Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, mandatory recess days, and any recess days pursuant to a concurrent resolution shall be excluded in computing the total number of days of any session.<sup>8</sup> Finally, section 10 requires that all sessions be held in the capital of the State, but if the capital is deemed unsafe, the Governor may direct that any session be held elsewhere.<sup>9</sup>

### ***Historical Background of Regular Sessions of the Legislature***

Annual 60-day regular sessions were not always the norm for the Hawaii Legislature. Sessions were very different under the federal Act to Provide a Government for the Territory of Hawaii, otherwise known as the Organic Act, which was enacted on April 30, 1900,<sup>10</sup> to establish Hawaii's territorial government<sup>11</sup> and which effectively acted as the Territory's "constitution."<sup>12</sup> Section 43 of the Organic Act, as originally enacted, provided for biennial regular legislative sessions and limited each biennial session to no more than 60 days but authorized the Governor to extend any session for up to 30 additional days.<sup>13</sup> The Organic Act also authorized the Governor to convene the entire Legislature, or the Senate alone, in special session.<sup>14</sup>

However, in 1950, in anticipation of statehood for Hawaii, some delegates to the 1950 Constitutional Convention for Hawaii proposed annual regular sessions, which would be divided

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<sup>4</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 10.

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> *Id.*

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

<sup>10</sup> An Act to Provide a Government for the Territory of Hawaii, Pub. L. No. 56-339, 31 Stat. 141 (1900).

<sup>11</sup> *Id.* §§ 2, 3.

<sup>12</sup> For further discussion, see ANNE FEDER LEE, THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION: A REFERENCE GUIDE, at 5-6 (1993).

<sup>13</sup> §§ 41 and 43, 31 Stat. at 148. In 1958, the Act was amended to require regular sessions in odd years, but also authorize additional regular sessions in even years "by act of the legislature"; provided that regular sessions in odd years would be "general sessions" of no more than 60 days and regular sessions in even years would be "budget sessions" of no more than 30 days. An Act to Provide that the Legislature of the Territory of Hawaii Shall Meet Annually, and for Other Purposes, Pub. L. No. 85-690, §§ 1-2, 72 Stat. 684, 684 (1958). These alternating sessions, and the corresponding limits on session days, would also appear in the soon-to-be ratified Constitution of the State of Hawaii. For further discussion, see *infra* note 25 and accompanying text.

<sup>14</sup> § 43, 31 Stat. at 148.

into odd-year "general sessions" of no more than 60 days and even-year "budget sessions" of no more than 30 days; provided the Governor would be authorized to extend any session for no more than 30 days. Budget sessions would be limited to consideration and enactment of the general appropriations bill for the succeeding fiscal year and other fiscal matters, bills calling for elections or proposed constitutional amendments, or the impeachment of officers.<sup>15</sup>

The 1950 Convention's Committee on Legislative Powers and Functions advanced the foregoing proposal and stated in a report, in relevant part:

A major departure proposed by your Committee from the provisions of the Organic Act is the provision for annual, as distinguished from biennial, sessions of the legislature. Your committee proposes that of the annual regular sessions, only those held in the odd numbered years, which shall be known as "general sessions," shall be open to all kinds of legislation and that those held in the even numbered years, to be known as "budget sessions," shall be confined to the general appropriations bill and bills to authorize proposed capital improvement expenditures, revenue bills necessary therefor, bills to provide for the expenses of such session, urgency measures deemed necessary in the public interest, bills calling elections and proposed constitutional amendments. In addition, special sessions are provided for.

The provision for annual sessions is a recognition of the need today for more frequent, if not continuous, sessions of the legislature, particularly in view of the difficulties of projecting estimate of revenues and expenses for two years and more in advance, as is the case at present. The provision for a budget session in those years in which a general session is not held, makes it possible to limit appropriations for the expenses of the government to a single fiscal year.<sup>16</sup>

During a session of the 1950 Convention's Committee of the Whole, a delegate moved for the adoption of the proposed constitutional language establishing 60-day regular sessions and 30-day budget sessions.<sup>17</sup> Interestingly, in the ensuing discussion, another delegate suggested an amendment to the proposal to authorize 90 days for each general session and 60 days for each budget session.<sup>18</sup> While expressing a "personal preference" for a "continuing session" but acknowledging the "general opposition" to such an idea,<sup>19</sup> the latter delegate urged to at least allow 90 days for a general session because 60 days was "much too short a time."<sup>20</sup> Another delegate rose to support the suggested amendment, arguing that the increased amount of work in the

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<sup>15</sup> 1 STATE OF HAWAII, PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF HAWAII, 1950: JOURNALS AND DOCUMENTS, at 347-348 (1960).

<sup>16</sup> *Id.* at 250.

<sup>17</sup> Delegate William H. Heen made the motion. 2 STATE OF HAWAII, PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF HAWAII, 1950: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE DEBATES, at 185 (1960).

<sup>18</sup> Delegate Harold S. Roberts made the suggestion. *Id.*

<sup>19</sup> Delegate Roberts stated in relevant part: "My own personal preference would be to place no limitation on the time of the legislature. In discussing the matter with various delegates, however, I find that there is a general opposition to a continuing session of the legislature." *Id.*

<sup>20</sup> *Id.* The same delegate, Delegate Roberts, also anticipated that legislators may require additional compensation for the longer sessions. *Id.*

Legislature justified longer sessions.<sup>21</sup> Several delegates spoke in opposition to the suggested amendment. One expressed the belief that 60 days for a general session was "plenty enough for the legislature to do its business" and that "[i]n the five sessions that I have been in, it was only on very few occasions that the governor has seen fit to convene the legislature in extra session for two or three days and the longest that I have stayed was about five or six days."<sup>22</sup> Another delegate argued that giving legislators fewer session days makes legislators "get down to work from the very beginning," and that the proposed addition of days was "just giving the legislators more time to 'dilly' around."<sup>23</sup> The suggested amendment to include additional session days failed after a voice vote.<sup>24</sup>

The provisions for a 60-day general session in odd years and a 30-day budget session in even years were adopted as part of article III, section 11, of the Hawaii State Constitution, which went into effect on August 21, 1959, upon the issuance of a presidential proclamation admitting the State of Hawaii into the Union.<sup>25</sup>

The current 60-day annual regular session was established as a result of the 1968 Constitutional Convention. In recommending a constitutional amendment to establish an annual 60-day regular session, the 1968 Convention's Standing Committee on Legislative Power and Functions stated in relevant part:

The amendment proposes annual general sessions, thus eliminating alternating budget sessions. The present scheme of alternating a 60-day general session with a 30-day budget session was meant to serve several purposes. Generally speaking, restricting alternate sessions to budgetary and fiscal matters evolved out of the problems encountered in the regular biennial session arrangement where appropriation bills often necessitated the call for a special session or were the key log in the end-of-session "logjam." It provided a satisfactory solution to the growing realization on the part of those directly involved in the legislative process that the fiscal operations of government and effective financial planning required annual attention, whereas general legislation could be adequately dealt with on a biennial basis. Such circumstances then, contributed to the establishment of alternating budget sessions.

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<sup>21</sup> Delegate Chuck Mau stated in relevant part:

I think there's much more work for the legislature than say 20 years ago and yet the performance of the legislature in the past say ten years has been such that the public is inclined to believe that 60 days has been too short, and I sincerely believe that the legislators ought to have enough time in which to do a good job.

*Id.*

<sup>22</sup> These are the words of Delegate Hiram L. Fong. *Id.* at 186.

<sup>23</sup> *Id.* The same delegate, Delegate Samuel K. Apoliona, Jr., acknowledged that "legislators are just like we are. We are human, we like to loaf until the last few days and then rush everything." *Id.*

<sup>24</sup> *Id.*

<sup>25</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 11 (1959). The Hawaii Constitution was framed by a Constitutional Convention under 1949 Haw. Sess. Laws 334. Hawaii voters adopted the Constitution in the election held on November 7, 1950, and it was deemed amended when three propositions submitted to voters in accordance with the Act of Congress approved on March 18, 1959 (73 Stat. 4, Public Law 86-3), were then adopted by a majority of the legal votes cast on the submission at the primary election held on June 27, 1959. As so amended, the Constitution was accepted, ratified, and confirmed by Congress by the Act of March 18, 1959, and went into effect on August 21, 1959. These 1959 amendments were unrelated to the duration or frequency of regular legislative sessions.

Your Committee is of the opinion that the State of Hawaii has arrived at that point in its social, economic, and political development, where the need for annual general sessions now exists. The action of other states indicates a trend toward eliminating alternating budget sessions . . . Your Committee feels that although the line between fiscal and nonfiscal matters may have been easily discernible in the past, such a distinction is extremely difficult to make today.<sup>26</sup>

The foregoing constitutional amendment was formally adopted by voters in the 1968 general election.<sup>27</sup>

Although the Hawaii State Constitution was extensively amended again following the 1978 Constitutional Convention, and the constitutional section addressing the duration and frequency of regular sessions was renumbered as article III, section 10, of the Hawaii State Constitution,<sup>28</sup> the requirement for an annual 60-day regular session has remained unchanged.<sup>29</sup>

### ***Adjournment of Session***

Article III, section 11, of the Hawaii State Constitution provides a single explicit requirement relating to adjournment: Neither house shall adjourn during any session of the Legislature for more than three days or adjourn *sine die* (final adjournment for the session) without the consent of the other house.<sup>30</sup>

### ***Requirements for Special Sessions of the Legislature***

In addition to regular sessions, Article III, section 10, of the Hawaii State Constitution provides for the convening of special sessions.<sup>31</sup> A special session might be conducted for, but is not necessarily limited to, the following:

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<sup>26</sup> 1 STATE OF HAWAII, PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF HAWAII OF 1968: JOURNALS AND DOCUMENTS, at 215 (1973). As further justification, the Committee noted that since 1964, three states (Maryland, California, and Kansas) had dropped their limitations on alternating sessions to fiscal matters, bringing to 14 the number of states with annual general legislative sessions. *Id.*

<sup>27</sup> After the amendment was proposed by the 1968 Convention, the amendment was ratified by the electorate on November 5, 1968. *See* HAW. CONST. art. III, § 11 (1968).

<sup>28</sup> 1 STATE OF HAWAII, PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF HAWAII OF 1978: JOURNALS AND DOCUMENTS, at 795 (1980).

<sup>29</sup> *See* HAW. CONST. art. III, § 10 (1978). This constitutional section was last amended in 1980 through amendments proposed by the Legislature, and approved by the electorate during the 1980 general election. A comparison of the 1978 and 1980 versions of the section shows that the 1980 amendments were unrelated to the duration or frequency of regular legislative sessions. (The latter version is cited throughout this report as simply HAW. CONST. art. III, § 10.)

<sup>30</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 11.

<sup>31</sup> *Id.* art. III, § 10.

- (1) The "sole purpose of acting upon" vetoed bills returned by the Governor, which require both the Senate and House of Representatives to convene,<sup>32</sup> and during which legislators may amend any vetoed bill<sup>33</sup> or override the veto on<sup>34</sup> any vetoed bill;<sup>35</sup>
- (2) The consideration of new legislation, which requires both the Senate and House of Representatives to convene,<sup>36</sup> and during which session the Senate may also need to exercise its advise and consent responsibilities on any executive branch temporary interim appointments;<sup>37</sup>
- (3) The Senate may convene for the specific purpose of removing an executive branch interim appointee, as the Senate "maintains the option of holding a special session in order to remove the interim office holder" and "may remove the interim appointee by rejecting the temporary appointment or by adjourning the special session without confirming the appointee;"<sup>38</sup> and
- (4) Advise and consent proceedings relating to judicial nominations, which only require the Senate to convene.<sup>39</sup>

For a special session of both houses of the Legislature, the presiding officer of each house must convene that session at the written request of two-thirds of the members to which each house is entitled<sup>40</sup> or, alternatively, the Governor may convene both houses in special session.<sup>41</sup>

The Governor may also convene a Senate-only special session.<sup>42</sup> Separately, at the written request of two-thirds of the members of the Senate, the President of the Senate must convene the Senate in special session to carry out its responsibility established by Article VI, section 3, of the Constitution, pertaining to the appointment of justices and judges.<sup>43</sup>

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<sup>32</sup> *Id.* art. III, § 16.

<sup>33</sup> *Id.*

<sup>34</sup> *Id.* art. III, § 17. *See also* Op. Atty. Gen. 16-4 (Haw. 2016) (relating to the timing of a vote to override a veto).

<sup>35</sup> *See infra* notes 50-61 and accompanying text for further discussion on procedures relating to vetoed bills.

<sup>36</sup> The enactment of legislation requires, among other matters, the passage of that legislation in each house of the Legislature. *See* HAW. CONST. art. III, § 15.

<sup>37</sup> *Id.* art. V, § 6. That constitutional section governs gubernatorial nominations and appointments to various executive branch positions, which normally require the advice and consent of the Senate. If an appointment to one of these positions is made when the Senate is not in session, then the Governor may fill the position with a temporary interim appointee. However, this appointment "shall expire, unless such appointment is confirmed, *at the end of the next session* of the senate" (emphasis added). *See also* *Morita v. Gorak*, 145 Haw. 385, 396, 453 P.3d 205, 216 (2019) (noting that the word "session" includes special sessions).

<sup>38</sup> *Morita*, 145 Haw. at 396, 453 P.3d at 216 (citing Haw. Const. art. V, § 6). Although the court referenced the Legislature, this power specifically rests with the Senate.

<sup>39</sup> For further information regarding Senate proceedings for considering judicial appointments, see HAW. CONST. art. VI, § 3. Unlike appointments for executive branch positions, which are subject to HAW. CONST. art. V, § 6, there are no interim appointments to judicial positions.

<sup>40</sup> *Id.* art. III, § 10.

<sup>41</sup> *Id.*

<sup>42</sup> *Id.*

<sup>43</sup> *Id.*

Special sessions are initially limited to a period of 30 session days but may be extended for up to 15 additional session days.<sup>44</sup>

## **Constitutional Provisions That Relate to Calendar Timeframes**

Several existing state constitutional provisions concern timeframes for taking action on bills and thus might affect the legislative calendar.

### ***Bill Introductions, Committee Referrals, and Readings of Bills***

Article III, section 12, of the Hawaii State Constitution requires, in relevant part, that each house, pursuant to its procedural rules, specify the date by which all bills for consideration in a regular session shall be introduced.<sup>45</sup> This section also provides that 20 session days after a bill has been referred to a committee in either house, the bill may be recalled from that committee by the affirmative vote of one-third of the members to which the house is entitled.<sup>46</sup>

Article III, section 15, of the Hawaii State Constitution provides:

[No] bill shall become law unless it shall pass three readings in each house on separate days.<sup>47</sup> No bill shall pass third or final reading in either house unless printed copies of the bill in the form to be passed shall have been made available to the members of that house for at least forty-eight hours.<sup>48</sup>

Section 15 also provides that any bill pending at the final adjournment of a regular session in an odd-numbered year carries over with the same status to the next regular session in the biennium.<sup>49</sup>

### ***Approval or Veto of Bills***

Article III, section 16, of the Hawaii State Constitution requires that every bill passed by the Legislature be presented to the Governor for approval.<sup>50</sup> If the Governor approves the bill, the Governor shall sign it, and the bill becomes law. If the Governor does not approve the bill, section 16 permits the Governor to return the bill to the Legislature with objections or to veto the

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<sup>44</sup> An extension of a special session "shall be granted by the presiding officers of both houses at the written request of two-thirds of the members to which each house is entitled or may be granted by the governor." *Id.*

<sup>45</sup> *Id.* art. III, § 12.

<sup>46</sup> *Id.*

<sup>47</sup> *Id.* art. III, § 15.

<sup>48</sup> *Id.*

<sup>49</sup> *Id.* A bill that carries over from an odd-numbered year to the regular session in the subsequent even-numbered year would still need to pass on third reading in both houses.

<sup>50</sup> *Id.* art. III, § 16.

bill altogether; provided that the Governor may also line-item veto certain bills that appropriate money.<sup>51</sup>

Relevant to the legislative session timetable, the Hawaii State Constitution provides different deadlines for the Governor's approval or veto of a bill and uses different language for actions the Legislature may take on a vetoed bill, depending upon the timing of the bill's presentment to the Governor.

Pursuant to section 16, if a bill is presented to the Governor *less* than 10 session days before the final adjournment of a regular session, or presented after final adjournment, the Governor is allowed 45 working days (i.e., excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays)<sup>52</sup> to consider the bill. The bill becomes law on the 45<sup>th</sup> working day unless the Governor, by proclamation, gives 10 working days' notice to the Legislature that the Governor plans to return the bill, with the Governor's objections, on that 45<sup>th</sup> working day.<sup>53</sup> Section 16 also specifically authorizes the Legislature to convene in special session at or before noon on the 45<sup>th</sup> working day for the sole purpose of acting upon a bill returned by the Governor, and further authorizes the Legislature to either override the Governor's veto or amend the vetoed bill to address the Governor's objections. If the Legislature fails to convene at or before noon on the 45<sup>th</sup> working day, the bill does not become law.<sup>54</sup> If the Legislature timely convenes, it may override the Governor's veto with a two-thirds majority vote in both houses.<sup>55</sup> Alternatively, the Legislature may amend the bill to meet the Governor's objections; a bill amended and passed in this manner requires only one reading in each house.<sup>56</sup> This amended bill must again be presented to the Governor, but it becomes law only if the Governor signs it within 10 working days after it is presented.<sup>57</sup> The option to override a gubernatorial veto would not be available for a bill that was vetoed, amended by the Legislature, and presented again to the Governor.<sup>58</sup>

However, with respect to a bill that is presented to the Governor *more* than 10 session days prior to the final adjournment of a regular session, section 16 provides that if the bill "is neither

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<sup>51</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 16 also permits the Governor to veto any specific item or items in any bill that appropriates money for specific purposes, known as a "line-item veto," except for items appropriated to be expended by the judicial and legislative branches.

<sup>52</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 16 provides in part: "In computing the number of days designated in this section, the following days shall be excluded: Saturdays, Sundays, holidays and any days in which the legislature is in recess prior to its adjournment as provided in section 10 of this article."

<sup>53</sup> *Id.*

<sup>54</sup> *Id.*

<sup>55</sup> *See Id.* art. III, § 17. The actual *vote* to override a veto need not take place on the 45th day. Op. Atty. Gen. 16-4 (Haw. 2016) ("[W]e found no constitutional provision requiring that a veto override vote must occur only on the first day of the forty-fifth-day special session.").

<sup>56</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 16. However, "[i]f the Legislature is considering possible amend[ments] to the returned bill, final actions on an amended bill cannot be taken on the *first* day of the forty-fifth day special session. Op. Atty. Gen. 16-4, *supra* note 55 (emphasis added) (citing HAW. CONST. Art. III, § 15, which in part provides that "[n]o bill shall pass third or final reading in either house unless printed copies of the bill in the form to be passed shall have been made available to the members of that house for at least forty-eight hours").

<sup>57</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 16 (providing in part that a vetoed bill subsequently amended by the Legislature "shall become law only if the governor shall sign it within ten days after presentation").

<sup>58</sup> Op. Atty. Gen. 16-4, *supra* note 55.

signed nor returned by the governor within that time, it shall become law in like manner as if the governor had signed it."<sup>59</sup>

Article III, section 17, of the Hawaii State Constitution appears to provide procedures for the Legislature to follow to address all bills vetoed by the Governor regardless of the timeframe in which the bills were presented to the Governor.<sup>60</sup> Section 17 states:

#### PROCEDURES UPON VETO

**Section 17.** Upon the receipt of a veto message from the governor, each house shall enter the same at large upon its journal and proceed to reconsider the vetoed bill, or the item or items vetoed, and again vote upon such bill, or such item or items, by ayes and noes, which shall be entered upon its journal. If after such reconsideration such bill, or such item or items, shall be approved by a two-thirds vote of all members to which each house is entitled, the same shall become law.<sup>61</sup>

#### *Constitutional Budget Requirements Relating to Legislative Timetables*

Several constitutional provisions that establish the timing of events related to the introduction and passage by the Legislature of the state budget may be relevant to a discussion of a longer regular session.<sup>62</sup> These provisions and the realities of the fiscal year calendar make the enactment of budget bills prior to the commencement of the ensuing fiscal year, on July 1, a top priority to promote sound fiscal policy. Thus, the timely passage of fiscal bills prior to the commencement of an ensuing fiscal year would likely remain a legislative priority even if regular sessions were lengthened. Several of the constitutional provisions do not set requirements for the Legislature, but rather require that executive or judicial branch agencies deliver certain documents to the Legislature prior to the convening of regular sessions. Increasing the duration of regular sessions would reduce the time between consecutive regular sessions, and thus could affect the timely production and delivery of those documents to the Legislature.

Pursuant to Article VII, section 8, of the Hawaii State Constitution, before the opening of each regular session in an odd-numbered year, within a time as may be provided for by law,<sup>63</sup> the Governor is required to submit to the Legislature a budget, both as a bill and as a separate document in a form provided by law, that sets forth a complete plan of proposed expenditures of the executive branch, estimates of the aggregate expenditures of the judicial and legislative branches, anticipated

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<sup>59</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 16.

<sup>60</sup> We note that the Hawaii State Constitution does not appear to explicitly provide the Legislature with the authority to amend a bill that was transmitted to the Governor more than 10 days prior to the final adjournment of a regular session and subsequently vetoed by the Governor. Furthermore, a review of legislative actions on vetoed bills since 1995 found no instances of the Legislature exercising such authority.

<sup>61</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 17.

<sup>62</sup> For a discussion on relevant statutory budget provisions, see *infra* notes 79-88 and accompanying text.

<sup>63</sup> Under current statutory law, this deadline is not fewer than 30 days before the Legislature convenes in every odd-numbered year. HAW. REV. STAT. § 37-71(a). For further discussion, see *infra* note 79 and accompanying text.

receipts of the State for the ensuing fiscal biennium, and other information required by the Legislature.<sup>64</sup>

Section 8 also requires the Chief Justice of the Hawaii Supreme Court to submit to the Legislature both a complete plan and an accompanying bill of proposed expenditures of the judicial branch for the upcoming fiscal biennium before the opening of each regular session in an odd-numbered year, as provided by law.<sup>65</sup>

Article VII, section 9, of the Hawaii State Constitution, among other things, addresses the transmission of these budget bills to the Governor and the impact on other appropriation bills. Section 9 provides that in each regular session in an odd-numbered year, the Legislature shall transmit to the Governor an appropriation bill or bills providing for the anticipated total expenditures of the State for the ensuing fiscal biennium (to be known as the general appropriations bill).<sup>66</sup> For each regular session in an even-numbered year, the Governor may submit to the Legislature a bill to amend any appropriation for operating expenditures of the current fiscal biennium (known as the supplemental appropriations bill) and bills to amend any appropriations for capital expenditures of the current fiscal biennium, but is also required to submit a bill or bills to provide for any additional revenues or borrowings that the amendments may require.<sup>67</sup> In each regular session in an even-numbered year, bills may be introduced to amend any appropriation act or bond authorization act of the current fiscal biennium or prior fiscal periods.<sup>68</sup>

Timely passage of the state budget both promotes sound fiscal policy and is crucial to passing most other fiscal bills. Section 9 prohibits the passage on final reading of any other appropriation bill, except for an emergency appropriation bill or the legislative budget bill, until the general appropriation bill or supplemental appropriation bill, as applicable, has been transmitted to the Governor.<sup>69</sup> Any bill that authorizes the expenditure of money and stipulates the amount, manner, and purpose of the various items of expenditure is considered an appropriation bill, pursuant to an opinion by the Attorney General.<sup>70</sup> Since many bills fit this description,<sup>71</sup> passage of the general and supplemental appropriation bills, commonly known as the state budget bills, are a priority. Increasing the duration of regular sessions could arguably provide more time to consider budget bills and other appropriation bills. However, as will be discussed in Chapter 3, as a practical matter it would seem that all fiscal bills should still be passed before the beginning of each fiscal year on July 1.<sup>72</sup>

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<sup>64</sup> HAW. CONST. art. VII, § 8.

<sup>65</sup> *Id.*

<sup>66</sup> *Id.* art. VII, § 9.

<sup>67</sup> *Id.*

<sup>68</sup> *Id.*

<sup>69</sup> During odd-year regular sessions, most appropriation bills may not pass final reading before the general appropriations bill is transmitted to the Governor. During even-year regular sessions, most appropriation bills may not pass final reading before the supplemental appropriations bill is sent to the Governor. However, appropriation bills "recommended by the governor for immediate passage" (more commonly known as "emergency appropriation bills") and bills to "cover the expenses of the legislature" (more commonly known as "legislative budget bills") are not subject to this delay. *See id.*

<sup>70</sup> Op. Atty. Gen. 72-6 (Haw. 1972).

<sup>71</sup> *See* Chapter 4, pp. 84-85 for a discussion regarding the volume of bills referred to the House Finance Committee and Senate Ways and Means Committee.

<sup>72</sup> For further discussion, see *infra* Chapter 3, note 5 and Chapter 4, pp. 84-85 and accompanying text.

### ***Legislative Proposals to Amend the Constitution***

Article XVII, section 3, of the Hawaii State Constitution authorizes the Legislature to propose to the electorate state constitutional amendments.<sup>73</sup> In relevant part, this process includes certain requirements that relate to the length and placement of events on the legislative timetable. The Legislature may adopt a proposed constitutional amendment by:

- A two-thirds vote of each house of the Legislature on final reading at any session, after either or both houses have given the Governor at least 10 days' written notice of the final form of the proposed amendment; or
- With or without the aforementioned notice, by a majority vote of each house on final reading at two successive legislative sessions,<sup>74</sup> which may include special sessions.<sup>75</sup>

A proposed constitutional amendment must also be adopted in a timely manner to comply with the publication and public inspection requirements necessary for ratification of the amendment by the electorate.<sup>76</sup> The proposed amendment must be published once weekly for four successive weeks in at least one generally circulated newspaper in each senatorial district where the newspaper is published, within the two-month period

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<sup>73</sup> HAW. CONST. art. XVII, § 3. Revising an amendment to the constitution may also be proposed by constitutional convention. *Id.* art. XVII, §§ 1, 2. See also *infra* Chapter 4, notes 4-9 and accompanying text.

<sup>74</sup> HAW. CONST. art. XVII, § 3. Note that unlike other bills passed by the Legislature, a proposed constitutional amendment is not subject to veto by the Governor. For a more detailed discussion on amending the state constitution, see *infra* Chapter 4, notes 4-16 and accompanying text.

<sup>75</sup> See *State ex rel. Bronster v. Yoshina*, 84 Haw. 179, 190–91, 932 P.2d 316, 327–28 (1997) (citing Standing Comm. Rep. No. 48, *reprinted in* 1 STATE OF HAWAII, PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION OF HAWAII, 1950: JOURNALS AND DOCUMENTS, at 188 (1960)) ("The legislature may also, by adopting such measure in the manner required for ordinary legislation, but by only a majority vote of each house, on final reading, at two successive sessions, *regular or special, or both*, propose such amendments." (emphasis added)); see also *Blair v. Cayetano*, 73 Haw. 536, 542–44, 836 P.2d 1066, 1070 (1992) ("The language of § 3's first paragraph sets forth the procedure by which the legislature may propose amendments to the State Constitution, and the language is clear and unambiguous. The legislature "may propose amendments ... by adopting the same" in either of two expressly stated ways: 1) "by a two-thirds vote of each house on final reading at any session;" or 2) "by a majority vote of each house on final reading at each of two successive sessions." "The general rule is that, if the words used in a constitutional provision ... are clear and unambiguous, they are to be construed as they are written." *Spears v. Honda*, 51 Haw. 1, 6, 449 P.2d 130, 134 (1968)"); see also *Op. Atty. Gen. 64-41* (Haw. 1964) ("The provision for proposal of constitutional amendments by the Legislature by majority vote requires passage "at each of two successive sessions." It contains no limitation on the nature or time of such sessions. In addition to providing for regular annual legislative sessions, Article III, section 11 of the Constitution provides for the calling of special sessions by the Governor. We have not found any restriction upon the frequency or purpose of such special sessions. Accordingly, we conclude that the Governor may call successive special sessions, at which proposed constitutional amendments may be adopted.")

<sup>76</sup> In addition to constitutional requirements, statutes also establish requirements and deadlines for the Attorney General to prepare informational materials for proposed constitutional amendments. See *infra* notes 89-92 and accompanying text.

immediately preceding the next general election.<sup>77</sup> Further, 30 days before the proposed amendment is submitted to voters, the full text of the proposed amendment must be made available to the Chief Election Officer, every public library, and every county clerk, for public inspection, and must also be made available for public inspection at every polling place on the day of the election.<sup>78</sup>

## PART II: STATUTORY LAW AND CERTAIN EVENTS THAT AFFECT SESSIONS

### Statutory Provisions Relating to Regular Sessions

#### *State Budget and Budgetary Related Documents*

Statutory law also imposes certain deadlines upon the executive branch with respect to the submission of the state budget and numerous budget-related documents. These deadlines are triggered by the start of the regular session or occur during the regular session. Many of these statutory provisions are rather dense; accordingly, we have attempted to summarize them below.

Statutory law imposes the following requirements regarding the Governor's submission of budget-related documents to the Legislature:

- No fewer than 30 days before the Legislature convenes in regular session:
  - In odd-numbered years, the Governor shall submit:
    - A budget that includes the Governor's program and budget recommendations for the next two fiscal years (section 37-71(a), HRS);<sup>79</sup>
      - Note: For even-numbered regular session years, a similar deadline is imposed for the Governor's submission of a supplemental budget, although the submission of such a budget is optional (section 37-72(a), HRS);<sup>80</sup>

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<sup>77</sup> HAW. CONST. art. XVII, § 3.

<sup>78</sup> *Id.* art. XVII, § 2. Although section 2 applies to amendments proposed by a Constitutional Convention, the ratification requirements, including public inspection requirements, of section 2 also apply to amendments proposed by the Legislature, pursuant to HAW. CONST. XVII, § 3. *See also* Watland v. Lingle, 104 Haw. 128, 138–39, 85 P.3d 1079, 10 89–90 (2004), as clarified (Mar. 19, 2004). For further discussion, see *infra* Chapter 4, notes 15-16 and accompanying text.

<sup>79</sup> HAW. REV. STAT. § 37-71(a). The budget may be combined into a single document that includes the six-year program and financial plan. *Id.* § 37-71(g). *See also infra* note 84 and accompanying text.

<sup>80</sup> *Id.* § 37-72(a). The statutory language states that the Governor "may" submit to the Legislature a supplemental budget. The submission deadline is 30 days before the Legislature convenes in every even-numbered year. Further, the supplemental budget is required to reflect changes being proposed in the State's program and financial plan. *Id.*

- Plans of proposed appropriations for the State and the executive branch (sections 37-92(a), HRS,<sup>81</sup> and 37-92(c), HRS,<sup>82</sup>) which shall accompany the state budget;
  - Note: For even-numbered regular session years for which the Governor submits a supplemental budget, a similar requirement applies for plan submission;<sup>83</sup>
- A detailed six-year program and financial plan "encompassing all state programs" (section 37-69, HRS);<sup>84</sup> and
  - In all years, the Governor shall submit a variance report (section 37-75, HRS);<sup>85</sup>
- Not later than the third Wednesday of January in odd-numbered years, the Governor shall submit a program memorandum (section 37-70(a), HRS).<sup>86</sup>

Further, pursuant to sections 37-92(f) and 601-2(c), HRS, the Chief Justice is subject to deadlines, similar to those required of the Governor, for submission of the Judiciary's plan of proposed appropriations, biennial budget, supplemental budget, six-year program and financial plan, and the variance report.<sup>87</sup> Pursuant to section 10-14.5, HRS, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs is also subject to similar deadlines for the submission of the Office's budget, six-year program and financial plan, and variance report.<sup>88</sup>

### ***Preparation of Voter Information for Legislatively Proposed Constitutional Amendments***

The amount of time available to the Legislature during a legislative session to pass proposed state constitutional amendments is affected by section 11-122, HRS, which requires the Office of Elections to prepare and provide digital voter information guides for voters.<sup>89</sup> Pursuant to section 11-122(b)(2), HRS, these guides must include explanatory information drafted by the Department of the Attorney General regarding each legislatively proposed constitutional

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<sup>81</sup> *Id.* § 37-92(a). The plan is required to include "the executive budget, proposed grants to private entities, and any specific appropriation measures to be proposed by the executive branch, and estimates of the aggregate proposed appropriations of the judicial and legislative branches of government." *Id.*

<sup>82</sup> *Id.* § 37-92(c).

<sup>83</sup> The plans shall accompany the supplemental budget in even-numbered years. *Id.* § 37-92(a) and (c).

<sup>84</sup> *Id.* § 37-69. See also *id.* § 37-78 (specifying a schedule of implementation).

<sup>85</sup> Variance reports describe "program performance for the last completed fiscal year and the fiscal year in progress." *Id.* § 37-75.

<sup>86</sup> The program memorandum shall cover "each of the major programs in the statewide program structure."

*Id.* § 37-70(a). See also *id.* § 37-78. The program memorandum, six-year program, and financial plan may be combined into a single document containing all the information required for each separate document.

*Id.* § 37-70(b).

<sup>87</sup> *Id.* §§ 37-92(f), 601-2(c).

<sup>88</sup> *Id.* § 10-14.5.7

<sup>89</sup> *Id.* § 11-122(a).

amendment that will be presented to voters in the next general election.<sup>90</sup> The Department is required to transmit all explanatory materials to the Office of Elections *no later than 75 calendar days before the general election*.<sup>91</sup> As general elections are held in early November in even-numbered years,<sup>92</sup> the transmission deadline typically falls during mid-August in those years.

***Miscellaneous Events Dependent Upon the Legislative Session Calendar***

Certain other statutes contain provisions that specifically depend upon or are affected by the timing of the legislative schedule. Most involve action required within a certain number of days before or after the convening of the Legislature or its final adjournment. The specific relevance of each is uncertain, given the lack of clarity regarding the possible duration of a longer regular session. Nevertheless, they are noted here because they could conceivably be impacted by changes to the legislative calendar.

- Section 11-342(c), HRS, prohibits legislators and other state elected officials from holding political campaign fundraiser events "[d]uring any regular session or special session of the state legislature, including any extension of any regular session or special session and any legislative recess days, holidays, and weekends . . .".<sup>93</sup> Section 11-365(a), HRS, further provides that "no lobbyist shall make, or promise to make at a later time, any contributions or expenditures to or on behalf of an elected official, candidate, candidate committee, or any other individual required to file an organizational report" during the aforementioned timeframes, *or* 5 days before or after each legislative session.<sup>94</sup> Thus, these prohibitions would remain in effect for longer periods if the duration of regular sessions were increased.
- Section 21-7(b), HRS, provides that each investigating committee of the Legislature shall provide, by its rules, that each member of the committee be given at least three days written notice of any hearing to be held when the Legislature is in session and at least seven days written notice of any hearing to be held when the Legislature is not in session.<sup>95</sup>
- Section 21E-2(b) and (c), HRS, provide that members of a joint legislative management committee shall be appointed or reappointed no later than "fifteen days after the convening of the first regular session" of each Legislature.<sup>96</sup>

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<sup>90</sup> *Id.* § 11-122(b). *See also id.* § 11-118.5.

<sup>91</sup> *Id.* § 11-122(b).

<sup>92</sup> HAW. CONST. art. II, § 8.

<sup>93</sup> HAW. REV. STAT. § 11-342(c).

<sup>94</sup> *Id.* § 11-365(a). For further discussion on this and § 11-342(c), see *supra* Chapter 4, notes 95-98 and accompanying text.

<sup>95</sup> *Id.* § 21-7(b). Notably, a hearing, and any actions taken at a hearing, cannot be deemed invalid solely based on a failure to provide the required notice.

<sup>96</sup> *Id.* § 21E-2(b) and (c).

- Section 23-11(a), HRS, provides that within five days after the deadline for the introduction of bills in each legislative session, the Senate and House Clerks shall transmit to the Auditor for analysis, copies of all bills that were introduced during that session that propose to establish new special or revolving funds.<sup>97</sup> Section 23-11(c), HRS, requires the Auditor to submit each analysis to the Legislature no later than 30 days prior to final adjournment (*sine die*) of the same session.<sup>98</sup>
- Provisions in Chapter 23G, HRS, require the Bureau's Revisor of Statutes to prepare the publication of session laws "[a]s soon as possible after the close of each session."<sup>99</sup> Similarly, the Revisor is required to prepare the cumulative statutory supplements "[a]s soon as possible after the close of each regular session."<sup>100</sup> The printed statutory supplements and replacement volumes of the Hawaii Revised Statutes are "prima facie evidence of the law."<sup>101</sup>
- Section 46-73, HRS, provides that claims by any county for legislative relief in the form of refunds, reimbursements, or other payments shall be filed in duplicate with the respective county council at least 30 days prior to the convening of the Legislature.<sup>102</sup> Further, each county council, within five days after the regular session opens, is required to transmit to the Legislature, in an appropriate legislative bill form and with all accompanying data, the claims that have not been paid by the respective county.<sup>103</sup>
- Sections 91-3(c) and 91-4(b)(3), HRS, impose limits on the effectiveness of certain emergency administrative rules adopted by an agency by providing that they "shall be effective until no later than adjournment sine die of the next regular legislative session following [their adoption]."<sup>104</sup>
- Section 226-54, HRS, requires the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to review certain proposed amendments to the Hawaii State Planning Act<sup>105</sup> and submit the Office's findings and recommendations to the Legislature 30 days prior to the convening of the next regular session.<sup>106</sup>
- Section 232E-3, HRS, provides that 30 days before the convening of the second regular session after the members of a new Tax Review Commission have been

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<sup>97</sup> *Id.* § 23-11(a).

<sup>98</sup> *Id.* § 23-11(c).

<sup>99</sup> *Id.* § 23G-13.

<sup>100</sup> *Id.* § 23G-14.

<sup>101</sup> *Id.* § 23G-15.

<sup>102</sup> *Id.* § 46-73.

<sup>103</sup> *Id.*

<sup>104</sup> *Id.* §§ 91-3(c), 91-4(b)(3). An emergency rule subject to these limitations is a rule adopted "where new federal legislation or federal and state court decisions disrupt prior practice under any statute administered by the agency" and the emergency adoption is "urgently needed" for certain purposes. *Id.* § 91-3(c).

<sup>105</sup> *See generally id.* Chapter 226.

<sup>106</sup> *Id.* § 226-54.

appointed, the Commission shall submit to the Legislature an evaluation of the State's tax structure and recommendations on revenue and tax policy.<sup>107</sup>

- Section 235-2.5(c), HRS, requires the Department of Taxation to submit to each regular session a bill to amend relevant state income tax laws as necessary to adopt the Internal Revenue Code as it exists on the 31st day of December preceding that session.<sup>108</sup>
- Section 236E-4(c), HRS, requires the Department of Taxation to submit to the Legislature, no later than 20 days prior to the convening of each regular session, proposed legislation to amend relevant estate and generation-skipping tax transfer laws as may be necessary to adopt the Internal Revenue Code as it exists on the 31st day of December preceding that session.<sup>109</sup>
- Section 248-4, HRS, requires that, at least 20 days before the Legislature convenes in regular session, each county submit to the Legislature and the Director of Finance, the budget of the county for the current fiscal year and the upcoming fiscal year.<sup>110</sup>

### PART III: LEGISLATIVE RULES

#### Legislative Rules Relevant to the Session Calendar

Other than the requirement that the Legislature convene annually in regular session at 10:00 a.m. on the third Wednesday in January,<sup>111</sup> neither the Constitution of the State of Hawaii nor the HRS establish *specific dates* for the regular session calendar. However, Article III, section 12, of the Hawaii State Constitution provides that each house of the Legislature "shall . . . determine the rules of its proceedings" and "[b]y rule of its proceedings . . . shall provide for the date by which all bills to be considered in a regular session shall be introduced."<sup>112</sup>

The Rules of the Senate and the Rules of the House of Representatives provide broad discretion to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, respectively, to establish the legislative calendar and timetable. Pursuant to Rule 3(15), Rules of the Senate,<sup>113</sup> and Rule 2.1(16), Rules of the House of Representatives,<sup>114</sup> it is the duty of the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives, respectively, to establish "final dates for action on legislation," which include:

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<sup>107</sup> *Id.* § 232E-3.

<sup>108</sup> *Id.* § 235-2.5(c).

<sup>109</sup> *Id.* § 236E-4(c).

<sup>110</sup> *Id.* § 248-4.

<sup>111</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 10. *See supra* note 2.

<sup>112</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 12.

<sup>113</sup> Rule 3(15), Haw. Rules of the Senate (2025-2026).

<sup>114</sup> Rule 2.1(16), Haw. Rules of the House of Representatives (2025-2026).

- Bill introduction deadlines;
- The final date for the third reading of bills;
- The final date for approving conference committee agreements and bill drafts;
- The final date for the final reading of the general appropriations bill; and
- The final date for the final reading of the supplemental appropriations bill.<sup>115</sup>

Senate Rule 3(15) also provides that the President of the Senate "*shall* coordinate the date for *introducing bills* and *may* coordinate with the Speaker of the House to establish *the other final dates*."<sup>116</sup> The corresponding House Rule 2.1(16) imposes a more explicit mandate on the Speaker of the House of Representatives, as it provides that the Speaker "*shall* coordinate with the President of the Senate to *establish these final dates* within seven days after the opening of the legislative session."<sup>117</sup>

In current practice, the Legislature's regular session convenes on the third Wednesday in January, as the Constitution requires. Pursuant to Senate Rule 27(1) and House Rule 21.1, each chamber meets for the transaction of public business every day except Saturdays, Sundays, legal holidays, and other days designated by each chamber.<sup>118</sup>

The Rules of the House of Representatives also contain certain rules that establish, or require the establishment of, deadlines relating to bills, including rules relating to:

- The pre-filing of bills;<sup>119</sup>
- The Speaker of the House of Representatives' referrals of bills to subject matter committees;<sup>120</sup>

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<sup>115</sup> All of these events are referenced in Haw. Senate Rule 3(15) and Haw. House Rule 2.1(16). Notably, the foregoing Haw. Senate Rule 3(15) also includes mandatory recess days, but the corresponding Haw. House Rule 2.1(16) does not. However, Haw. House Rule 21.3 addresses the matter by stating that "[e]ach regular session shall be recessed for not less than five days at some period between the twentieth and fortieth days of the regular session. The House shall, by concurrent resolution, determine the dates of the mandatory recess."

<sup>116</sup> Haw. Senate Rule 3(15) (emphasis added).

<sup>117</sup> Haw. House Rule 2.1(16) (emphasis added).

<sup>118</sup> "The Senate shall meet for the transaction of public business every day, except Saturdays, Sundays, legal holidays and such other days as the Senate shall designate by motion or resolution duly adopted and entered in the Journal." Haw. Senate Rule 27(1). "After the opening day of the Legislature, the House shall meet for the transaction of public business every day except Saturday, Sunday, any legal holiday, and any day in recess, and such other day as the House shall designate." Haw. House Rule 21.1.

<sup>119</sup> "The Chief Clerk shall accept bills to be pre-filed within seven calendar days before the commencement of each regular session." Haw. House Rule 44.

<sup>120</sup> The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall "[w]ithin four session days, refer all bills to committees, subject to appeal to the House." *Id.* at Rule 2.1(14).

- The placement of bills on the consent calendar (during which there is no oral floor debate) during the third or final reading;<sup>121</sup> and
- The committees' delivery to the House Chief Clerk, after final adjournment in even-numbered years, of all legislation, papers, and evidence referred to or taken by the committees.<sup>122</sup>

While the Rules of the Senate do not contain provisions directly comparable to those of the House, Senate practices regarding internal deadlines generally correspond with those of the House.

Senate Rule 32, in relevant part, prohibits final adjournment without the consent of the House of Representatives, consistent with Article III, section 11, of the Hawaii State Constitution.<sup>123</sup>

Collectively, the foregoing Rules of the Senate and Rules of the House of Representatives would appear to demonstrate that the duration of the legislative calendar, and the scheduling of events within that calendar (except when established or otherwise constrained by constitutional or statutory law), are the responsibility of the respective chambers and the presiding officers (i.e., the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives) of those chambers. Thus, it would seem essential that the presiding officers consider, discuss, negotiate, coordinate, and reach an agreement upon the establishment of the legislative calendar.

Under current practice, the Legislature typically convenes in regular session from mid-January through the first week of May. For examples of typical legislative calendars, see the 2025 versions of the Senate Internal Legislative Timetable in Appendix 2-A and the House Internal Legislative Timetable in Appendix 2-B. The general calendar for the 2025 Regular Session, agreed upon by both chambers, is attached as Appendix 2-C. Many deadlines in the calendars are established by the respective chambers, and where necessary, by coordination, negotiation, and agreement between the chambers through their respective presiding officers. Generally, these calendars specify the dates for opening day and final adjournment; include up to 60 constitutionally authorized regular session days, five mandatory recess days, and any additional recess days; and specify deadlines for the moving of various measures through the legislative process. Some internal deadlines apply only to one chamber, while others pertain to both chambers.

Given the broad discretion of the House and Senate under their respective rules, it would appear that the overall length of the regular session calendar, and the placement of various events and deadlines within that calendar, may be adjusted through the planned scheduling of the session calendar by joint agreement, at least to a certain extent. This possibility for increasing the total duration of legislative sessions will be discussed in further detail in Chapter 3 of this report.

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<sup>121</sup> "[T]he Speaker may establish dates for a consent calendar consisting of all third and/or final reading bills that have not been selected for debate by any member." *Id.* at Rule 2.2. If the Speaker chooses to establish a consent calendar, then "the Speaker shall set the deadlines for members to communicate to the Chief Clerk their intention to debate calendared bills." *Id.*

<sup>122</sup> "Within ten days after the House adjourns sine die in even-numbered years, its committees shall deliver to the Chief Clerk all bills, resolutions, petitions, and any other papers referred to the committees, plus any evidence taken by the committees." *Id.* at Rule 57.

<sup>123</sup> See *supra* note 30 and accompanying text for a discussion of session adjournment.

## Chapter 3

### POTENTIAL ALTERNATIVE LEGISLATIVE SESSION CALENDARS

H.C.R. No. 138 requested the Bureau, in pertinent part, to "[f]ocus on what a continuous legislative calendar, extended legislative calendar, and a legislative calendar day [sic] with additional recess days for the State may look like, including bill and budget deadlines[.]" Accordingly, to illustrate potential models for legislative session calendars, this chapter examines the current legislative calendars of several other states, the calendars of Hawaii's four county councils, and recently proposed legislation to provide for longer regular sessions of the Hawaii State Legislature. This chapter also reviews historical examples of Hawaii's legislative calendars and explores the potential for lengthening the total duration of regular sessions by adding more recess days. Illustrative session calendars with additional recess days are included solely as examples.

#### PART I: INITIAL MATTERS FRAMING THE DISCUSSION OF POTENTIAL MODELS FOR THE HAWAII LEGISLATIVE SESSION CALENDAR

#### Terminology Used in this Chapter

The Bureau notes that H.C.R. No. 138 is vague as to the number of additional session days, if any, that should be included in a "continuous legislative calendar" or "extended legislative calendar," nor does H.C.R. No. 138 define the terms "continuous" or "extended." Further, the term "extended" has a specific meaning as used in Article III, section 10, of the Hawaii State Constitution, which provides in relevant part that "[a]ny session may be *extended* a total of not more than fifteen days. Such extension shall be granted by the presiding officers of both houses at the written request of two-thirds of the members to which each house is entitled or may be granted by the governor."<sup>1</sup> Because the term "extended" in this context applies to a single regular session of the legislature, and the term "continuous" is ambiguous, for clarity this chapter will use the following terms as described:

- "Continuous" means any regular session calendar for which members of a legislative chamber are scheduled to formally convene during 10 or more months of each year; and
- "Lengthened" means any regular session calendar that is of *significantly* longer duration than Hawaii's typical January-to-May regular session but is less than "continuous." "Lengthened" will be used in lieu of the term "extended," which is used in H.C.R. No. 138, to avoid any confusion with that term as it is used in Article III, section 10, of the Hawaii State Constitution.

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<sup>1</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 10 (emphasis added).

It should be noted that these terms may be used differently by others. For example, regular sessions in California are sometimes described as "continuous" but are more accurately described for purposes of this report as "lengthened" since they include an extensive interim recess period.<sup>2</sup> And while the Illinois constitution refers to that state's legislature as a "continuing" body, its sessions are neither "continuous" nor "lengthened" as these terms are defined here.<sup>3</sup> Several states' legislative session calendars that are continuous or lengthened, as those terms are used here, will be examined in detail later in this chapter.

## **Some Timing-Related Issues and Other Concerns for Alternative Session Calendars**

For practical purposes, certain timing-related issues should be considered in devising potential models for lengthened or continuous regular session calendars in Hawaii. Some basic parameters that could affect the formulation of a longer regular session calendar are described below.<sup>4</sup>

### ***Enactment of Fiscal Bills Before the July 1 Start of Each Fiscal Year***

To ensure the timely execution of any newly enacted fiscal policies and disbursement of legislatively appropriated funds, it would appear advisable that a regular session calendar include deadlines to facilitate enactment, prior to the July 1 start of each fiscal year, of any legislation that appropriates funds, authorizes expenditures, or otherwise is anticipated to have a significant fiscal impact.<sup>5</sup> Enacting these bills prior to July 1 helps to provide predictability and ensure financial stability of government operations and services for each upcoming fiscal year.

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<sup>2</sup> For further discussion, see *infra* p. 32.

<sup>3</sup> Provisions of the Illinois constitution require that state's legislature, known as the General Assembly, to "be a continuous body during the term for which members of the House of Representatives are elected," which is two years. ILL. CONST. art. IV, §§ 2(b), 5(a). However, the Illinois General Assembly actually convenes in session only from January to May, then convenes again in October in the event that legislation is vetoed. *See, e.g., Spring Session January 2025 to May 2025*, ILL. HOUSE REPRESENTATIVES, [https://www.ilga.gov/documents/house/schedules/2025\\_Spring\\_Session\\_Calendar.pdf](https://www.ilga.gov/documents/house/schedules/2025_Spring_Session_Calendar.pdf) (last visited Nov. 21, 2025); *2025 Illinois Senate Calendar*, ILL. SENATE, [https://www.ilga.gov/documents/senate/schedules/2025\\_Senate\\_Spring\\_Session.pdf](https://www.ilga.gov/documents/senate/schedules/2025_Senate_Spring_Session.pdf) (last visited Nov. 21, 2025); *See, e.g., Veto Session October 2025*, ILL. HOUSE REPRESENTATIVES, <https://ilga.gov/Uploads/Schedules/House/2025%20House%20Veto%20Session.pdf> (last visited Nov. 21, 2025); *2025 Veto: Illinois Senate Calendar*, ILL. SENATE, <https://ilga.gov/Uploads/Schedules/Senate/2025%20104th%20GA%20Veto%20Calendar.pdf> (last visited Nov. 21, 2025).

<sup>4</sup> These parameters relate to the creation of longer regular session calendars and the timing of events therein but should not be considered in isolation. Chapter 4 discusses numerous other relevant factors that should be considered in determining whether, and how long, to lengthen regular sessions.

<sup>5</sup> The fiscal year is not defined by the state constitution or by statute. However, pursuant to HAW. REV. STAT. § 40-2, the accounting system initiated by the Commission on Public Accountancy under 1923 Haw. Sess. Laws 181, as amended by 1925 Haw. Sess. Laws 220, "shall be the accounting and reporting systems of the State and counties." The statute also authorizes the Comptroller to make changes and modifications to the accounting system. The

### ***Legislative Action on Vetoed Bills Before General Election Day***

With regard to bills presented to the Governor less than 10 working days before final adjournment of a regular session or after adjournment, the Hawaii State Constitution provides that the Governor shall sign a bill into law or return the bill with objections within 45 working days of the adjournment.<sup>6</sup> This is a much longer period than provided for governors' approval in the other states that will be examined in this chapter.<sup>7</sup> The Legislature may convene in special session at or before noon on the 45th working day<sup>8</sup> to override the Governor's veto of a bill or to amend the bill in response to the Governor's objections.<sup>9</sup>

Also, unlike in the other states examined in this Chapter, Hawaii state legislators begin their terms in office on the general election day of the year in which they are elected.<sup>10</sup> The Hawaii State Constitution requires general elections to be held "on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in all even-numbered years."<sup>11</sup> Accordingly, each general election day will occur between November 2 and November 8 of any even-numbered year. Thus, assuming a substantially lengthened or continuous regular session calendar, if a bill were passed by the Legislature but vetoed by the Governor within 45 working days before a general election day, a legislator who voted on the bill but does not seek reelection, or is not reelected, may not have an opportunity to participate in efforts to override a veto or to vote on a proposed amendment to a vetoed bill.<sup>12</sup>

As a preliminary matter, it should be determined whether it is desirable to provide sufficient time to allow a legislator who may not remain in office following the next general election to participate in a legislative response to a bill that was passed during that legislator's term in office and subsequently vetoed. If this is deemed desirable, then a lengthened or continuous legislative session calendar should include procedural deadlines to facilitate the final passage of bills no later

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current accounting manual for the State of Hawaii, prepared by the Department of Accounting and General Services, defines "fiscal year" as a "twelve-month period ending June 30." 1 DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES, STATE OF HAWAII, ACCOUNTING MANUAL, at 903.06 (1969). For further discussion on the July 1 to July 30 fiscal year, see *infra* Chapter 4, pp. 84-85.

<sup>6</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 16. The Governor has 10 working days to consider bills received 10 or more working days before final adjournment of the session. *Id.*

<sup>7</sup> For further discussion, see *infra* notes 54-56, 82, 104-105, 124-125, 137-138, 161 and accompanying text.

<sup>8</sup> We use the term "working day" because HAW. CONST. art. III, § 16 excludes Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and recess days from the computation of days for the purposes of that section.

<sup>9</sup> *Id.* For further discussion on the process relating to vetoed bills, see *supra* Chapter 2, notes 50-61 and accompanying text.

<sup>10</sup> See HAW. CONST. art. III, § 4.

<sup>11</sup> *Id.* art. II, § 8.

<sup>12</sup> As an example of this scenario, if a lengthened 2026 Regular Session were to adjourn on Thursday, October 15, 2026, and both chambers voted in final approval of a bill on that day, the Governor would have until December 22, 2026, to consider the bill. If the Governor vetoed the bill on December 22, 2026, and returned it to the Legislature that day, the Legislature could then vote on whether to override the veto. However, a legislator whose term ended on General Election Day (November 3, 2026) would not have an opportunity to participate in that vote. Rather, the succeeding legislator for that seat—who may or may not support the bill—would instead be able to participate.

than 45 working days before each general election day. To meet this timeline, final adjournment would need to occur before late August in election years.

Alternatively, if the Hawaii State Constitution is amended to provide a shorter timeframe for the Governor to consider and act upon bills that are passed by the Legislature less than 10 days before final adjournment, legislative session procedural deadlines could be adjusted accordingly.

### ***Timely Action on Proposed Constitutional Amendments***

Legislation that proposes to amend the Hawaii State Constitution is not subject to approval by the Governor, and thus the foregoing timeframes would not be pertinent to such bills. However, other statutory provisions exist that necessitate deadlines in any regular session calendar to ensure the timely passage by the Legislature of any proposed constitutional amendments. Statutory law requires the Department of the Attorney General to draft explanatory material regarding a proposed constitutional amendment<sup>13</sup> and to transmit that material to the Office of Elections *no later than 75 days before the general election* in which voters would decide whether to approve the proposed amendment.<sup>14</sup> As the reference here is to *75 calendar days*,<sup>15</sup> this deadline for the Attorney General is typically in mid-August in election years. Accordingly, passage by the Legislature of proposed constitutional amendments by mid-July in election years would provide approximately one month for the preparation of the materials necessary to comply with the aforementioned requirements.

### ***Convening of Special Sessions***

The Hawaii State Constitution provides for the convening of special sessions of limited duration.<sup>16</sup> It would seem that matters ordinarily necessitating a special session could possibly be addressed during a lengthened or continuous regular session, depending upon the session's duration. If not, it may be possible to accommodate a special session by recessing a regular session, convening in special session, concluding any business and adjourning the special session, and then reconvening the regular session.

In 1964, during the era in which the Legislature convened 60-day general sessions in odd years and 30-day budget sessions in even years, Hawaii's Attorney General issued an opinion stating that, pursuant to Article III of the Hawaii State Constitution, the Governor could not convene a special session to commence during a budget session and to run concurrently with all or any part of the period of the budget session, but that a special session could be called during a

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<sup>13</sup> HAW. REV. STAT. § 11-118.5(b).

<sup>14</sup> *Id.* §§ 11-118.5(b), 11-122(b)(2). For further discussion, see *supra* Chapter 2, notes 89-92 and accompanying text.

<sup>15</sup> As the statutory language simply refers to "days" (as opposed to "working days" or "business days"), "days" is understood to include all calendar days. As noted elsewhere in the HRS: "[t]he words of a law are generally to be understood in their most known and usual signification." HAW. REV. STAT. § 1-14.

<sup>16</sup> For further details regarding special sessions, see *supra* Chapter 2, notes 31-44 and accompanying text.

period of adjournment of the budget session.<sup>17</sup> As noted in Chapter 2 of this report, the current 60-day annual regular session was later established following the 1968 Constitutional Convention.<sup>18</sup>

Thus, it may be advisable to obtain an updated opinion from the Attorney General as to whether the option to run a special session concurrently with a regular session is feasible under the present constitutional framework requirements for sessions of the Legislature. Other options could be to configure a lengthened or continuous regular session calendar to accommodate the possibility of convening special sessions or, in the alternative, to amend the State Constitution with regard to special sessions.<sup>19</sup>

## PART II: CONSIDERING SESSION CALENDARS OF OTHER LEGISLATIVE BODIES

### Legislative Session Length Limitations Across the 50 States

Although H.C.R. No. 138 did not request an analysis of legislative session structures in other states, it may be useful to compare Hawaii's regular sessions, lasting approximately four to five months and having a constitutional limit of 60 session days<sup>20</sup> during a regular session, to sessions in other states. Table 3-1 summarizes regular session length limits set for each state legislature by the state's constitution or by statute or legislative rule. The information is based upon the most recent data compiled by NCSL in 2021,<sup>21</sup> and by the Council of State Governments' *Book of the States* in 2023,<sup>22</sup> with modifications made by the Bureau for clarity and enhanced readability.

**Table 3-1  
Legislative Session Length**

State	Current Session Length Limit	Authority
<b>Alabama</b>	30 session days within 105 calendar days	Statute
<b>Alaska</b>	90 calendar days	Statute
<b>Arizona</b>	Adjourn by the Saturday of the week in which the 100th calendar day falls	Chamber rule

<sup>17</sup> Op. Atty. Gen. 64-17 (Haw. 1964).

<sup>18</sup> For further discussion, see *supra* Chapter 2, notes 26-27 and accompanying text.

<sup>19</sup> For examples of recent state legislation that propose to repeal constitutional provisions for special sessions (as part of an effort to make regular sessions continuous), see *infra* pp. 46-48.

<sup>20</sup> "Session days" refers to days on which legislative chambers hold floor sessions.

<sup>21</sup> *Legislative Session Length*, NAT. CONF. STATE LEGISLATURES (July 1, 2021),

<https://www.ncsl.org/resources/details/legislative-session-length>.

<sup>22</sup> *Table 3.2 - Legislative Sessions: Legal Provisions*, BOOK STATES (2023), <https://bookofthestates.org/tables/2023-3-2/>.

POTENTIAL ALTERNATIVE LEGISLATIVE SESSION CALENDARS

<b>State</b>	<b>Current Session Length Limit</b>	<b>Authority</b>
<b>Arkansas</b>	Odd years: 60 calendar days Even years: 30 calendar days	Constitution
<b>California</b>	Odd years: Adjourn by September 12 Even years: Adjourn by August 31	Chamber Rule
<b>Colorado</b>	120 calendar days	Constitution
<b>Connecticut</b>	Odd years: Adjourn by the Wednesday after the 1st Monday in June Even years: Adjourn by the Wednesday after the 1st Monday in May	Constitution
<b>Delaware</b>	Adjourn by June 30	Constitution
<b>Florida</b>	60 calendar days	Constitution
<b>Georgia</b>	40 session days	Constitution
<b>Hawaii</b>	60 session days	Constitution
<b>Idaho</b>	No Limit	
<b>Illinois</b>	No Limit	
<b>Indiana</b>	Odd years: Adjourn by April 29 Even years: Adjourn by March 14	Statute
<b>Iowa</b>	Odd years: 110 calendar days Even years: 100 calendar days	Statute: Legislators receive per diem only for 110 and 100 calendar days, respectively.
<b>Kansas</b>	Odd years: No limit Even years: 90 calendar days	Constitution
<b>Kentucky</b>	Odd years: 30 session days or Adjourn by March 30 Even years: 60 session days or Adjourn by April 15	Constitution
<b>Louisiana</b>	Odd years: 45 session days within 60 calendar days Even years: 60 session days within 85 calendar days	Constitution

*SINE DIE ANOTHER DAY: SHOULD HAWAII'S LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS BE LONGER?*

<b>State</b>	<b>Current Session Length Limit</b>	<b>Authority</b>
<b>Maine</b>	Odd years: Adjourn by the 3rd Wednesday in June  Even years: Adjourn by the 3rd Wednesday in April	Statute
<b>Maryland</b>	90 calendar days	Constitution
<b>Massachusetts</b>	Formal sessions:  Odd years: Adjourn by the 3rd Wednesday in November  Even years: Adjourn by July 31  Informal sessions: No limit	Chamber rule
<b>Michigan</b>	No Limit	
<b>Minnesota</b>	120 total session days within the two-year biennium  Or  Adjourn by the Monday after the 3rd Saturday in May each year	Constitution
<b>Mississippi</b>	90 calendar days  125 calendar days in the year after a gubernatorial election	Constitution
<b>Missouri</b>	Adjourn by May 30	Constitution
<b>Montana</b>	Odd years: 90 session days  Even years: No regular session	Constitution
<b>Nebraska</b>	Odd years: 90 session days  Even years: 60 session days	Constitution
<b>Nevada</b>	Odd years: 120 calendar days  Even years: No regular session	Constitution
<b>New Hampshire</b>	45 session days  Or  Adjourn by July 1	Constitution: Legislators receive mileage reimbursement only up to 45 legislative days or before July 1, whichever occurs first.
<b>New Jersey</b>	No Limit	

POTENTIAL ALTERNATIVE LEGISLATIVE SESSION CALENDARS

<b>New Mexico</b>	Odd years: 60 calendar days Even years: 30 calendar days	Constitution
<b>North Carolina</b>	No Limit	
<b>Ohio</b>	No Limit	
<b>Oregon</b>	Odd years: 160 calendar days Even years: 35 calendar days	Constitution
<b>Rhode Island</b>	No Limit	
<b>South Dakota</b>	40 session days	Constitution
<b>Texas</b>	Odd years: 140 calendar days Even years: No regular session	Constitution
<b>Vermont</b>	No Limit	
<b>Washington</b>	Odd years: 105 calendar days Even years: 60 calendar days	Constitution
<b>Wisconsin</b>	No Limit	
<b>Wyoming</b>	Odd years: 40 session days Even years: 20 session days	Constitution

As reflected in Table 3-1, only 11 states are not bound by constitutional, statutory, or other formal limits on the number of session days or calendar days in their regular sessions and therefore may *appear* to have continuous sessions. However, it should be noted that the absence of such formal limitation does not necessarily indicate that a state legislature meets continuously

throughout the calendar year. In practice, legislatures in many states adjourn early in the calendar year or follow session calendars that include various recess days or other procedural pauses that limit the time in which they actually convene in session. For instance, Idaho, Illinois, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island, and Vermont each have no formal restrictions on the length of their regular sessions. However, in 2025, Idaho convened on January 6<sup>th</sup> and adjourned on April 4<sup>th</sup>, Illinois convened on January 8<sup>th</sup> and adjourned on May 31<sup>st</sup>, Rhode Island convened on January 7<sup>th</sup> and adjourned on June 20<sup>th</sup>, and Vermont convened on January 8<sup>th</sup> and adjourned on June 16<sup>th</sup>.<sup>23</sup> New Jersey's legislature convened on January 14, 2025, but went into recess beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>.<sup>24</sup> Both chambers of New Jersey's legislature convened again on November 13, 2025.<sup>25</sup> New York's legislature convened on January 8, 2025, but went into recess on June 18, 2025, and is scheduled to remain in recess through January 7, 2026.<sup>26</sup>

Although the North Carolina legislature convened on January 8, 2025, and appears to have met regularly since,<sup>27</sup> it does not seem to meet as frequently in even-numbered years. For example, in 2024, North Carolina's legislature did not convene in regular session until April 24<sup>th</sup> (it adjourned on December 13<sup>th</sup> of that same year).<sup>28</sup> Furthermore, in 2022, the state's regular session adjourned on July 8<sup>th</sup>.<sup>29</sup> It appears that Ohio's legislature generally meets in floor session at least once every five days during a regular session, as failing to do so would be interpreted under the state's constitution as adjourning the session.<sup>30</sup> However, this practice has often led to very brief session days that some have characterized as "skeleton sessions" during which little substantive work is actually conducted.<sup>31</sup> The other states having no formal limits on session lengths will be discussed in more detail later in this chapter.<sup>32</sup>

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<sup>23</sup> 2025 Legislative Session Calendar, NAT. CONF. STATE LEGISLATURES (Nov. 17, 2025), <https://documents.ncsl.org/wwwncsl/About-State-Legislatures/session-calendar-2025nov17.pdf>. The Illinois legislature convened again in October for a vetoed bill session. *Id.*

<sup>24</sup> *Id.*

<sup>25</sup> Session Schedules, N.J. LEGISLATURE, <https://www.njleg.state.nj.us/session-schedules> (last visited Nov. 20, 2025). On July 24, 2025, the state's Assembly (the lower chamber) met in session—but *not* the Senate. *Id.* The inverse occurred on October 20 and 27, and November 10, 2025. *Id.*

<sup>26</sup> 2025 Legislative Session Calendar, *supra* note 23.

<sup>27</sup> *Id.*

<sup>28</sup> 2024 Legislative Session Calendar, NAT. CONF. STATE LEGISLATURES (Jan. 2, 2025), <https://documents.ncsl.org/wwwncsl/About-State-Legislatures/sess2024-010225.pdf>.

<sup>29</sup> 2022 Legislative Session Calendar, NAT. CONF. STATE LEGISLATURES (Dec. 12, 2022), [https://documents.ncsl.org/wwwncsl/About-State-Legislatures/2022\\_session\\_calendar.pdf](https://documents.ncsl.org/wwwncsl/About-State-Legislatures/2022_session_calendar.pdf).

<sup>30</sup> State Rep. Sean Patrick Brennan (@BrennanforOhio), X.COM (Dec. 23, 2024 11:13 PM EST), <https://x.com/BrennanforOhio/status/1871408741913919805>; OHIO CONST. art. II, § 14.

<sup>31</sup> These session days are often referred to derisively as "skeleton sessions" due to their reputed lack of productivity. *See, e.g., Ohio Lawmakers Must Let This 'Skeleton' Die*, NEWS-HERALD (Jul. 26, 2021), <https://www.news-herald.com/2008/01/04/ohio-lawmakers-must-let-this-skeleton-die/>. In one instance, two senators met in a Friday "skeleton session" for only 75 seconds. This apparently allowed all senators who lived far from the state capitol building to claim tax deductions for meals and lodging for that Friday and for the following weekend, even if they didn't attend the session. *Ohio Lawmakers Make No Bones About Their 'Skeleton' Sessions*, TOLEDO BLADE (Dec. 25, 2007), <https://www.toledoblade.com/local/politics/2007/12/26/Ohio-lawmakers-make-no-bones-about-their-skeleton-sessions/stories/200712260027>. Despite the controversy, it appears that Ohio's "skeleton sessions" remain a current practice, as NCSL referred to them in a recent summary of state legislative calendars. *2024 Legislative Session Calendar*, *supra* note 28. This summary also appears as Appendix 3-A. *See also* Brennan, *supra* note 30.

<sup>32</sup> These states are Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin. *See infra* pp. 34-37, 39-43 and accompanying text.

Among the 39 states having specified limits, each has a unique session-length limit, as reflected in Table 3-1. In some cases, the length varies between a state's regular sessions in odd- and even-numbered years. Also, some states limit the number of *session* days, whereas others limit the number of *calendar* days.

While session length limits may vary widely among state legislatures, information on legislative session calendars summarized by NCSL for 2024<sup>33</sup> and 2025<sup>34</sup> demonstrates that, in practice, a majority of states' regular sessions occur within similar timeframes. For example, in both 2024<sup>35</sup> and 2025,<sup>36</sup> 32 state legislatures (albeit not the same states each year), including Hawaii, adjourned their regular sessions within five months of convening. NCSL's summaries are copied in Appendix 3-A and Appendix 3-B. Accordingly, the Hawaii Legislature's typical four to five-month annual regular session from January to May, with 60 session days, appears to generally fall within a timeframe similar to that of a majority of other states.

### Jurisdictions Having Longer Legislative Sessions

Reviewing legislative session structures of some states having substantially longer regular sessions than Hawaii<sup>37</sup> may offer a perspective for considering potential changes to Hawaii's regular sessions. California, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Michigan have longer regular sessions than Hawaii and are discussed below in order of the general length of their regular sessions, from shortest to longest. To provide further context, the Bureau also reviewed certain practices of Hawaii's four county councils, which meet year-round.

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<sup>33</sup> 2024 Legislative Session Calendar, *supra* note 28.

<sup>34</sup> 2025 Legislative Session Calendar, *supra* note 23.

<sup>35</sup> 2024 Legislative Session Calendar, *supra* note 28. The 32 states are: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

<sup>36</sup> 2025 Legislative Session Calendar, *supra* note 23. The 32 states are: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

<sup>37</sup> The Bureau initially considered using the classifications made by the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) for "full-time" and "full-time lite" legislatures, believing that the classifications might pertain to continuous and lengthened session calendars, respectively. *Full- and Part-Time Legislatures*, NAT'L CONF. STATE LEGISLATURES (July 28, 2021), <https://www.ncsl.org/about-state-legislatures/full-and-part-time-legislatures>. However, upon further review, NCSL's classifications seemingly were based upon self-reported workload instead of the actual legislative calendars. For example, NCSL classified Alaska as having a "full-time lite" legislature, but Alaska's constitution requires its legislature to adjourn from regular session no later than *120 consecutive calendar days* from the date it convenes. ALASKA CONST. art. II, § 8. Statutory law further restricts this duration to *90 consecutive calendar days*. ALASKA STAT. ANN. § 24.05.150(b) (West). This means that Alaska's regular sessions are shorter in overall duration than Hawaii's. For this reason, the Bureau ultimately determined that NCSL's "full-time" and "full-time lite" classifications, while potentially useful in certain contexts, were not relevant for the purposes of this study.

### ***California: Several Months of Recess Each Year***

California has biennial regular sessions.<sup>38</sup> The state's constitution provides that the state's legislature shall "convene in regular session at noon on the first Monday in December of each even-numbered year," and that "[e]ach session of the Legislature shall adjourn sine die by operation of the Constitution at midnight on November 30 of the following even-numbered year."<sup>39</sup> However, as explained in the California Department of General Services State Administrative Manual, the sessions are referred to by the two calendar years that they "almost encompass."<sup>40</sup> Thus, the session after the 2022 election is the 2023-2024 regular session.

Within these required convening and adjourning dates, the California legislature has fairly wide discretion in setting its calendar.<sup>41</sup> Although the legislature could meet every month of the year, it does not do so *in practice*. Generally, the legislature begins meeting in January of each year and concludes for the year, either before September (in even-numbered years) or during September (in odd-numbered years). For example, see California's legislative calendars for 2023, 2024, and 2025, which appear in Appendix 3-C.<sup>42</sup> The calendars also include bill introduction deadlines in mid-February, a week-long spring recess, a month-long summer recess each year, and specific deadlines relating to the budget and for other fiscal and nonfiscal bills. To ensure timely passage of the budget bill before the start of California's fiscal year on July 1,<sup>43</sup> the legislative calendars reflect a June 15th deadline for the bill's passage to meet a constitutional requirement.<sup>44</sup>

The summer recesses appear to be affected by certain legislative deadlines set by California's constitution and by legislative rules. Under the most recent version of the state's Joint Rules, the legislature's summer recess—which runs from July 18 to August 18 in the first year of

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<sup>38</sup> See *State Administrative Manual (SAM)*, ch. 6000, § 6905, CAL. DEP'T GEN. SERVICES (Feb. 1998), <https://www.dgs.ca.gov/Resources/SAM/TOC/6000/6905> [hereinafter SAM ch. 6000, § 6905]. (Each two-year session is considered a Regular Session.)

<sup>39</sup> CAL. CONST. art. IV, § 3(a).

<sup>40</sup> SAM ch. 6000, § 6905, *supra* note 38. Although regular sessions, pursuant to the state constitution, *start* in even-numbered years, California's Joint Rules of the Senate and Assembly provide that "[r]egular sessions shall be identified with the odd-numbered year subsequent to each general election, followed by a hyphen, and then the last two digits of the following even-numbered year. For example: 2025–26 Regular Session." Rule 50, Cal. Joint Rules of the Senate and Assembly (2025-2026) (as they appear in S. Con. Res. 1, 2025-2026 Reg. Sess. (Cal. 2025)).

<sup>41</sup> See SAM ch. 6000, § 6905, *supra* note 38. (Within constitutionally prescribed dates, the legislature has freedom to set its own calendar of meetings and recesses.)

<sup>42</sup> The calendars that appear in this Appendix were obtained from official websites of the California State Assembly and Senate. *2023 Tentative Legislative Calendar*, CAL. STATE ASSEMBLY (Nov. 4, 2022), [https://www.assembly.ca.gov/system/files/2023-01/2023\\_legislative\\_calendar\\_final.pdf](https://www.assembly.ca.gov/system/files/2023-01/2023_legislative_calendar_final.pdf); *2024 Tentative Legislative Calendar*, CAL. STATE ASSEMBLY (Nov. 11, 22), <https://www.assembly.ca.gov/system/files/2023-10/2024%20Legislative%20Calendar%20Final.pdf>; *2025 Tentative Legislative Calendar*, CAL. STATE SENATE (Oct. 16, 2024), <https://www.senate.ca.gov/system/files/2024-10/2025-proposed-calendar-updated.pdf>.

<sup>43</sup> *Table 7.14 - State Budget Calendars*, BOOK STATES (2022), <https://bookofthestates.org/tables/2022-7-14>.

<sup>44</sup> CAL. CONST. art. IV, § 12(c)(3) (providing that the legislature must pass budget bill by midnight on June 15 of each year).

a regular session,<sup>45</sup> and from July 2 to August 3 of the second year of a regular session,<sup>46</sup>—shall not commence until the annual budget bill has passed.<sup>47</sup>

The Joint Rules of the Senate and Assembly also set September 12 in odd-numbered years as: (1) The last day for each house to pass bills;<sup>48</sup> and (2) The first day of an interim recess that lasts until early January.<sup>49</sup> California's constitution generally prohibits passage of bills by either legislative chamber on or after September 1 of an even-numbered year—although this prohibition does not apply to "bills passed after being vetoed by the governor" and bills that fit under certain narrow exceptions.<sup>50</sup> To ensure compliance with this constitutional requirement in even-numbered years, the Joint Rules set August 31 as the last day for each house to pass bills,<sup>51</sup> and September 1 as the first day of a recess that lasts until final adjournment (*sine die*) on November 30.<sup>52</sup>

Certain constitutional requirements exist relating to timing of the governor's consideration of bills and legislators' terms of office. For most bills, if the legislature passes the bill in the first calendar year (odd-numbered year) of a regular session biennium before adjourning for a joint recess of that first year (currently on September 12<sup>53</sup>) to reconvene in the second calendar year (even-numbered year) of the same biennium, the bill becomes law if the governor does not veto the bill within 30 days of receiving it.<sup>54</sup> If a bill is passed by the legislature before September 1 of the second calendar year (even-numbered year) of a regular session biennium and received by the governor on or after September 1, the bill becomes law if the governor does not veto the bill by September 30.<sup>55</sup> Any other bill passed by the legislature becomes law if the governor does not veto it within 12 days after receiving it.<sup>56</sup>

New legislative terms begin on the first Monday in December in even-numbered years.<sup>57</sup> Because of the legislature's deadline (via Joint Rule) of August 31 for passing bills in even-numbered years, and because of the short amount of time the governor has to consider bills, a departing legislator who will not be in office following the next election should nevertheless be able to participate in any action taken on a vetoed bill that had been passed during that legislator's term in office; provided that the legislature acts on that vetoed bill in a timely manner. The legislature has 60 days (not including recess days) to act in response to a governor's veto.<sup>58</sup>

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<sup>45</sup> Cal. Joint Rule 51(a)(3).

<sup>46</sup> *Id.* Rule 51(b)(2).

<sup>47</sup> *Id.* Rule 51(a)(3) and (b)(2).

<sup>48</sup> *Id.* Rule 61(a)(14).

<sup>49</sup> *Id.* Rule 51(a)(4).

<sup>50</sup> CAL. CONST. art. IV, § 10(c). The other exceptions are bills for "statutes calling elections, statutes providing for tax levies or appropriations for the usual current expenses of the State, and urgency statutes." *Id.*

<sup>51</sup> Cal. Joint Rule 61(b)(17). Further, the constitution prohibits the legislature from presenting any bill to the governor after November 15 of the second calendar year (even-numbered year) of the biennium of a legislative session. CAL. CONST. art. IV, § 10(d).

<sup>52</sup> Cal. Joint Rule 51(b)(3).

<sup>53</sup> Cal. Joint Rule 51(a)(4).

<sup>54</sup> CAL. CONST. art. IV, § 10(b)(1).

<sup>55</sup> *Id.* art. IV, § 10(b)(2).

<sup>56</sup> *Id.* art. IV, § 10(b)(3).

<sup>57</sup> *Id.* art. IV, § 2(a)(3).

<sup>58</sup> Cal. Joint Rule 58.5.

California's constitution authorizes the governor, by proclamation, to convene the legislature in special session on "extraordinary occasions."<sup>59</sup> During a special session, the legislature is restricted to the consideration of subjects specified in the Governor's convening proclamation but may "provide for expenses and other matters incidental to the session."<sup>60</sup> California's constitution does not explicitly address whether special sessions may be convened concurrently with a regular session; however, the state Administrative Manual states in pertinent part:

A special session may run concurrently with the Legislature's normally scheduled meeting time and/or during its recesses . . . . To handle both the regular session and a special session at the same time, the Legislature may have to temporarily recess its work in the regular session, convene in the special session and then reconvene the regular session after temporarily recessing the special session. This recessing and reconvening may happen more than once on the same day.<sup>61</sup>

### ***Wisconsin: More Floor Sessions in Non-election Years than Election Years***

Wisconsin has biennial legislative session periods,<sup>62</sup> with odd-numbered years constituting the first year of each biennium.<sup>63</sup> In each odd-numbered year, *before* the regular session commences, the Wisconsin State Legislature is required to "convene in the capitol on the first Monday of January . . . at 2 p.m., to take the oath of office, select officers, and do all other things necessary to organize itself for the conduct of its business."<sup>64</sup> Statutory law requires the legislature's regular session to "commence" at 2 p.m. on the first Tuesday after the eighth day of January each year.<sup>65</sup> However, the same statutory provision permits the legislature to amend the foregoing date and grants the legislature broad discretion to determine its overall session schedules.<sup>66</sup>

Accordingly, early in each biennial regular session period, the joint committee on legislative organization meets to develop a work schedule for the session, which includes at least one meeting in January of each year.<sup>67</sup> The joint committee then submits the schedule for consideration by the entire legislature as a joint resolution.<sup>68</sup> For example, by joint resolution, Wisconsin's legislature declared that the "biennial session period of the 2025 Wisconsin

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<sup>59</sup> CAL. CONST. art. IV, § 3(b).

<sup>60</sup> *Id.*

<sup>61</sup> SAM ch. 6000, § 6905, *supra* note 38.

<sup>62</sup> WIS. STAT. § 13.02(3).

<sup>63</sup> *See, e.g.*, Joint Rule 81(1), Joint Rules of the Wis. Legislature (2013).

<sup>64</sup> WIS. STAT. § 13.02(1). However, if the first Monday of January falls on January 1 or 2, then the Legislature convenes on January 3.

<sup>65</sup> *Id.* § 13.02(2).

<sup>66</sup> *See id.* § 13.02(2) and (3).

<sup>67</sup> *Id.*

<sup>68</sup> *Id.* § 13.02(3).

Legislature began on Monday, January 6, 2025, and that the biennial session period ends at noon on Monday, January 4, 2027."<sup>69</sup>

The schedules, as determined by Senate Joint Resolution 1, for the Wisconsin 2025 and 2026 regular sessions are shown in Appendix 3-D.<sup>70</sup> Unlike with California, these are not calendars per se and reflect less detail as to specific bill deadlines. In 2025, "floorperiods" (i.e., periods of floor sessions) are scheduled to occur on specified dates, generally from Tuesdays to Thursdays, throughout the months of January through June and then again from September through November.<sup>71</sup> The Joint Resolution explains floorperiods and committee work periods as follows:

(3) Scheduled floorperiods and committee work periods. (a) *Unreserved days*. Unless reserved under this subsection as a day to conduct an organizational meeting or to be part of a scheduled floorperiod of the legislature, every day of the biennial session period is designated as a day for committee activity and is available to extend a scheduled floorperiod, convene an extraordinary session, or take senate action on appointments as permitted by joint rule 81.<sup>72</sup>

Some months have only one scheduled floor period. For example, in February 2025 the floorperiod commences on February 18 and ends February 20, and in May 2025 it commences on May 13 and ends on May 15.<sup>73</sup> Further, there are no floorperiods scheduled in July, August, or December of 2025. The legislature is in recess between different floorperiods.<sup>74</sup> Bills passed by the legislature in 2025 are to be transmitted to the governor by specified deadlines in May, August, and December.<sup>75</sup>

The Joint Resolution appears to ensure legislative passage of the budget bill prior to the start of a new fiscal year on July 1; however, the Joint Resolution does not require the transmittal of the budget bill to the governor until sometime in August:

(k) Floorperiod. A floorperiod commences on Tuesday, June 3, 2025, at 10 a.m., and, unless adjourned earlier, ends on Monday, June 30, 2025, but this floorperiod may not be adjourned until the general fund executive budget bill has been passed by both houses.

[(l)] *Nonbudget bills to governor*. No later than the later of Thursday, August 7, 2025, at 4:30 p.m., the chief clerk of each house shall submit to the governor for executive action thereon all enrolled bills, except the general fund executive budget bill, originating in the chief clerk's house and having been passed by both houses, in regular, extraordinary, or special session, on or before Thursday, July 24, 2025.

(m) *Budget bill to governor*. No later than Thursday, August 7, 2025, at 4:30 p.m., or 4:30 p.m. on the 4th Thursday after the general fund executive budget bill is passed by

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<sup>69</sup> S. J. Res. 1 § 1(1), 2025-2026 Reg. Sess. (Wis. 2025).

<sup>70</sup> The schedules that appear in this Appendix were obtained from the official website of the Wisconsin State Legislature. *2025-2026 Session Schedule at a Glance*, WIS. STATE LEGISLATURE, [https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2025/related/session\\_calendar/calendar.pdf](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/2025/related/session_calendar/calendar.pdf) (last visited Nov. 14, 2025).

<sup>71</sup> Wis. S. J. Res. 1 § 1.

<sup>72</sup> *Id.* § 1(3)(a).

<sup>73</sup> *See id.* § 1(3)(f) and (j).

<sup>74</sup> *See generally* Wis. S. J. Res. 1. (When the legislature is on a break between different floor periods within the same regular session, the legislature is in an adjournment. These "adjournments" are not final adjournments and are similar in nature to Hawaii's "recesses".)

<sup>75</sup> *See id.* § 1(3)[(l)], (m), and (q).

both houses in identical form, the chief clerk of each house shall submit to the governor for executive action thereon any enrolled general fund executive budget bill originating in the chief clerk's house and having been passed by both houses, in regular, extraordinary, or special session.<sup>76</sup>

During the 2026 regular session, floorperiods are scheduled to occur only from January through May; however, the last "general-business" floorperiod is in mid-March.<sup>77</sup> The remaining floorperiods are: (1) A "limited-business" floorperiod from April 14 to April 16 that is narrow in scope and may only be used for certain limited purposes;<sup>78</sup> and (2) A "veto review" session from May 12 to May 13 that is limited to action on vetoed bills, and other limited purposes.<sup>79</sup> Bills passed by the legislature in 2026 are to be transmitted to the governor in early and late April and in late May.<sup>80</sup> The Joint Resolution specifies that an interim period of committee work commences upon the adjournment of the last general-business time period in mid-March and continues until the end of term on Monday, January 4, 2027.<sup>81</sup>

Certain provisions address the timing of Wisconsin legislators' terms in office and the governor's consideration of bills. If the governor does not return a bill to the legislature within six days after receiving the bill (excluding Sundays), the bill automatically becomes law; however, the bill does not become law if the legislature, by final adjournment, prevents the governor from returning the bill.<sup>82</sup> Legislators' terms begin on the first Monday of January following their election.<sup>83</sup> Thus, as long as the legislature timely acts in response to a gubernatorial veto of a bill in an election year, a departing legislator should be able to participate in a legislative response to a vetoed bill that was passed during that legislator's term.

Wisconsin's constitution authorizes the governor to convene the legislature in special session on "extraordinary occasions."<sup>84</sup> During a special session, legislative business is limited to the purposes for which the special session is convened, as determined by the governor's order.<sup>85</sup> The constitution's provisions for special sessions convened by the governor are distinct

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<sup>76</sup> *Id.* § 1(3)(k) to (m).

<sup>77</sup> *Id.* § 1(3)(u) (specifically March 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup>).

<sup>78</sup> *Id.* § 1(3)(w). These include certain bills relating to revisor amendments, reconciliation, and collective bargaining contracts, and certain ceremonial citations. Rule 81m, Joint Rules of the Wis. Legislature (2013). *See also* Wis. Joint Rule 7.

<sup>79</sup> Wis. S. J. Res. 1 § 1(3)(y). These include confirmations, in either chamber, of nominated or appointed individuals; certain bills relating to revisor amendments, reconciliation, and collective bargaining contracts; and certain organizational and ceremonial resolutions. Wis. Joint Rule 82(1m). Legislative actions in response to vetoes are not limited to this period. Notably, the rule itself anticipates the possibility of the legislature acting on vetoes during other periods. *See id.* at Rule 82(2)(a) ("[u]nless otherwise provided by the committee on senate organization or the assembly committee on rules, any vetoes of regular or special session bills not previously on a calendar in the house of origin shall be shown as pending business on the calendar for the veto review session's first day.")

<sup>80</sup> *See* Wis. S. J. Res. 1 § 1(3)(v), (x), and (z) (Wis. 2025). Other provisions are made for bills passed in special or extraordinary sessions.

<sup>81</sup> *Id.* § 1(4) (Wis. 2025).

<sup>82</sup> WIS. CONST. art. V, § 10(3).

<sup>83</sup> 55 Op. Atty. Gen. 159, 169 (Wis. 1966).

<sup>84</sup> *See* WIS. CONST. art. IV, §11 and art. V, § 4.

<sup>85</sup> *Id.* art. IV, § 11.

and separate from "extraordinary sessions" that are authorized by legislative rules.<sup>86</sup> While the governor may convene the legislature in special session at any time, including during the regular session,<sup>87</sup> the Joint Rules authorize the legislature itself to convene an extraordinary session.<sup>88</sup> Extraordinary sessions may be convened: (1) at the direction of a majority of the members of the committee on organization in each house; (2) by the adoption of and concurrence in a joint resolution by a majority of the members elected to each house; or (3) by the joint petition of a majority of the members elected to each house.<sup>89</sup> Similar to a special session convened by the governor, an extraordinary session convened by the legislature is limited to the business specified in the action by which it is authorized.<sup>90</sup>

***Massachusetts: Different Schedules for  
"Formal" and "Informal" Business  
Floor Sessions***

The Massachusetts legislature, known as the General Court,<sup>91</sup> meets in annual regular sessions. It is constitutionally required to convene on the first Wednesday of January and be dissolved "on the day next preceding the first Wednesday of January."<sup>92</sup> The General Court classifies two consecutive annual regular sessions within a biennium as a "first annual session" (odd-numbered year) and a "second annual session" (even-numbered year).<sup>93</sup> Both the Senate and House of Representatives appear to convene throughout the year.<sup>94</sup> However, the General Court apparently divides its work between "formal" and "informal" business and specifies the periods in which each of those activities may take place, as explained below.

Generally, pursuant to Joint Rule 12A of the Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives, the "formal business" of the General Court must be concluded by the third Wednesday of November in each first annual session (odd-numbered year) and by the end of July in each second annual session (even-numbered year).<sup>95</sup> Notably, the Joint Rules do not include

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<sup>86</sup> See Dan Schmidt, *Special Sessions of the Legislature*, WIS. LEGIS. COUNCIL ISSUE BRIEF (Apr. 2024), [https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/lc/issue\\_briefs/2024/legislature/ib\\_special\\_sessions\\_dws\\_2024\\_04\\_29](https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/misc/lc/issue_briefs/2024/legislature/ib_special_sessions_dws_2024_04_29).

<sup>87</sup> See *id.* A footnote supporting this point cited a 1969 court case in which the Supreme Court of Wisconsin stated in pertinent part that "[t]he [state] constitution does not limit the power of the governor to call special sessions only when the legislature is not in session." *State ex rel. Groppi v. Leslie*, 44 Wis. 2d 282, 300, 171 N.W.2d 192, 200 (1969).

<sup>88</sup> Wis. Joint Rule 81(2)(a).

<sup>89</sup> See Schmidt, *supra* note 86.

<sup>90</sup> Wis. Joint Rule 81(2)(b).

<sup>91</sup> MASS. CONST. Pt. 2, Ch. 1, § 1, art. I.

<sup>92</sup> *Id.* amend. art. X.

<sup>93</sup> See, e.g., Rule 12A, Mass. Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives (2025). See also the General Court's list of legislative deadlines and significant dates for 2025 and 2026, which appears in Appendix 3-E.

<sup>94</sup> Massachusetts' Senate and House of Representatives appear to convene floor sessions throughout the year. See, e.g., *Senate Journal 2023-2024*, 194th GEN. CT. COMMONWEALTH MASS., <https://malegislature.gov/Journal/Senate/193/12-01-2024> (last visited Nov. 21, 2025); *House Journal 2023-2024*, 194th GEN. CT. COMMONWEALTH MASS., <https://malegislature.gov/Journal/House/193/12-01-2024> (last visited Nov. 21, 2025).

<sup>95</sup> Mass. Joint Rule 12A. Joint Rule 12A includes a few limited exceptions to these deadlines for the consideration of: (1) reports of conference committees formed by the end of July of second annual sessions; (2) appropriation bills

explicit definitions of "formal business" or "informal business." However, the Rules of the Senate state in relevant part that, "in the case of an *informal session*, only reports of committees and matters not giving rise to formal motion or debate shall be considered."<sup>96</sup> The Rules of the House of Representatives provide in part that "[a]t an *informal session* the House shall only consider reports of committees, papers from the Senate, bills for enactment or resolves<sup>97</sup> for final passage, bills containing emergency preambles and the matters in the Orders of the Day."<sup>98</sup> Further, the House Rules establish that "[f]ormal debate, or the taking of the sense of the House by yeas and nays shall not be conducted during [an] informal session."<sup>99</sup>

The state's legislative deadlines reflect the apparent limitation of "formal" business within a regular session to certain months of the year. Appendix 3-E shows the General Court's list of 2025-2026 legislative session Deadlines and Significant Dates.<sup>100</sup> The convening date of the first annual session was January 1, 2025, and the convening date of the second annual session is January 7, 2026.<sup>101</sup> Significant legislative deadlines include: late January deadlines for the governor to submit a general appropriations bill; late April deadlines for reports on proposed constitutional amendments; and mid-May deadlines for reports from the House Committee on Ways and Means on the general appropriations bill. The significant deadlines on the General Court's list appear to run from January to May during each year, and in conformance with Joint Rule 12A, the last days for formal sessions are November 19 in 2025, and July 31 in 2026. The last day of the first annual session is January 6, 2026, and last day of the second annual session is January 5, 2027.<sup>102</sup>

Certain Massachusetts constitutional provisions address the timing of legislators' terms in office and the governor's consideration of bills. Legislators' terms begin on the first Wednesday in January following their election.<sup>103</sup> The governor generally has 10 days to consider each bill after receipt, and a bill automatically becomes law if the governor does not veto or return the bill to the General Court by this deadline.<sup>104</sup> However, if the General Court adjourns within 10 days

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filed by the end of July of second annual sessions; and (3) override and amendment actions on bills vetoed by the governor or returned by the governor for amendment.

<sup>96</sup> Rule 5A, Mass. Rules of the Senate (2025) (emphasis added).

<sup>97</sup> These appear to be the equivalent of resolutions adopted by the Hawaii State Legislature.

<sup>98</sup> Rule 44, Mass. Rules of the House of Representatives (2025) (emphasis added).

<sup>99</sup> *Id.*

<sup>100</sup> The list in this Appendix was obtained from the official website of the Massachusetts General Court. *2025-2026 Session Legislative Deadlines and Significant Dates*, MASS. GEN. COURT, <https://malegislature.gov/Download/Senate/Senate%20Deadlines> (last visited Nov. 24, 2025). We note that the list that we obtained on November 24, 2025, was different from the version that we obtained in June 2025. The more recent version has different deadlines for committees (not related to the House Committee on Ways and Means' report on the general appropriations bill). For clarity and accuracy, the Appendix includes only the more recent version. The list may further change before this report is published.

<sup>101</sup> As indicated in Appendix 3-E, these dates are the first Wednesdays in January of each year. The dates are consistent with the session convening date requirements of MASS. CONST. amend. art. X.

<sup>102</sup> As indicated in Appendix 3-E, the former date is the Tuesday preceding the first Wednesday in January of the second (annual session) year, and the latter date is the Tuesday preceding the first Wednesday in January of "third year." However, because the General Court operates under a biennium calendar, it appears that the reference to this "third year" actually refers to the first annual session year of the upcoming 2027-2028 biennium. The dates of the last session days in the Appendix are consistent with the session dissolution date requirements of MASS. CONST. amend. art. X.

<sup>103</sup> MASS. CONST. amend. art. LXIV, § 1.

<sup>104</sup> *Id.* Pt. 2. Ch. 1, § 1, art. 2.

after presenting the bill to the governor, and the governor does not approve the bill, it will not become law.<sup>105</sup> In even-numbered years, the General Court must conclude formal sessions by the end of July.<sup>106</sup> Accordingly, if the General Court timely acts in response to a gubernatorial veto of a bill in an election year, it appears that a departing legislator should be able to participate in a legislative response to a vetoed bill that was passed during that legislator's term.

While Massachusetts' constitution does not reference the term "special session," it authorizes the General Court to assemble "at such other times as they shall judge necessary, or when called together by the governor."<sup>107</sup> The constitution also authorizes the governor, with the advice of council, to: (1) adjourn or terminate the regular session of the General Court to "any time the two houses shall desire"; (2) terminate the recess of the General Court, not exceeding 90 days in any one recess; and (3) call the General Court together "sooner than the time to which it may be adjourned or prorogued, if the welfare of the commonwealth shall require the same."<sup>108</sup> Additionally, Joint Rule 26A authorizes a majority of members of each chamber to file notices requesting a special session during a recess of the General Court if they deem it necessary.<sup>109</sup> There do not appear to be provisions in the constitution or Joint Rules limiting the legislative business or subjects that may be considered by the general court in special session or when called together by the governor. Further, Joint Rule 26A authorizes the suspension, by a two-thirds vote of each chamber, of Joint Rule 12A (which sets deadlines for the consideration of formal business).<sup>110</sup>

### ***Pennsylvania: 10 Months in Session, and "Late" on Budget Bills***

Pennsylvania's constitution requires its legislature, known as the General Assembly, to convene in annual regular session "at twelve o'clock noon on the first Tuesday of January each year."<sup>111</sup> The General Assembly is also required to be "a continuing body" for a biennial period<sup>112</sup> which in this case means the two-year term<sup>113</sup> of its legislative representatives,<sup>114</sup> beginning on the first day of December after their election.<sup>115</sup> Appendix 3-F shows the General Assembly's 2023, 2024, and 2025 session calendars.<sup>116</sup> The schedule of session days for the House of

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<sup>105</sup> *Id.* amend. art. I.

<sup>106</sup> *See supra* note 95 and accompanying text.

<sup>107</sup> MASS. CONST. amend. art. X.

<sup>108</sup> MASS. CONST. Pt. 2, Ch. 2, § I, art. V and VI.

<sup>109</sup> Rule 26A, Mass. Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives (2025).

<sup>110</sup> Mass. Joint Rule 12A.

<sup>111</sup> PA. CONST. art. II § 4.

<sup>112</sup> *See id.* art. II § 4; *see also id.* art. II § 3.

<sup>113</sup> *Id.* art. II § 3.

<sup>114</sup> *Id.* art. II § 4; *see also id.* art. II § 3.

<sup>115</sup> *Id.* art. II § 2.

<sup>116</sup> The Senate and House calendars in this Appendix were obtained from the official website of the Pennsylvania General Assembly. *Senate Session*, PA. GEN. ASSEMBLY, <https://www.palegis.us/senate/session?days> (last visited Nov 14, 2025); *House Session*, PA. GEN. ASSEMBLY, <https://www.palegis.us/house/session?days> (last visited Nov 14, 2025). We note that the Senate and House calendars that we obtained on November 14, 2025, for the 2025 regular session were different from prior versions of those calendars that we obtained from the same website in July 2025. The more recent versions have more session days in the aggregate, though the House also removed some

Representatives and Senate appear to be slightly different, but if the calendars in Appendix 3-F are representative of the general practice, it would appear that each chamber meets in session only a few days in the months of January, February, September, and November. As reflected in the applicable session calendars, in 2023 and 2024, the chambers took month-long recesses during the summer, in July or August.<sup>117</sup> However, in 2025, the Senate met for two days in July and one day in August, while the House met for eight days in July and four days in August. The schedules also reflect that the Pennsylvania General Assembly concludes its business in mid-November of even-numbered years and mid-December in odd-numbered years.

Other than certain days being designated on these calendars as non-voting days,<sup>118</sup> neither the General Assembly's rules nor calendars appear to state, in advance, specific dates by which action must be taken to pass legislation during a calendar year. This would appear to provide a certain level of flexibility in the conduct of legislative business. Deadlines that are specified in rules appear to be linked to the occurrence of other events that are not pertinent here.<sup>119</sup>

Interestingly, while Pennsylvania's constitution requires the governor<sup>120</sup> to submit to the General Assembly a proposed balanced budget for the upcoming fiscal year by an established statutory deadline (generally by the first full week of February<sup>121</sup>), the General Assembly apparently is not required by law or rule to actually pass a budget bill by any specific date. Moreover, although Pennsylvania's fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30,<sup>122</sup> the Pennsylvania General Assembly has not passed a budget by June 30 in any of the past four regular sessions.<sup>123</sup>

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session days that were present in the July versions. For clarity and accuracy, the Appendix includes only the most recent versions of the calendars for the 2025 regular session (as of November 14, 2025), as well as the calendars for the 2023 and 2024 regular sessions. It seems possible that the calendars for the 2025 regular session may further change before this report is published.

<sup>117</sup> In 2023, the Senate recessed for the entirety of July, while the House of Representatives recessed for the entirety of August. In 2024, both chambers recessed throughout August.

<sup>118</sup> The designation "NV" on the calendar indicates that these are non-voting days. *See, e.g., House of Representatives Daily Session Update, September 22, 2025*, PA. GENERAL ASSEMBLY, <https://www.legis.state.pa.us/WU01/LI/HS/2025/0/20250922.htm> (last visited Nov. 21, 2025).

<sup>119</sup> For example, among other matters, the rules of the Senate require legislation to be referred to senate standing committees within 14 days of the establishment of those committees. Rule 12(s), Pa. Rules of the Senate (2025). They also generally provide that any legislation listed on the Senate's Order of Business Calendar (which appears similar to the Order of the Day for the Hawaii State Senate) and not acted upon within 10 legislative days of placement on that Calendar is to be "removed from the Calendar and laid on the table." Pa. Senate Rule 9(a) (setting a measure aside for possible reconsideration at a later date). The rules of the House of Representatives require the notification of House members of the vote of the General Appropriations Bill (the budget bill) by 4:30 p.m. of the fifth day before the vote. Rule 19(B), Pa. General Operating Rules of the House of Representatives (2025). They also generally provide that bills and certain types of resolutions listed on the House Calendar (which appears similar to the Order of the Day for the Hawaii State House of Representatives) and not acted upon within 15 consecutive legislative days are to be "automatically laid on the table." Pa. House Rule 71. *See also* Pa. Rule 9(a) (regarding the setting of a measure aside for possible reconsideration at a later date).

<sup>120</sup> PA. CONST. art. VIII § 12.

<sup>121</sup> 71 PA. STAT. ANN. § 233(a) (West). This deadline is extended to the first full week of March when the governor has been elected to the governor's first term of office. *Id.*

<sup>122</sup> Table 7.14 - State Budget Calendars, *supra* note 43.

<sup>123</sup> Danielle Smith, *PA Budget Delay Sparks Concern Over School, Health Funding*, PUB. NEWS SERV. (July 14, 2025), <https://www.publicnewsservice.org/2025-07-14/budget-policy-and-priorities/pa-budget-delay-sparks-concern-over-school-health-funding/a97597-1>. In 2025, the Pennsylvania General Assembly passed the budget on November 12, and the governor signed it on the same day. *See, e.g., Rich Pierce, Gov. Josh Shapiro Signs State*

Certain Pennsylvania constitutional provisions address the timing of legislators' terms of office and the governor's consideration of bills. Normally, the governor has 10 days after receipt of a bill to veto the bill and return it to the legislature. If the governor does not meet this deadline, then the bill becomes law.<sup>124</sup> However, if the legislature has adjourned before the governor can return the bill, it will become law unless the governor files the bill with objections with the Secretary of the Commonwealth and issues a public proclamation within 30 days after the adjournment.<sup>125</sup> Legislators' terms begin on the first day of December after their election.<sup>126</sup> In even-numbered years, the General Assembly typically concludes its business by mid-November. Thus, if the General Assembly acts timely in response to a bill that is passed by mid-November in an election year and subsequently vetoed, it appears that a departing legislator should be able to participate in a legislative response to the veto of a bill that was passed during that legislator's term.

The state constitution accommodates special sessions by requiring the governor to call a special session "on petition of a majority of the members elected to each House" and authorizing the governor to call a special session whenever, in the governor's opinion, "the public interest requires."<sup>127</sup> Thus, while the constitution does not explicitly provide that special sessions may be convened during regular sessions, it does explicitly authorize the governor to convene a special session at any time the governor finds it appropriate, presumably including during the regular session. The Pennsylvania Code restricts legislation considered during a special session to subjects designated in the governor's proclamation calling the special session, provided that the General Assembly "may consider matters relating to such subjects and may propose amendments to the Constitution."<sup>128</sup> The Code also authorizes the governor to convene the Senate in "extraordinary session by proclamation for the transaction of executive business."<sup>129</sup>

### ***Michigan: 12 Months in Session, and Late on its 2025 Budget Bill***

Michigan's constitution requires the state legislature's regular sessions to convene annually at noon on the second Wednesday in January.<sup>130</sup> Regular sessions are adjourned at noon on a day determined by concurrent resolution.<sup>131</sup> Although regular sessions convene on an annual basis, they are also biennial in the sense that "[a]ny business, bill or joint resolution pending at the final adjournment of a regular session held in an odd numbered year shall carry over with the same

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*Budget into Law After More than 4 Months*, WPXI (Nov. 12, 2025), <https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/pennsylvania-state-budget-bill-heading-gov-shapiros-desk/4GGTGOS45RHB3G4GLPIJ2Q6X2A/>.

<sup>124</sup> PA. CONST. art. IV § 15.

<sup>125</sup> *Id.* art. IV § 15.

<sup>126</sup> *Id.* art. II § 2.

<sup>127</sup> *Id.* art. II § 4.

<sup>128</sup> 101 PA. CODE § 7.22(b).

<sup>129</sup> *Id.* 7.22(a).

<sup>130</sup> MICH. CONST. art. 4, § 13.

<sup>131</sup> *Id.*

status to the next regular session."<sup>132</sup> In practice, the legislature currently meets in floor session at least once each month throughout the year, with session days generally scheduled for mid-week (Tuesday through Thursday). These practices are demonstrated by the 2024 and 2025 calendars of each legislative chamber, which appear in Appendix 3-G.<sup>133</sup> However, neither Michigan's rules nor calendars appear to set specific procedural deadline dates for moving bills through the legislative process during a calendar year.

Michigan's fiscal year begins on October 1 and ends on September 30,<sup>134</sup> and the legislature is required by statute to pass general appropriation bills and present them to the governor by July 1.<sup>135</sup> However, in 2025, the legislature did not pass the budget bill until October 3.<sup>136</sup>

Certain Michigan constitutional provisions address the timing of legislators' terms of office and the governor's consideration of bills. Michigan's governor may veto a bill within 14 days of receiving it from the legislature, but if the governor does not timely veto it, the bill becomes law.<sup>137</sup> If the governor does not approve a bill and the legislature adjourns the same regular session within the governor's 14-day review period, the bill will not become law.<sup>138</sup> Legislators' terms begin on the first day of January after their election.<sup>139</sup> As indicated in the calendars in Appendix 3-G, the last session days for the Senate and House of Representatives in 2024 were December 23 and December 19, respectively, while in 2025 the last session days for both the Senate and House are scheduled for December 18. Given that (1) Michigan's legislature is authorized to meet throughout the year; (2) Michigan's actual legislative calendar appears to schedule floor session days every month, even through mid-to-late December; and (3) Michigan's legislature may not necessarily act immediately in response to a veto, it is unclear whether a departing legislator would be able to participate in actions on most vetoed bills that had been passed during that legislator's term in office.

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<sup>132</sup> *Id.*

<sup>133</sup> The Senate and House calendars in this Appendix were obtained from the official websites of the Michigan Senate and House of Representatives. MICH. SENATE, <https://senate.michigan.gov/> (last visited Nov 17, 2025); MICH. HOUSE REPRESENTATIVES, <https://house.mi.gov/> (last visited Nov 17, 2025). We note that the Senate and House calendars that we obtained on November 17, 2025, for the 2025 regular session have more session days in September for the Senate, as well as in September and October for the House, when compared with the Senate and House calendars that we obtained in June 2025 from the same websites. The amended 2025 calendars show only the last four months of the year, likely because they were published in August or September. (The Senate and House websites do not appear to maintain archives of their calendars for long periods.) For clarity, we have included in the Appendix all versions of the 2025 calendars that we obtained, with notations of where the older calendars are superseded by the newer versions. It seems possible that the calendars for the 2025 regular session may further change before this report is published.

<sup>134</sup> *Table 7.14 - State Budget Calendars, supra note 43.*

<sup>135</sup> MICH. COMP. LAWS ANN. § 18.1365 (West). The statute specifies no penalty for delay.

<sup>136</sup> Joseph Buczek & DeJanay Booth-Singleton, *Michigan Lawmakers Pass 2026 State Budget, Send Bill to Whitmer's Desk*, CBS NEWS. (Oct. 3, 2025), <https://www.cbsnews.com/detroit/news/michigan-lawmakers-pass-2026-state-budget/>. The state's governor signed the budget on October 7, 2025. Clara Hendrickson, *After Budget Fights and Delays, Gov. Whitmer Signs New Bipartisan Michigan Spending Plan*, DETROIT FREE PRESS (Oct. 7, 2025), <https://www.freep.com/story/news/politics/2025/10/07/governor-gretchen-whitmer-approves-new-michigan-budget/86545741007/>.

<sup>137</sup> MICH. CONST. art. IV, § 33.

<sup>138</sup> *Id.*

<sup>139</sup> *Id.* art. XI, § 2.

Michigan's constitution authorizes the governor to "convene the legislature on extraordinary occasions."<sup>140</sup> The state constitution does not define what constitutes an "extraordinary occasion," nor does it explicitly address the governor's authority to convene the legislature during a regular session. This seems to imply the timing of an "extraordinary occasion" session is subject only to the governor's discretion, which presumably could include convening the legislature during its scheduled regular session. When the legislature is "convened on extraordinary occasions in special session," the only bills that may pass are those limited to the subjects "expressly stated in the governor's proclamation or submitted by special message."<sup>141</sup>

In addition to the foregoing, if either or both houses of the legislature adjourn "to a date certain for more than two days," Michigan's Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives authorize the Senate Majority Leader and Speaker of the House, by unanimous agreement, to "convene either or both houses at any time in case of emergency."<sup>142</sup>

### ***Counties in Hawaii: Year-round Sessions with Monthly Meetings***

Because Hawaii's four county councils meet throughout the year, they may offer instructive examples for a continuous regular session calendar. The Hawaii County Council, Maui County Council, and Kauai County Council are each required to meet at least twice each month.<sup>143</sup> The Honolulu City Council is required to meet at least once each month.<sup>144</sup> Each council's calendar includes dates for committee meetings and meetings of the full council. The Hawaii County Council's calendar also includes deadlines (typically on Thursdays) for council agendas, committee agendas, and committee reports. The Maui County Council's calendar designates certain days, particularly in April, as "budget sessions." (Appendix 3-H through Appendix 3-K show the schedule of each county council, respectively).

The Honolulu City Council is specifically required to meet for organizational purposes on the second day of January of every odd-numbered year.<sup>145</sup> This coincides with the beginning of terms in office for newly elected Honolulu council members.<sup>146</sup> The Maui County Council is subject to a similar organizational meeting requirement,<sup>147</sup> and its members' terms begin on the same day as that first meeting.<sup>148</sup> However, Hawaii County Council members begin their terms

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<sup>140</sup> *Id.* art. V, § 15.

<sup>141</sup> *Id.* art. IV, § 28.

<sup>142</sup> Rule 15, Mich. Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives (2023-2024).

<sup>143</sup> HAW. CNTY. CHARTER § 3-7(a); MAUI CNTY. CHARTER § 3-5(2); KAUAI CNTY. CHARTER § 3.07(E).

<sup>144</sup> HONOLULU, HAW. REV. CHARTER § 3-107(7).

<sup>145</sup> *Id.* § 3-107(1). If the second day of January is a Sunday or a holiday, then the meeting shall occur on the next business day. *Id.*

<sup>146</sup> HONOLULU, HAW. REV. CHARTER § 3-102.

<sup>147</sup> MAUI. CNTY. CHARTER § 3-5(1).

<sup>148</sup> *Id.* § 3-2(5).

on the first Monday of December after they are elected,<sup>149</sup> while Kauai County Council member terms begin on the first working day of December after their election.<sup>150</sup>

Although the county councils meet throughout the year, the councils are required by their respective county charters to pass annual budgets on certain dates before the upcoming fiscal year beginning on July 1. The Honolulu City Council, Hawaii County Council, Maui County Council, and Kauai County Council each must pass an annual budget by June 15,<sup>151</sup> June 30,<sup>152</sup> June 10,<sup>153</sup> and June 7,<sup>154</sup> respectively. If a county council fails to pass the annual budget by the applicable date, then the budget that was proposed by the respective county's mayor becomes law.<sup>155</sup>

Certain provisions of the Revised Charter of the City and County of Honolulu address the timing of a mayor's actions on bills and council members' terms in office. Bills passed by the Honolulu City Council are transmitted by the city clerk to the mayor. If the mayor does not return the bill to the clerk within 10 days (excluding weekends and holidays), the bill becomes law.<sup>156</sup> If the mayor vetoes the bill, the Honolulu City Council may seek to override the veto after five days but within 30 days, with approval by a two-thirds supermajority of the full Council.<sup>157</sup> Similar veto provisions apply to bills passed by the other county councils.<sup>158</sup> As noted previously,<sup>159</sup> the terms in office of council members in the City and County of Honolulu and in the County of Maui begin in early January, while terms for council members in Hawaii County and Kauai County begin in early December. In light of these timeframes, it appears that council members in Honolulu and Maui who are not reelected may be more likely to have an opportunity to participate in a response to the veto of a bill transmitted to the mayor near the end of an election year than council members in Hawaii and Kauai counties who are not reelected.

### ***No "one-size-fits-all" model for the Hawaii State Legislature***

This chapter reviewed legislative session structures and various procedural practices of five states to present various approaches and potential guidance for formulating a longer regular session calendar for Hawaii. In summary, state legislatures having regular sessions that may be described as "continuous" do not necessarily meet and conduct formal business in floor sessions every month of the year. Further, both lengthened and continuous sessions are typically subject to various deadlines, some of which are intended to ensure the timely passage of certain legislation by specific

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<sup>149</sup> HAW. CNTY. CHARTER § 3-2.

<sup>150</sup> KAUAI CNTY. CHARTER § 3.03.

<sup>151</sup> HONOLULU, HAW. REV. CHARTER § 9-104(2).

<sup>152</sup> HAW. CNTY. CHARTER §§ 10-5, 10-6(d).

<sup>153</sup> MAUI CNTY. CHARTER § 9-5(2).

<sup>154</sup> KAUAI CNTY. CHARTER § 19.07(A).

<sup>155</sup> HONOLULU, HAW. REV. CHARTER § 9-104(2); HAW. CNTY. CHARTER §§ 10-5, 10-6(d); MAUI CNTY. CHARTER § 9-5(2); KAUAI CNTY. CHARTER § 19.07(A). *See also* HONOLULU, HAW. REV. CHARTER § 9-102(1); HAW. CNTY. CHARTER § 10.2(a); MAUI CNTY. CHARTER § 9-2(1); KAUAI CNTY. CHARTER § 19.02(A) (requiring all mayors to submit proposed budgets to their respective county councils).

<sup>156</sup> HONOLULU, HAW. REV. CHARTER § 3-203(1).

<sup>157</sup> *Id.*

<sup>158</sup> HAW. CNTY. CHARTER § 3-12; MAUI CNTY. CHARTER § 4-3(1); KAUAI CNTY. CHARTER § 4.03(A).

<sup>159</sup> *See supra* text accompanying notes 145-150.

dates within a calendar year. Several of the session calendars described in this chapter include lengthy recess periods throughout those sessions. For example, although the California and Wisconsin legislatures have authority under their respective state constitutions to meet in floor sessions every month throughout each calendar year, both states employ extensive recess periods. Further, California's legislature generally stops passing bills by August (in even-numbered years) or September (in odd-numbered years), while in election years, the deadline for the Wisconsin legislative body to transmit all passed bills to the governor is late May. Massachusetts has floor sessions throughout the year but distinguishes between "formal" and "informal" business sessions, the former of which generally end in mid-November (in odd-numbered years) and by the end of July (in even-numbered years). Pennsylvania's legislature generally meets at least once per month (even if only for a few days), though each chamber took a month-long summer recess in July or August in 2023 and 2024, and recessed during all of December in 2024. In practice, it appears that Michigan's legislature currently meets at least once every month, with session days generally scheduled mid-week (Tuesday through Thursday).

It appears likely that incumbent legislators in the states we reviewed, with the possible exception of Michigan, should generally have an opportunity to participate in efforts to amend vetoed bills or override vetoes during election years, regardless of whether those legislators are reelected in those years. This is typically because these states' legislative terms begin in early December or January, after the November general election<sup>160</sup> and because their respective governors generally have substantially less time to consider bills that have been passed.<sup>161</sup>

However, while the session structures and procedural practices of these states may be illustrative in a general sense, we note that they may be of limited utility as direct models for Hawaii in light of the structure and timeframe established by the Hawaii State Constitution for the Legislature's regular sessions. Thus, another state's session structure may not be easily duplicated in Hawaii, absent amending the Hawaii State Constitution.

Closer to home, Hawaii's county councils provide examples of legislative bodies that meet throughout the calendar year. However, the usefulness of county council calendars as comparative models for the State Legislature is also limited, because of differences in factors such as structure, size, jurisdiction, sheer volume of bills and resolutions considered, etc. As one example of these differences, the Legislature comprises two separate chambers, whereas each county council has only a single legislative chamber. Consequently, the council calendars do not have to accommodate additional time periods and deadlines to allow for adequate and timely consideration of legislative measures by two separate chambers of the Legislature.

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<sup>160</sup> In California, legislative terms begin on the first Monday of December. Terms begin on the first Monday of January in Wisconsin, while the corresponding date in Massachusetts is the first Wednesday of the same month. In Pennsylvania, and Minnesota, terms begin on December 1 and January 1, respectively. See *supra* notes 57, 83, 103, 126, 139, and accompanying text.

<sup>161</sup> In California, the governor has 12 to 30 days to consider bills, depending on when the Governor receives bills from the legislatures. In Wisconsin, the corresponding timeframe for all bills is six days (excluding Sundays). In Massachusetts, the governor has 10 days to consider bills. In Pennsylvania, the governor has 10 to 30 days, depending on whether the legislature has adjourned. In Michigan, the governor has 14 days to consider bills. Because Michigan's legislature appears to meet through December, even in election years, it is uncertain whether incumbent legislators who are not reelected have an opportunity to participate in actions in response to vetoed bills. See *supra* notes 54-56, 82, 104-105, 124-125, 137-138, and accompanying text.

In short, there does not seem to be a "one-size-fits-all" legislative session calendar model that the Hawaii State Legislature could directly adopt without significant modification and without necessitating significant statutory and constitutional amendments. At best, an alternative regular session calendar that is informed by the practices of other jurisdictions could possibly be developed by carefully considering how those practices may be overlaid upon Hawaii's existing constitutionally and statutorily established timelines and priorities.

### **PART III: RECENTLY PROPOSED HAWAII LEGISLATION TO ESTABLISH A CONTINUOUS LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Some advocates have suggested a potential alternative regular session calendar based upon legislation introduced during the 2025 Regular Session of the Hawaii State Legislature.

#### **Senate Bill No. 733 and House Bill No. 770 (2025)**

Senate Bill No. 733 and House Bill No. 770 are identical companion measures that were introduced during the 2025 Regular Session of the Hawaii State Legislature. (See Appendix 3-L and Appendix 3-M). The measures propose to amend the Hawaii State Constitution to "establish a continuous legislative session," specifically by:

- (1) Repealing the 60-day limit on regular sessions;
- (2) Requiring the Legislature to convene at least once each month;
- (3) Repealing language requiring each chamber to establish bill introduction deadlines for each regular session;
- (4) Repealing language relating to special sessions;
- (5) Repealing certain language relating to adjournment and recesses;
- (6) Requiring each general appropriations bill or supplemental appropriations bill (collectively known as the budget bills") to pass each house not later than 45 days<sup>162</sup> before the end of the existing fiscal year;<sup>163</sup>

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<sup>162</sup> This language appears in section 15 of both S.B. 733, 33rd Leg., Reg. Sess. (Haw. 2025) and H.B. 770, 33rd Leg., Reg. Sess. (Haw. 2025). The purpose section and ballot question section of each bill also indicate the creation of "a two-year deadline for a bill to be submitted for gubernatorial consideration," which presumably is referring to non-budget bills. However, this deadline is not stated in the operative provisions of either bill that actually amend the Hawaii State Constitution. The reason for this discrepancy is not apparent.

<sup>163</sup> However, if the deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, the deadline is extended to the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or holiday.

- (7) Providing 90 calendar days for the Governor to consider each bill;<sup>164</sup>
- (8) Establishing salaries of the members of the Legislature pursuant to recommendations by the Commission on Salaries submitted during the 2028 Regular Session, unless those recommendations are amended by law;
- (9) Prohibiting members of the Legislature from holding any position of employment in the private sector during their term; and
- (10) Authorizing members of the Legislature to serve in the United States military reserves or National Guard, or to hold any lawful position of government employment, subject to certain current ethical limitations.

The measures would continue to require that each regular session convene on the third Wednesday in January pursuant to current constitutional provisions.<sup>165</sup>

In addition to the previously enumerated provisions, a regular session calendar based on Senate Bill No. 733 and House Bill No. 770 would benefit from addressing the procedural and budgetary considerations described earlier in this chapter.<sup>166</sup> Specifically, the calendar could include:

- Deadlines for all fiscal bills (not just the general or supplemental appropriation bills) that would facilitate bill passage before the beginning of the fiscal year each July 1;
- Deadlines for bills that propose constitutional amendments to facilitate passage no later than mid-July in even-numbered years so that the Attorney General will have sufficient time to prepare informational materials regarding those amendments and to submit those materials to the Office of Elections by the 75th calendar day (typically in mid-August) before the general election; and
- In even-numbered years, deadlines for non-fiscal bills that facilitate passage within a reasonable time before the general election day, to ensure that departing legislators would have the opportunity to participate in potential actions to address gubernatorial objections to those bills (*if this is deemed desirable*).

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<sup>164</sup> If the last of the 90 days falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, the deadline is extended to the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or holiday.

<sup>165</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 10.

<sup>166</sup> See *supra* pp. 23-26.

## PART IV: LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS MAY BE LENGTHENED WITH RECESS DAYS

This Part will review the Legislature's historically limited use of scheduled recess days during regular sessions, examine rare exceptions to that approach, and consider the potential scheduling of additional recess days to lengthen the total duration of a regular session calendar.

### Constitutional and Statutory Provisions and the Historical Scheduling of Session Recess Days

#### *Limitations and Possibilities*

The Hawaii State Constitution limits regular sessions to 60 session days—those days on which each legislative chamber may formally convene to act on bills or conduct other business—and authorizes an extension of up to 15 additional session days.<sup>167</sup> Days in which the Legislature is in recess during a session are not counted among the total number of session days.<sup>168</sup> Although a legislative *chamber* may not take action on legislation during a recess day, legislative committees may meet to conduct hearings and take action on legislative matters or conduct informational briefings or other business during recess days.<sup>169</sup> The Hawaii State Constitution requires five mandatory recess days scheduled some time between the 20th and 40th session days of each regular session.<sup>170</sup> The Constitution also allows any session to be recessed by concurrent resolution adopted by a majority of the members of each house.<sup>171</sup> However, the Constitution prohibits either house from adjourning for more than three days or final adjournment (*sine die*) without the consent of the other house.<sup>172</sup> Otherwise neither the State Constitution nor the Hawaii Revised Statutes address the total number of recess days that may be included during a regular session, nor do they establish an explicit date for final adjournment. The Legislature thus appears to have considerable discretion to determine the total duration of its regular sessions through the scheduling of session days and inclusion of recess days. The following section of this chapter will examine how the Legislature has historically exercised that discretion.

#### *Historical Use of Recess Days During 60-Day Legislative Sessions*

With the notable exception of the 2020 Regular Session, which will be discussed below, Hawaii's Legislature has not scheduled more than 15 recess days during any regular session for the past 55 years. During that time, final adjournment for regular sessions typically occurred in

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<sup>167</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 10.

<sup>168</sup> *Id.*

<sup>169</sup> Committees may also conduct oversight hearings and site visits, and individual legislators may meet with constituents. *See infra* Chapter 4, pp. 81-82. Further, legislative caucuses usually meet to discuss legislation on recess days that immediately precede major legislation crossover deadlines.

<sup>170</sup> *Id.* art. III, § 10

<sup>171</sup> *Id.*

<sup>172</sup> *Id.* art. III, § 11.

late April or early May of each year. However, just prior to the aforementioned 55-year period, the 1969 Regular Session, which convened on January 15 of that year, included 24 recess days. House Concurrent Resolution No. 1 (1969) (H.C.R. No. 1) established a recess period from January 16 through February 18 for the 1969 Regular Session.<sup>173</sup>

H.C.R. No. 1 explained that the lengthy recess period was necessary because the brief time period between the November 1968 ratification of constitutional amendments that established certain new parameters for legislative sessions,<sup>174</sup> and the January 15, 1969, start of the regular session, did not allow "an adequate period of adjustment of governmental operations."<sup>175</sup> The measure further noted that the new State Capitol building remained under construction and was not scheduled for completion until February 19, 1969.<sup>176</sup> Nevertheless, the 1969 Regular Session adjourned *sine die* in May, despite the 24 recess days, as well as a six-day session extension that brought the total number of session days to 66.

The 1970 Regular Session calendar included only seven recess days, and subsequent regular sessions included no recess days until 1979, the year after the Hawaii State Constitution was further amended to require the mandatory five-day recess period between the 20th and 40th session days.<sup>177</sup> Subsequent regular sessions included no more than six recess days until 1990, when the total number of recess days was 12. From 1990 through 2025, the number of recess days in each regular session has ranged from nine to 15 days—with the significant exception in 2020 that resulted from the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic.

Appendix 3-N shows the convening date, number of session days, number of recess days, and final adjournment date of each regular session in Hawaii from 1969 to 2025.<sup>178</sup> The table begins with 1969 because that was the first year in which the Legislature was subject to the following constitutional provisions, which remain in place: (1) Annual regular sessions are limited to 60 session days and extensions of up to 15 additional session days; and (2) Regular sessions convene on the third Wednesday of January.<sup>179</sup>

### ***COVID-19's Impact on the 2020 Regular Session Calendar***

Adjustments made to the calendar of the 2020 Regular Session demonstrate the feasibility of lengthening the overall duration of a regular session by including additional recess days. At the start of 2020, the legislative timetable included a constitutionally required opening day of

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<sup>173</sup> H. Con. Res. 1, 5th Leg. (Haw. 1969).

<sup>174</sup> See *infra* note 179 and accompanying text.

<sup>175</sup> Haw. Con. Res. 1.

<sup>176</sup> *Id.*

<sup>177</sup> See HAW. CONST. art. III, § 10 (1978).

<sup>178</sup> The data in this table were compiled based on information contained in legislative records, primarily Senate and House Journals, and available from the Legislative Reference Bureau Library and the Senate Chief Clerk.

<sup>179</sup> Before 1969, regular sessions convened on the third Wednesday of February and were limited to 30-day regular sessions known as "budget sessions" in even years and 60-day sessions in odd years. However, the Governor could extend any regular session by up to 30 days. Compare the 1959 and 1968 versions of HAW. CONST. art. III, § 11. For further discussion, see *supra* Chapter 2, pp. 7-8.

Wednesday, January 15, 2020,<sup>180</sup> a total of 18 recess days scheduled across various weekdays,<sup>181</sup> and a final adjournment date of Thursday, May 7, 2020. (See Appendix 3-O.) All recess days were formally agreed upon through House Concurrent Resolution No. 1 (2020),<sup>182</sup> adopted by the House of Representatives and the Senate on January 15 and 16, 2020, respectively.<sup>183</sup>

In response to the public health emergency posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Senate and the House of Representatives adopted Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 242 (2020) on March 16, 2020.<sup>184</sup> The measure recessed the regular session for "at least three days, beginning March 17, 2020," and provided that "at the appropriate time," the presiding officers of both chambers would "declare through a signed memorandum" a date upon which the regular session would reconvene.<sup>185</sup> On Thursday, May 7, 2020, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives issued a joint memorandum declaring that the regular session would reconvene on Monday, May 11, 2020.<sup>186</sup>

Subsequently, the Legislature met from May 11 to May 21, with a single-day recess, which occurred on Wednesday, May 20, 2020.<sup>187</sup> Another extensive recess period began on Friday, May 22, 2020,<sup>188</sup> and continued until the Legislature again reconvened on Monday, June 22, 2020.<sup>189</sup> Two additional single-day recesses occurred on Tuesday, July 7, and Thursday, July 9, 2020.<sup>190</sup> An amended legislative timetable was published that included a final session adjournment date of Friday, July 10, 2020. (See Appendix 3-P.) In total, the 2020 Regular Session included 53 session days and 63 recess days. (See Appendix 3-N.)

The constitutional provisions relating to session days and recess days were the same in 2020 as they are today. However, by adding recess days in 2020, the Legislature conducted a regular session having a significantly longer total duration than in previous years but with fewer actual session days, all while remaining in compliance with applicable constitutional provisions.

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<sup>180</sup> The regular session must convene on the third Wednesday of January. HAW. CONST. art. III, § 10.

<sup>181</sup> This included a continuous five-day recess period, from Thursday, February 20 to Wednesday, February 26, to comply with the constitutional provision that requires a recess of not less than five days sometime between the 20th and 40th days of the regular session. *See id.* The timetable did not include Saturday, February 22, and Sunday, February 23, in the five-day recess period. *Id.* This appears consistent with constitutional language that treats recess days as distinct from weekend days and holidays. ("Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, *the days in mandatory recess and any days in recess* pursuant to a concurrent resolution shall be excluded in computing the number of days of any session.") *Id.* (emphasis added).

<sup>182</sup> H. Con. Res. 1, 30th Legis. (Haw. 2020).

<sup>183</sup> *HCR1 2020 Archives* HAW. STATE LEGIS, [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session/archives/measure\\_indiv\\_Archives.aspx?billtype=HCR&billnumber=1&year=2020](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session/archives/measure_indiv_Archives.aspx?billtype=HCR&billnumber=1&year=2020) (last visited Nov. 21, 2025).

<sup>184</sup> *SCR242 2020 Archives* HAW. STATE LEGIS, [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session/archives/measure\\_indiv\\_Archives.aspx?billtype=SCR&billnumber=242&year=2020](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session/archives/measure_indiv_Archives.aspx?billtype=SCR&billnumber=242&year=2020) (last visited Nov. 21, 2025).

<sup>185</sup> S. Con. Res. 242, 30th Legis. (Haw. 2020).

<sup>186</sup> Memorandum from Senate President Ronald D. Kouchi and House Speaker Scott K. Saiki to the Members of the Senate and House (May 7, 2020).

<sup>187</sup> S. Con. Res. 243, 30th Legis. (Haw. 2020).

<sup>188</sup> S. Con. Res. 244, 30th Legis. (Haw. 2020).

<sup>189</sup> Memorandum from Senate President Ronald D. Kouchi and House Speaker Scott K. Saiki to the Members of the Senate and House (June 9, 2020).

<sup>190</sup> S. Con. Res. 245, 30th Legis. (Haw. 2020).

The following section of this report will examine how future regular sessions could be similarly lengthened, without having to amend any constitutional or statutory provisions.

### **Potential Models Using Recess Days to Lengthen Regular Sessions**

It would seem that adding additional recess days between session days could provide considerable flexibility for lengthening a regular session. Assuming agreement between the House of Representatives and the Senate, a 60-day regular session theoretically could be made as long as nearly one calendar year by including any number of additional recess days between session days. Such a session would still convene on the third Wednesday in January pursuant to Article III, section 10, of the Hawaii State Constitution and include no more than the maximum 60 session days allowed by the Constitution,<sup>191</sup> but the session would have more recess days and a later final adjournment date. For example, the maximum 60 session days allowed could be allocated among 12 months so that the Legislature meets in session for five days of each month and remains in recess during the other days of each month. Alternatively, a six-month session could be conducted from January through June, with the Legislature convening for 10 session days each month, and a nine-month session could run from January through September, with six to seven session days per month. Similarly, allocating session days over a shorter or longer period and adding sufficient recess days in between could produce a regular session having a total duration shorter or longer than nine months but less than 12 months, depending upon what is desired.

To summarize briefly, certain legal requirements and practical matters should be considered in the development of any lengthened or continuous regular session calendar for Hawaii, notably:

- Because the State's fiscal year begins each July 1, it would appear advisable for the regular session calendar to facilitate the enactment before July 1 of legislation that establishes a budget, appropriates funds, or otherwise has a significant fiscal impact.<sup>192</sup>
- Because Hawaii law provides that elective terms for legislators begin on general election day in the year they are elected, and since some legislators may not seek or win reelection in an election year, establishing a regular session calendar in even-numbered years that facilitates the passage of bills and provides for final adjournment no later than 45 working days before each general election day would ensure that each legislator who holds office when a bill is passed may participate in any efforts to override a veto or amend the bill in response to a gubernatorial veto, if that is deemed desirable.<sup>193</sup>

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<sup>191</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 10.

<sup>192</sup> For further discussion, see *supra* note 5 and accompanying text.

<sup>193</sup> For further discussion, see *supra* p. 23.

- Because the Department of the Attorney General is required by statute to prepare explanatory materials for voters about proposed constitutional amendments prior to an upcoming general election, providing for legislative approval of proposed constitutional amendments by mid-July in election years would provide the Department approximately one month to prepare those materials, before the statutory deadline—typically occurring in mid-August in election years—to transmit those materials to the Office of Elections.<sup>194</sup>
- It may be advisable to obtain an updated Attorney General Opinion confirming the ability of the Legislature, under present law, either: to address, during a reconfigured lengthened or continuous regular session, any issues that might presently necessitate a special session; or to convene a special session concurrently with a regular session. Otherwise, it may be necessary to consider either providing sufficient time within a regular session calendar to conduct one or more special sessions during the same calendar year as that regular session, or amending the Hawaii State Constitution's provisions relating to special sessions.<sup>195</sup>
- As a practical matter, we note that, with the exception of Michigan, the sample states' session calendars we reviewed earlier in this chapter provide lengthy summer recesses and holiday recesses. Consideration should be given to whether this would be desirable to incorporate in a lengthened regular session calendar for Hawaii.

### ***Illustrative Calendars for Lengthening the 2026 and 2027 Regular Sessions***

Table 3-2 and Table 3-3 provide illustrative examples using recess days to lengthen calendars for the 2026 and 2027 Regular Sessions to demonstrate how this may be accomplished without requiring any amendments to the Hawaii State Constitution or changes to any statute. Note that these mock-ups of session calendars attempt to address the timing-related issues and other concerns raised earlier in this chapter. In particular, because 2026 is an election year, the sample calendar provided for that year is shorter in total duration than the 2027 calendar to accommodate a potential response to a gubernatorial veto.

To facilitate ease in identifying the different deadlines relating to various types of legislation, the deadlines in these mock-up calendars are color coded as follows: **Red** - Fiscal Bills; **Green** - Non-Fiscal Bills; **Purple** - Substantive Resolutions; and **Blue** - Constitutional Amendments.

The mock-up calendars provide for a January 21st through August 28th lengthened regular session for 2026, and January 20th through September 29th lengthened regular session for 2027. Further, the mock-up calendars, among other things:

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<sup>194</sup> For further discussion, see *supra* notes 13-15 and accompanying text.

<sup>195</sup> For examples of recent proposed state legislation to repeal constitutional provisions for special sessions (as part of an effort to make regular sessions continuous), see *supra* pp. 46-48.

POTENTIAL ALTERNATIVE LEGISLATIVE SESSION CALENDARS

1. Bifurcate and stagger the bill-related deadlines for fiscal and non-fiscal bills—with fiscal bills receiving priority during the earlier portion of a regular session and providing more time toward the end of the regular session to deliberate over non-fiscal bills;
2. Move the mandatory five-day recess from its traditional occurrence in late February and prior to First Decking, to after Second Decking for fiscal bills, so that Legislators have a better picture of each legislative chamber's position on fiscal bills prior to the mandatory recess;
3. Establish a deadline for fiscal bills to be transmitted to the Governor more than ten days prior to the end of the current fiscal year so fiscal bills may be enacted prior to the commencement of the ensuing fiscal year;
4. Establish a deadline for non-fiscal bills to be transmitted to the Governor more than ten days prior to the end of the regular session to facilitate enactment of these bills prior to the final adjournment of the regular session. This would provide sufficient time during the same regular session for the Legislature to consider action in response to a vetoed bill. The 2026 calendar also contemplates the convening of a veto override session, if needed, prior to general election day in an election year, to ensure that legislators who will not remain in office after an election may participate in a special session that may be convened in response to a veto. In non-election years such as 2027, the calendar contemplates the convening of a veto override session in early December;
5. Establish a deadline for constitutional amendments to be transmitted to the Governor to allow sufficient time to meet the state constitutional gubernatorial notification deadline imposed on the Legislature<sup>196</sup> and statutory deadlines imposed upon the Attorney General and Office of Elections;<sup>197</sup>
6. Provide for recesses during the summer months; and
7. Establish final adjournment dates of August 28<sup>th</sup> in an election year -- more than 45 days prior to the general election; and September 29<sup>th</sup> in a non-election year -- well before the holiday season that generally runs from late November through December.

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<sup>196</sup> HAW. CONST. art. XVII, § 3. For further discussion, see *supra* Chapter 2, p. 14.

<sup>197</sup> HAW. REV. STAT. §§ 11-118.5(b), 11-122(b)(2). For further discussion, see notes 13-15 and accompanying text.

## **Conclusion**

These mock-up calendars demonstrate how regular sessions may be lengthened by adding more recess days pursuant to an agreement between the House and Senate, without necessitating any constitutional or statutory amendments. This approach would appear to be the least complicated and most efficient means of quickly establishing a longer regular session, if desirable. We note that the establishment and placement of most of the deadlines contained within the mock-up calendars are subject solely to negotiation between the legislative chambers; the only exceptions are the constitutionally specified day and time upon which regular sessions initially convene annually, the placement of a mandatory five-day recess somewhere between the twentieth and fortieth legislative days, and the requirement of a minimum ten-day notice to the Governor for the final form of proposed constitutional amendments. Thus, it appears that the Legislature has tremendous flexibility in determining the overall regular session length and the occurrence of deadlines within these sessions. These mock-up calendars also illustrate how certain timing-related issues and other concerns may be addressed. However, neither of the mock-up calendars, as presented here, directly address the issue of providing significantly more time to deliberate over fiscal bills, since doing so would more than likely require changing the dates upon which the State's fiscal year begins and ends.

## TABLE 3-2 MOCK LENGTHENED 2026 SESSION CALENDAR

Note: On the 60 session days (days when members convene in their respective chambers), the session day count appears in a box on the lower-right, like this. >>>

Color code: ■ = Fiscal Bills    ■ = Non-Fiscal Bills    ■ = Substantive Resolutions    ■ = Constitutional Amendments

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			21 Opening Day	22	23 Non-Admin Bill Cutoff	
		27 RECESS	28	29 Bill Introduction Cutoff	30 Grants/Subsidies Application Submittal Cutoff	
	2 RECESS					
	9 RECESS	10	11 RECESS	12 RECESS	13 <span style="color: red;">1st Lateral</span> <span style="color: green;">Triple Referral Filing Deadline</span>	
		17	18 RECESS	19 RECESS	20 <span style="color: green;">1st LATERAL</span>	
		24	25 RECESS	26 RECESS	27 <span style="color: red;">Fiscal 1st DECKING</span>	
	2 RECESS	3	4 RECESS			
	9 RECESS	10 <span style="color: red;">Budget Decking</span>	11 RECESS	12 RECESS	13 <span style="color: red;">Budget Crossover Triple Referral Filing Deadline</span> <span style="color: green;">1st DECKING</span>	
	16 RECESS	17	18 RECESS	19 RECESS	20 <span style="color: red;">2nd LATERAL</span> <span style="color: green;">1st CROSSOVER</span>	

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
22	<b>23</b> RECESS	<b>24</b> 1st Lateral Concurrent Resolutions 22	<b>25</b> RECESS	<b>26</b> HOLIDAY Kuhio Day	<b>27</b> RECESS	28
29	<b>30</b> RECESS	<b>31</b> 23				
<b>APRIL</b>			<b>1</b> 24	<b>2</b> 2nd DECKING 25	<b>3</b> HOLIDAY Good Friday	4
5	<b>6</b> RECESS	<b>7</b> 1st Decking Concurrent Resolutions / 1st Crossover 26	<b>8</b> RECESS	<b>9</b> 2nd CROSSOVER & FISCAL DISAGREE 27	<b>10</b> Triple Referral Filing Deadline 28	11
12	<b>13</b> Mandatory 5 Day Recess - 1st Day	<b>14</b> Mandatory 5 Day Recess - 2nd Day	<b>15</b> Mandatory 5 Day Recess - 3rd Day	<b>16</b> Mandatory 5 Day Recess - 4th Day	<b>17</b> Mandatory 5 Day Recess - 5th Day	18
19	<b>20</b> 2nd Lateral 29	<b>21</b> RECESS	<b>22</b> 30	<b>23</b> RECESS	<b>24</b> 31	25
26	<b>27</b> RECESS	<b>28</b> 32	<b>29</b> RECESS	<b>30</b> 33		
<b>MAY</b>					<b>1</b> 2nd DECKING 34	2
3	<b>4</b> RECESS	<b>5</b> 35	<b>6</b> RECESS	<b>7</b> 36	<b>8</b> FISCAL FINAL DECKING 37	9
10	<b>11</b> 38	<b>12</b> 39	<b>13</b> 2nd CROSSOVER & NON-FISCAL DISAGREE 40	<b>14</b> Transmit All Fiscal Bills to Governor on 10 - Day Veto Timeline Prior to End of Fiscal Year 41	<b>15</b> 2nd Lateral Concurrent Resolutions 42	16
17	<b>18</b> 43	<b>19</b> Last day to notify Gov of Con. Amendments Final-Form 44	<b>20</b> 45	<b>21</b> 46	<b>22</b> 47	23

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
24	25 <i>HOLIDAY Memorial Day</i>	26	27	28 Last Day to Transmit Non-Fiscal Bills to Governor on 10-Day Veto Timeline	29 2nd Decking/Crossover Concurrent Resolutions/ Last day to pass Constitutional Amendments on Final Reading	30
		48		49	50	51
<b>JUNE</b>						
31	1 RECESS	2 RECESS	3 RECESS	4 RECESS	5 RECESS	6
7	8 RECESS	9 RECESS	10 RECESS	11 <i>HOLIDAY King Kamehameha Day</i>	12 RECESS	13
14	15 RECESS	16 RECESS	17 RECESS	18 RECESS	19 RECESS	20
21	22 RECESS	23 RECESS	24 RECESS	25 RECESS	26 RECESS	27
28	29 RECESS	30 RECESS				
<b>JULY</b>			1 RECESS	2 RECESS	3 <i>HOLIDAY Independence Day</i>	4
5	6 RECESS	7 RECESS	8 RECESS	9 RECESS	10 RECESS	11
12	13 RECESS	14 RECESS	15 RECESS	16 RECESS	17 RECESS	18

**NOTE:** Section 11-122(b), HRS, requires the Attorney General to transmit informational material on any proposed constitutional amendments to the Office of Elections no later than 75 days prior to General Election Day. To provide the Attorney General with sufficient time to prepare the informational material and transmit it to the Office of Elections prior to the 75 day deadline, final adoption for constitutional amendments has been designated as May 29th.

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
19	<b>20</b> RECESS	<b>21</b> RECESS	<b>22</b> RECESS	<b>23</b> RECESS	<b>24</b> RECESS	25
26	<b>27</b> RECESS	<b>28</b> RECESS	<b>29</b> RECESS	<b>30</b> RECESS	<b>31</b> RECESS	
<b>AUGUST</b>						1
2	<b>3</b> RECESS	<b>4</b> RECESS	<b>5</b> RECESS	<b>6</b> RECESS	<b>7</b> RECESS	8 Primary Election Day
9	<b>10</b> RECESS	<b>11</b> RECESS	<b>12</b> RECESS	<b>13</b> RECESS	<b>14</b> RECESS	15
16	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> FINAL DECKING	<b>21</b> HOLIDAY Statehood Day	22
	52	53	54	55		
23	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> SINE DIE	29
	56	57	58	59	60	
30	<b>31</b>					
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	5
6	<b>7</b> HOLIDAY Labor Day	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	12
13	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	19
20	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	26
27	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>			

POTENTIAL ALTERNATIVE LEGISLATIVE SESSION CALENDARS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>OCTOBER</b>				<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<i>3</i>
<i>4</i>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<i>10</i>
<i>11</i>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<i>17</i>
<i>18</i>	<b>19</b> 35th Day - Governor's Intent to Veto List Due	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<i>24</i>
<i>25</i>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<i>31</i>
<b>NOVEMBER</b>						
<i>1</i>	<b>2</b> 45th Day - Veto Override Session	<b>3</b> HOLIDAY General Election Day	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<i>7</i>
<i>8</i>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> HOLIDAY Veterans' Day	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<i>14</i>
<i>15</i>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<i>21</i>
<i>22</i>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> HOLIDAY Thanksgiving	<b>27</b>	<i>28</i>
<i>29</i>	<b>30</b>					
<b>DECEMBER</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<i>5</i>
<i>6</i>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<i>12</i>
<i>13</i>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<i>19</i>
<i>20</i>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> HOLIDAY Christmas	<i>26</i>
<i>27</i>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		

## TABLE 3-3 MOCK LENGTHENED 2027 SESSION CALENDAR

**Note:** On the 60 session days (days when members convene in their respective chambers), the session day count appears in a box on the lower-right, like this. ►► #

Color code: ■ = Fiscal Bills    ■ = Non-Fiscal Bills    ■ = Substantive Resolutions    ■ = Constitutional Amendments

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<b>JANUARY</b>			20 Opening Day <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">1</span>	21 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">2</span>	22 Non-Admin Bill Cutoff <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">3</span>	23
24	25 State of the State Address/Admin Bill Package Cutoff <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">4</span>	26 RECESS	27 RECESS	28 RECESS	29 Bill Intro Cutoff/ Grants/Subsidies Application Cutoff <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">5</span>	30
31	<b>FEBRUARY</b>					
	1 RECESS <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">6</span>	2	3 RECESS	4 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">7</span>	5 RECESS	6
7	8 RECESS	9 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">8</span>	10 RECESS	11 Triple Referral Filing Deadline <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">9</span>	12 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">10</span>	13
14	15 <i>HOLIDAY</i> <i>Presidents' Day</i>	16 RECESS	17 RECESS	18 RECESS	19 <b>1st LATERAL</b> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">11</span>	20
21	22 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">12</span>	23 RECESS	24 RECESS	25 Triple Referral Filing Deadline <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">13</span>	26 RECESS	27
28	<b>MARCH</b>					
	1 RECESS	2 RECESS	3 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">14</span>	4 RECESS	5 <b>1st DECKING</b> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">15</span>	6
7	8 RECESS	9 <b>1st LATERAL</b> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">16</span>	10 RECESS	11 RECESS	12 <b>1st CROSSOVER</b> Substantive Resolution Cutoff <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">17</span>	13
14	15 RECESS	16 <b>Budget Decking</b> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">18</span>	17 RECESS	18 RECESS	19 <b>Budget Crossover</b> <b>Triple Referral Filing</b> <b>Deadline</b> <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">19</span>	20

POTENTIAL ALTERNATIVE LEGISLATIVE SESSION CALENDARS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
21	22 20	23 RECESS	24 RECESS	25 21	26 HOLIDAY Kuhio Day & Good Friday	27
28	29 RECESS	30 2nd LATERAL 22	31 1st DECKING 23			
<b>APRIL</b>				1 RECESS	2 RECESS	3
4	5 RECESS	6 24	7 RECESS	8 1st CROSSOVER 25	9 2nd DECKING 26	10
11	12 RECESS	13 1st Lateral Concurrent Resolutions 27	14 RECESS	15 2nd CROSSOVER & FISCAL DISAGREE 28	16 RECESS	17
18	19 RECESS	20 29	21 RECESS	22 RECESS	23 Triple Referral Filing Deadline/1st Decking Concurrent Resolutions / 1st Crossover 30	24
25	26 Mandatory 5 Day Recess - 1st Day	27 Mandatory 5 Day Recess - 2nd Day	28 Mandatory 5 Day Recess - 3rd Day	29 Mandatory 5 Day Recess - 4th Day	30 Mandatory 5 Day Recess - 5th Day	
<b>MAY</b>						1
2	3 31	4 RECESS	5 32	6 RECESS	7 FINAL DECKING 33	8
9	10 RECESS	11 34	12 RECESS	13 2nd LATERAL 35	14 Transmit All Fiscal Bills to Governor on 10 - Day Veto Timeline Prior to End of Fiscal Year 36	15
16	17 37	18 38	19 39	20 40	21 2nd Lateral Concurrent Resolutions 41	22
23	24 42	25 43	26 44	27 45	28 2nd DECKING 46	29

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
30	<b>31</b> <i>HOLIDAY</i> <i>Memorial Day</i>					
<b>JUNE</b>		<b>1</b> RECESS	<b>2</b> RECESS	<b>3</b> RECESS	<b>4</b> RECESS	<b>5</b>
6	<b>7</b> RECESS	<b>8</b> RECESS	<b>9</b> RECESS	<b>10</b> RECESS	<b>11</b> <i>HOLIDAY</i> <i>King Kamehameha Day</i>	12
13	<b>14</b> RECESS	<b>15</b> RECESS	<b>16</b> RECESS	<b>17</b> RECESS	<b>18</b> RECESS	19
20	<b>21</b> RECESS	<b>22</b> RECESS	<b>23</b> RECESS	<b>24</b> RECESS	<b>25</b> RECESS	26
27	<b>28</b> RECESS	<b>29</b> RECESS	<b>30</b> RECESS			
<b>JULY</b>				<b>1</b> RECESS	<b>2</b> RECESS	3
4	<b>5</b> <i>HOLIDAY</i> <i>Independence Day</i>	<b>6</b> RECESS	<b>7</b> RECESS	<b>8</b> RECESS	<b>9</b> RECESS	10
11	<b>12</b> RECESS	<b>13</b> RECESS	<b>14</b> RECESS	<b>15</b> RECESS	<b>16</b> RECESS	17
18	<b>19</b> RECESS	<b>20</b> RECESS	<b>21</b> RECESS	<b>22</b> RECESS	<b>23</b> RECESS	24
25	<b>26</b> RECESS	<b>27</b> RECESS	<b>28</b> RECESS	<b>29</b> RECESS	<b>30</b> RECESS	31
<b>AUGUST</b>						
1	<b>2</b> RECESS	<b>3</b> RECESS	<b>4</b> RECESS	<b>5</b> RECESS	<b>6</b> RECESS	7
8	<b>9</b> RECESS	<b>10</b> RECESS	<b>11</b> RECESS	<b>12</b> RECESS	<b>13</b> RECESS	14

POTENTIAL ALTERNATIVE LEGISLATIVE SESSION CALENDARS

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
15	<b>16</b> RECESS	<b>17</b> RECESS	<b>18</b> RECESS	<b>19</b> RECESS	<b>20</b> <i>HOLIDAY</i> <i>Statehood Day</i>	21
22	<b>23</b> RECESS	<b>24</b> RECESS	<b>25</b> RECESS	<b>26</b> RECESS	<b>27</b> RECESS	28
29	<b>30</b> RECESS	<b>31</b> RECESS				
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> RECESS	<b>3</b> 2nd Decking/Crossover Concurrent Resolutions 2nd CROSSOVER	4
5	<b>6</b> <i>HOLIDAY</i> <i>Labor Day</i>	<b>7</b> RECESS	<b>8</b> NON-FISCAL DISAGREE	<b>9</b> Last Day to Transmit Non- Fiscal Bills to Governor on 10- Day Veto Timeline	<b>10</b>	11
12	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Last day to notify Gov of Con. Amendments Final Form	18
19	<b>20</b> RECESS	<b>21</b> RECESS	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> RECESS	<b>24</b> FINAL DECKING	25
26	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> RECESS	<b>29</b> SINE DIE	<b>30</b>		
<b>OCTOBER</b>					<b>1</b>	2
3	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	9
10	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	16
17	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	23
24	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	30

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31	<b>NOVEMBER</b>					
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> <i>HOLIDAY Veteran's Day</i>	<b>12</b>	<i>13</i>
<i>14</i>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 35th Day - Governor's Intent to Veto List Due	<b>19</b>	<i>20</i>
<i>21</i>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <i>HOLIDAY Thanksgiving</i>	<b>26</b>	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>				
<b>DECEMBER</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 45th Day - Veto Override Session	<i>4</i>
<i>5</i>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<i>11</i>
<i>12</i>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<i>18</i>
<i>19</i>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> <i>HOLIDAY Christmas</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>26</i>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	

## Chapter 4

### LONGER LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS: FACTORS TO CONSIDER AND COMPENSATION MATTERS

The purpose of this chapter is to respond to the request in H.C.R. No. 138 to:

- "Discuss the pros and cons of a continuous legislative session, [lengthening]<sup>1</sup> the legislative session, and adding additional recess days;" and
- "Examine salary needs for full-time legislators and staff[.]"

#### PART I: RELEVANT FACTORS TO CONSIDER

This Part of the chapter will examine various pertinent factors and the potential impact that:

- (1) Establishing a continuous legislative session;
- (2) Increasing the number of session days in each regular session; or
- (3) Adding recess days to extend the total duration of each regular session,

could have upon operations of the Legislature and the State Capitol.

As an initial matter, the Bureau emphasizes that the charge of H.C.R. No. 138 to "conduct a study of a continuous legislature, extending the legislative session, and adding additional recess days" is rather nebulous and leaves open to speculation a vast array of possible options to explore. Furthermore, discussion of the positive effects ("pros") or negative effects ("cons") of lengthened or continuous regular sessions, especially in the absence of specific criteria upon which to base an assessment, is largely subjective. Accordingly, the Bureau's intent is to present factors or issues that may be relevant to a discussion of whether and how to lengthen regular sessions, and to highlight potential impacts that may be expected as a result. We note that this Part of the chapter is not intended to be an exhaustive review of *all* possible relevant factors or possible impacts.

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<sup>1</sup> H.C.R. No. 138 referenced "extending" the regular session, but as discussed in Chapter 3, this report uses the term "lengthened," to avoid potential confusion with the 15-day extension of regular sessions authorized pursuant to HAW. CONST. art. III, § 10. *See supra* Chapter 3, p. 22.

## Some Approaches Would Require Amending the State Constitution

The Hawaii State Constitution limits regular sessions to 60 session days with an extension of up to 15 additional session days.<sup>2</sup> As discussed in Chapter 3, however, the Legislature may effectively lengthen the total duration of a regular session by designating additional *recess* days (not session days) in a session calendar without having to amend the Constitution.<sup>3</sup> Alternatively, establishing a permanently lengthened or continuous regular session calendar by raising or repealing the 60-day limit on the total number of *session* days that the Hawaii State Constitution authorizes (i.e., establishing more than 60 session days) would require amending the Constitution. It is unclear whether, in lieu of amending the constitution, changes to statutory law would be sufficient to require future Legislatures to meet in floor session at specified points during a particular period each calendar year (e.g., at least once each month).

If constitutional amendments are necessary, Hawaii's Constitution provides two methods for proposing amendments to the State's voters, who would then decide whether to approve the amendments.

### *A Constitutional Convention May Be Convened to Propose Amendments*

Article XVII, section 2, of the Hawaii State Constitution provides for the convening of a Constitutional Convention to propose amendments to the Constitution.<sup>4</sup> The Legislature may submit to voters at any general or special election the following question: "Shall there be a convention to propose a revision of or amendments to the Constitution?"<sup>5</sup> If the question has not appeared on a general election or special election ballot within the past nine years, then the Constitution requires the Lieutenant Governor to certify the question, which will then appear on the next general election ballot.<sup>6</sup> If voters approve a Constitutional Convention,<sup>7</sup> delegates are to be elected at the next general election or at a special election scheduled by the Legislature,<sup>8</sup> and upon the election of the delegates, the Convention must convene not fewer than five months before the next regularly scheduled general election.<sup>9</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 10. For further discussion, see *supra* Chapter 2, note 1 and accompanying text.

<sup>3</sup> For further discussion, see *supra* Chapter 3, notes 167-197 and accompanying text.

<sup>4</sup> HAW. CONST. art. XVII, § 2.

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*

<sup>6</sup> *Id.*

<sup>7</sup> A Constitutional Convention will be convened "[i]f a majority of the ballots cast upon such a question be in the affirmative." *Id.* It should be noted that the Supreme Court of Hawaii has held that "ballots cast" within the meaning of this constitutional provision includes ballots that voters submitted without indicating a vote, and ballots that were disqualified because the voter cast more votes on the ballot than were permitted. *Hawaii State AFL-CIO v. Yoshina*, 84 Haw. 374, 383, 935 P.2d 89, 98 (1997). Thus, the court held that a 1996 proposition to convene a Constitutional Convention failed because the number of ballots marked "yes" on the question of convening a Convention did not exceed the combined total of ballots marked "no," blank ballots, and ballots with "over votes." *Id.*

<sup>8</sup> HAW. CONST. art. XVII, § 2.

<sup>9</sup> *Id.*

It should be noted that if the electorate were to approve the convening of a Constitutional Convention, it would not be limited to proposed amendments affecting the length of legislative sessions; rather, amendments to *any provision* of the State of Hawaii Constitution could be proposed, debated, and adopted.

### ***The Legislature May Propose Constitutional Amendments***

As discussed in Chapter 2, the Legislature may propose constitutional amendments to the voters for approval at the next general election. The Hawaii State Constitution provides two alternative means by which the Legislature may adopt proposed constitutional amendments: by a two-thirds vote of each chamber at final reading in any session; and by a majority vote of each house at final reading in two successive sessions.<sup>10</sup>

### ***Ratification of Proposed Constitutional Amendments***

Constitutional amendments proposed by a Constitutional Convention or by the Legislature become effective if they are ratified by the State's voters.

Article XVII, section 2, of the Hawaii State Constitution provides that a constitutional amendment proposed by a Constitutional Convention shall take effect if approved in a general election or special election.<sup>11</sup> In the case of a general election, the amendment must be approved by "a majority of all the votes tallied upon the question, this majority constituting at least fifty per cent of the total vote cast at the election."<sup>12</sup> The Attorney General has opined that ratification of a proposed amendment requires approval "by a majority of all votes tallied upon the question[.]" which "must constitute at least fifty per cent of the total votes, *including blank and spoiled ballots*, cast at the election."<sup>13</sup> Thus, the total number of "yes" votes must: (1) exceed the total number of "no" votes, and (2) be at least equal to the combined total of "no" votes, blank votes, and spoiled votes. Requirements for ratification differ somewhat when presented to voters in a special election. In that case, the amendment must be approved by "a majority of all the votes tallied upon the question, this majority constituting at least thirty per cent of the total number of registered voters."<sup>14</sup>

Article XVII, section 3, requires that a constitutional amendment proposed by the Legislature be submitted for ratification by the electorate in the next general election, in the same manner as ratification of an amendment proposed by a Constitutional Convention.<sup>15</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> HAW. CONST. art. XVII, § 3. For a more detailed discussion of these alternatives, see *supra* Chapter 2, pp. 14-15.

<sup>11</sup> HAW. CONST. art. XVII, § 2.

<sup>12</sup> *Id.*

<sup>13</sup> See Op. Atty. Gen. 82-7 (Haw. 1982) (emphasis added).

<sup>14</sup> HAW. CONST. art. XVII, § 2.

<sup>15</sup> *Id.* art. XVII, § 3.

The Constitution also provides specific public notice and inspection requirements regarding the text of proposed constitutional amendments before and during any election in which an amendment is presented to voters.<sup>16</sup>

## **Operational and Financial Impacts on the Legislature**

Regardless of how it is achieved, significantly lengthening the regular session would be expected to have financial and operational impacts.

### *Impacts on the Legislature*

Lengthening the duration of regular sessions or making them continuous would likely increase the cost of sessions and thus require increased annual expenditures by the Legislature. A detailed cost estimate for lengthening a regular session would seem to require a detailed proposed legislative calendar, a comprehensive review of all applicable impacts resulting from that calendar, direct input from relevant stakeholders, and detailed accounting by legislative financial staff or other experts. The Bureau requested detailed operational and financial information from the Chief Clerks of the House of Representatives and the Senate for an analysis of the potential operational and financial impact that lengthened or continuous regular sessions might have on each body. As of the publication of this report, we had not received the requested information.<sup>17</sup> In lieu thereof,

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<sup>16</sup> Regarding constitutional amendments proposed by a Constitutional Convention, current constitutional requirements provide that the Convention shall make the full text of each proposed amendment available for public inspection at least 30 days before the applicable election, and shall provide the text to every public library, county clerk, and the Chief Election Officer, each of which shall make the text available for public inspection. *Id.* art. XVII, § 2. The text must also be available at every polling place on the day of the election in which the amendment appears on the ballot. *Id.* Regarding constitutional amendments proposed by the Legislature, current constitutional requirements provide that the full text of each proposed constitutional amendment shall be published once weekly for four successive weeks in at least one generally circulated newspaper in each state senatorial district where the newspaper is published, within the two months immediately before the next general election. *Id.* art. XVII, § 3. The Office of Elections is also required to prepare and provide digital voter information guides for voters. Haw. Rev. Stat. § 11-122(a). These guides must include explanatory information that the Department of the Attorney General must draft regarding each legislatively proposed constitutional amendment that will be presented to voters in the next general election. *Id.* § 11-122(b). *See also id.* § 11-118.5. *See also supra* Chapter 2, notes 91-92 and accompanying text. Further, the conditions of and requirements for ratification of a constitutional amendment proposed by the Legislature are the same as for a constitutional amendment proposed by a Constitutional Convention. HAW. CONST. art. XVII, § 3. Part of this ratification process includes not only the vote on the amendment in an election, but also the public inspection requirements applied to constitutional amendments proposed by conventions. *Id.* art. XVII, § 2. *See also* *Watland v. Lingle*, 104 Haw. 128, 138–39, 85 P.3d 1079, 1089–90 (2004), as clarified (Mar. 19, 2004).

<sup>17</sup> As the Senate Chief Clerk and the House Chief Clerk are the chief administrative officers of their respective chambers, the Bureau requested information from them regarding the potential administrative, operational, and financial impact that a longer legislative session could have on each chamber. On June 13, 2024, the Bureau sent letters of inquiry to the Senate Chief Clerk and the House Chief Clerk. (*See* Appendix 4-A and 4-B.) On August 13, 2024, the House Chief Clerk called the Bureau to seek clarifications regarding our inquiry. The Bureau and the House Chief Clerk subsequently exchanged email messages regarding the status of the House Chief Clerk's response. This email exchange is included in Appendix 4-C. On August 29, 2024, the Bureau sent to the Senate Chief Clerk a reminder letter regarding the Bureau's inquiry. This reminder letter is included in Appendix 4-D. On

we looked to the 2024-2025 legislative budget to provide a broad overview of the expenses included in a typical annual legislative budget.

Hawaii's legislative budget for the 2024-2025 budget cycle, established by session law,<sup>18</sup> totaled \$48,653,565 in appropriations, including \$42,353,565 in general fund appropriations. The total legislative budget appropriation comprised the appropriations for the expenses of each legislative chamber and the attached independent legislative service agencies (the Office of the Auditor, Legislative Reference Bureau, Office of the Ombudsman, and Hawaii State Ethics Commission).

The 2024-2025 fiscal year general fund appropriation of \$11,686,000 to the Senate included \$10,423,500 for the defraying of all session and non-session expenses, \$1,150,000 for legislative information system expenses, and \$112,500 for the legislative broadcasting program.<sup>19</sup> The \$16,077,122 general fund appropriation to the House of Representatives included \$15,026,198 for the defraying of all session and non-session expenses, \$938,424 for legislative information system expenses, and \$112,500 for the legislative broadcasting program.<sup>20</sup>

The 2024-2025 fiscal year budget appropriated \$3,556,800 in general funds to the Office of the Auditor for expenses and duties.<sup>21</sup> Another \$2,800,000 in general funds was appropriated to the Office of the Auditor for deposit into the audit revolving fund,<sup>22</sup> and \$6,300,000 was appropriated from the audit revolving fund for audit functions as provided by law.<sup>23</sup> The budget also included a \$4,265,423 general fund appropriation to the Legislative Reference Bureau,<sup>24</sup> a \$1,574,544 general fund appropriation to the Office of the Ombudsman,<sup>25</sup> and a \$1,584,678 general fund appropriation to the State Ethics Commission.<sup>26</sup>

Within these generally lump-sum appropriation amounts, it is not clear how much is allocated for legislative employee salaries and costs, which would include both year-round and temporary session employees. The only specific reference to legislative employees relates to an appropriation of \$808,998 in general funds to account for accrued vacation payments and vacation

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September 16, 2024, the Senate Chief Clerk sent an email to the Bureau in response. This email response is included in Appendix 4-E. The Bureau and the Senate Chief Clerk subsequently exchanged telephone calls regarding the status of the Senate Chief Clerk's response. To date, the Bureau is still awaiting substantive responses from both Chief Clerks.

<sup>18</sup> 2024 Haw. Sess. Laws 2.

<sup>19</sup> 2024 Haw. Sess. Laws 2, § 2.

<sup>20</sup> *Id.* § 3.

<sup>21</sup> *Id.* § 7.

<sup>22</sup> *Id.* § 8.

<sup>23</sup> *Id.* § 9. Audit revolving fund moneys "shall be expended by the auditor to conduct audits of the State's departments, offices, agencies, and political subdivisions, audits of special, revolving, capital improvement, or trust funds, and for the services of certified public accountants contracted to conduct such audits." HAW. REV. STAT. § 23-3.6(b).

<sup>24</sup> 2024 Haw. Sess. Laws 2, § 10.

<sup>25</sup> *Id.* § 11.

<sup>26</sup> *Id.* § 12.

transfer payments for legislative employees leaving the employ of the Legislature or its service agencies.<sup>27</sup>

It also is not clear from the legislative budget the number of employees whose salaries were covered by these appropriations. An admittedly very rough estimate of the number of House and Senate employees who worked during the 2025 Regular Session may be obtained from the respective House and Senate Staff Directories. These numbers, which include full-time employees who worked during fiscal year 2024-2025, as well as temporary session staff, are as follows:

**Table 4-1  
Approximate Number of Employees**

<b>Senate</b> <sup>28</sup>	199
<b>House of Representatives</b> <sup>29</sup>	286
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>485</b>

Limited and unverified information regarding legislative staff and salaries for fiscal year 2023-2024 is also available from a news media website database.<sup>30</sup> This information is summarized below. Unless otherwise indicated, dollar amounts represent annual salaries:

**Table 4-2  
Employee Compensation**

	<b>Full-Time Staff</b>	<b>FT Salary Range</b>	<b>Part-Time Staff</b>	<b>PT Salary Range</b>
<b>Senate</b>	127	\$25,001 to \$145,200	2	\$25,001 to \$65,000
<b>House of Representatives</b>	165	\$10,001 to \$165,468	0	N/A
<b>Auditor</b>	26	\$61,002 to \$175,056	0	N/A
<b>Legislative Reference Bureau</b>	32	\$40,001 to \$175,056	1	\$10 to \$15 (hourly)
<b>Ombudsman</b>	11	\$52,431 to \$175,056	0	N/A
<b>State Ethics Commission</b>	11	\$53,000 to \$175,056	0	N/A
<b>OVERALL</b>	<b>372</b>	\$10,001 to \$175,056	<b>3</b>	\$10/hr to \$65,000

<sup>27</sup> *Id.* § 13.

<sup>28</sup> HAWAII STATE SENATE, 2025 SESSION STAFF DIRECTORY, THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE (Dru Mamo Kanuha ed., 2025).

<sup>29</sup> HAWAII STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, 2025 STAFF DIRECTORY, THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE (Dec Morikawa ed., 2025).

<sup>30</sup> *Hawaii State Salaries*, HONOLULU CIVIL BEAT (Feb. 8, 2024), <https://www.civilbeat.org/data/hawaii-state-salaries/>.

We note that the database, last updated on February 8, 2024, does not indicate whether the information presented has been verified as current by the respective entities. At least with respect to the Bureau, these figures do not match internal records regarding the Bureau's staff for fiscal year 2023-2024.<sup>31</sup> This may be a result of the database reflecting staffing information for a specific point in time (apparently in this case, as of July 1, 2023), rather than for the entire fiscal year.<sup>32</sup> Accordingly, it appears possible that the database also may not accurately reflect all staff positions for other legislative offices throughout the 2023-2024 fiscal year.

Absent specific information about staffing needs and individual position salary costs that would be impacted by an increase to the duration of regular sessions, we are unable to predict with any precision the amount by which salary costs might be expected to increase.

### **Operational and Financial Impact; Various Agencies**

To attempt to ascertain operational costs apart from those of the House and Senate, the Bureau inquired with the Department of Accounting and General Services, which is responsible for maintaining the State Capitol building and grounds; the Department of Law Enforcement, which employs deputy sheriffs to secure the State Capitol building and grounds; and the following attached legislative service agencies: the Office of the Ombudsman; the Office of the Auditor; and the Hawaii State Ethics Commission.<sup>33</sup> (See Appendix 4-F through Appendix 4-J). In order to provide some specific parameters for scenarios for which the agencies could formulate meaningful responses, the Bureau included in its inquiries hypothetical scenarios of regular sessions with varying durations. These entities generally indicated that they would expect little direct impact on their operations or costs if the duration of regular sessions were to be increased. We summarize the respective responses below.

#### ***Department of Accounting and General Services***

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) noted in its response that the department's actual operational and routine maintenance expenditures<sup>34</sup> for fiscal year 2023-2024 for the State Capitol building totaled \$3,970,657 and estimated that expenditures for the same purposes for fiscal year 2024-2025 would be \$4,814,662 (see Appendix 4-K). DAGS did not anticipate additional expenditures for fiscal year 2024-2025 if 60-day regular sessions were

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<sup>31</sup> The Bureau's records show that during fiscal year 2023-2024, the Bureau had 35 permanent employees (with salaries ranging from \$40,001 to \$175,056), two hourly student employees (with wages of \$10 to \$15 per hour), as well as seven session employees (who earned \$3,400 per month during the regular session).

<sup>32</sup> Bureau records show that the records request for names, annual compensation ranges, and job titles of all full- and part-time Bureau employees as of July 1, 2023, was received on July 5, 2023, and provided on July 17, 2023.

<sup>33</sup> The Hawaii State Ethics Commission is administratively attached to the Office of the Auditor. HAW. REV. STAT. § 84-21(a).

<sup>34</sup> The expenditures are related to the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) Central Services Division (CSD), DAGS Automotive Management Division (AMD), and security.

made longer by the addition of recess days; however, DAGS anticipated additional expenditures of approximately \$500,000 if the number of session days were increased to at least 120 days.

Further, DAGS commented:

With the aging of the State Capitol, both emergency repairs and long term upgrade projects become more critical . . . . For planned upgrade projects, these are usually done when session is out. A longer legislative session decreases the available time to complete these urgent projects . . . . A longer session only increases our electricity, sewer, and water costs.

### ***Department of Law Enforcement***

The Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) noted in its response that the department provides "the full range of law enforcement services at the State Capitol Building 24-hours a day and seven days a week." (See Appendix 4-L). DLE estimated that expenses related to the assignment of deputy sheriffs at the State Capitol building were \$8,000,000 for fiscal year 2023-2024 and \$2,000,000 for the first quarter of fiscal year 2024-2025.

The department stated that generally, its "provision of law enforcement services would not be affected by a longer legislative session because the DLE's provision of law enforcement services are not connected to the length of the legislative session." The DLE expressed concerns about existing vacant positions affecting its ability to provide services but disconnected this issue from any potential changes to the legislative session calendar.

### ***Office of the Ombudsman***

The Office of the Ombudsman noted in its response (see Appendix 4-M) that the Office "did not incur any administrative, operational, or other expenses during fiscal year 2023-2024 that can be attributed to the legislative session" and did not anticipate that "any administrative, operational, or other expenses attributable to the legislative session would be incurred" due to a lengthened or continuous session calendar. However, the Ombudsman could not state "with any certainty that extending the legislative session under any of the aforementioned scenarios would not impact my office in any way."

### ***Office of the Auditor***

The Office of the Auditor noted in its response that the Office incurred expenses of \$2,536,823 for fiscal year 2023-2024 and estimated that costs for 2024-2025 would not exceed \$3,406,800 (see Appendix 4-N). The Auditor did not anticipate "any material financial impact to the office if the legislative session is extended under any of the scenarios" that the Bureau presented. The Auditor added, however, that "[d]epending on the procedural rules associated with an extended session, there may be slight administrative and operational impacts. For example,

presumably, we will be required to track and testify on legislation beyond the period that we currently perform those activities."

### ***Hawaii State Ethics Commission***

The Hawaii State Ethics Commission noted expenditures of \$1,469,284.46 for fiscal year 2023-2024 and \$1,562,928.20 for fiscal year 2024-2025 (see Appendix 4-O). The Commission commented:

The Commission's responsibilities include administering lobbying laws and collecting and publishing financial and lobbying-related disclosures in accordance with Hawai'i law. If the length of the legislative session were to increase, statutory revisions<sup>35</sup> may be required to adjust the timing and frequency of required disclosures. This would likely necessitate corresponding updates to the Commission's online database, forms, and training materials.

The Commission estimated that it would need approximately \$50,000 to implement statutory and technological changes associated with longer sessions, though this estimate would depend "on the specific proposed modifications to the legislative session."<sup>36</sup> However, the Commission noted that this estimate would be for one-time implementation costs and did not anticipate significant recurring annual cost increases with longer sessions.

### **The Legislative Reference Bureau**

Unlike its sister independent legislative service agencies, the Legislative Reference Bureau (Bureau) works directly for and with the Legislature and individual members. As such, it would be of little surprise that the Bureau would be more significantly impacted by any change that lengthens regular sessions. Accordingly, we describe the Bureau's operations in greater detail to provide a foundation for examining the impact that increasing the duration of regular sessions may have on those operations.

The Bureau is a nonpartisan legislative service agency that provides a wide variety of comprehensive, impartial research and reference services to the Legislature as a whole and to individual legislators and legislative committees. In limited cases, certain divisions of the Bureau also provide nonpartisan assistance to other government agencies, other entities, and the general public. Currently, the Bureau comprises 38 permanent full-time positions across five separate and distinct divisions: Research, Statute Revision, Systems Office, Library, and the Public Access Room. During the 2025 Regular Session, the Bureau also employed a combined total of eight temporary session staff in the Systems Office and the Public Access Room.

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<sup>35</sup> The Commission did not specify these potential statutory revisions. This may be due to the uncertainty regarding the exact length that potentially longer regular sessions would be. Further consultation with the Commission may be advisable regarding any necessary changes to the timing and frequency of required disclosures.

<sup>36</sup> The Commission noted that the \$50,000 appropriation would "generally cover software development, testing, training updates, and related administrative work."

### ***Research Division***

The Research Division's responsibilities include but are not limited to drafting bills and resolutions; conducting bill reviews and legal checks; preparing committee reports and drafting bill amendments; conducting research and preparing memoranda for legislators; and conducting interim legislative studies and publishing reports (such as this report) for the Legislature.<sup>37</sup> In addition, Research Division staff members are sometimes tasked during the interim with supporting legislatively created task forces and working groups and preparing various operational documents for the Legislature, such as requests for proposals and procurement contracts.<sup>38</sup>

### ***Revision of Statutes Division***

The Revision of Statutes Division prepares a number of annual publications. These include the Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH),<sup>39</sup> which contain all bills enacted into law as a result of each regular and special session; annual supplements that update each volume of the HRS; and cumulative supplemental replacement volumes of the HRS.<sup>40</sup> The workload of this division increases dramatically towards the end of the regular session, with the highest volume occurring during the interim until these publications are completed and received back from the printer.

Among other duties,<sup>41</sup> the Revision of Statutes Division also continuously reviews existing law and, as necessary, prepares a statutory revision bill to correct technical or nonsubstantive errors in the HRS and SLH.

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<sup>37</sup> See, e.g., LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU, PISTOL PREMIUMS: FIREARM INSURANCE MANDATES AND RELATED ISSUES (2023); LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU, TIME FOR TRIAGE: A SUMMARY OF BEST PRACTICES, STATE REQUIREMENTS, AND SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS TO REDUCE NURSE STAFFING SHORTAGES (2025).

<sup>38</sup> Recent examples of these include the Invitation for Bid to Conduct Financial Audits of the Senate and the House of Representatives; and Invitation for Bid to Install, Provide, and Maintain High-Speed Wireless Internet Service in Selected Areas of the Hawaii State Capitol Building.

<sup>39</sup> The Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) contain all laws enacted and any constitutional amendments proposed each year. They also contain an index, a table showing what statutes have been affected, and a list of committee reports pertaining to the enacted laws.

<sup>40</sup> The HRS are a codified collection of all laws enacted by the Legislature that are of a general and permanent nature and are organized into 38 distinct titles, each focusing on a specific subject area. The current HRS, comprising volumes 1 through 14, was last updated and replaced in its entirety in 1993; the index was last updated and replaced in 2024. Since 2001, individual HRS volumes have been periodically updated and replaced, and individual supplements updating each volume are published annually.

<sup>41</sup> The Division is also required by statute to prescribe and distribute a uniform format for the compilation and publishing of rules by all state agencies. See HAW. REV. STAT. §§ 23G-12(7), 91-4.2. The Division also annually publishes the Hawaii Administrative Rules Table of Statutory Sections Implemented and Directory, indicating the administrative agency rules that implement state laws. See *id.* §§ 23G-12(6), 91-4.2(2), 91-4.4. Upon request, the Division reviews proposed administrative rules for conformance with the uniform format. During the legislative session, staff may also assist the Research Division during peak workload periods.

### ***Systems Office***

The Bureau's Systems Office procures and maintains computer hardware, software, and peripheral devices for the Bureau and coordinates the integration of the Bureau's computer systems with those of the House and Senate. The Systems Office is also responsible for maintaining the Bureau's data management system and a secure internal system for critical Bureau operations. Using data management software,<sup>42</sup> the Systems Office creates and maintains searchable databases of information on legislative measures and compiles databases of the HRS and the SLH, allowing the Systems Office to provide legislators and staff with information on the subject matter, status, and history of legislation and laws dating back to the database's inception. During legislative sessions, the Systems Office also produces and disseminates bill status information via various publications.<sup>43</sup>

The Office typically employs five to six session staff for each regular session. Session staff assist permanent staff with tasks relating to tracking legislation, drafting descriptions of legislative measures and assigning relevant keywords, monitoring the legislative session and noting legislative actions, inputting data relating to legislative matters and checking to ensure data integrity, querying databases to answer legislative questions, and creating annual as well as customized bill status reports.

### ***The Bureau Library***

The Bureau is statutorily required to maintain a reference library to provide essential information resources to support the Legislature and legislative staff, including the other divisions within the Bureau.<sup>44</sup> The Bureau's library is also made available for use by other government agencies and the general public.<sup>45</sup> The library is a major repository for government reports to the Legislature,<sup>46</sup> and its collection comprises more than 123,000 volumes, including volumes containing Hawaii statutes and case law, as well as electronic and hard copies of reports to the Legislature and other state documents.<sup>47</sup> The library's holdings also include federal government publications, documents from other states, and a wide range of intergovernmental materials. The

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<sup>42</sup> Currently, the Systems Office uses Concordance data management software, which provides access to data through full-text searching, use of Boolean logic, print and report creation, and importing and exporting capabilities.

<sup>43</sup> The information pertains to such matters as the number of bills and resolutions introduced, crossover bills, bills passed, bills enacted, bills vetoed, and resolutions adopted. This information is made available on the Bureau's website, as well as published in hardcopy and transmitted to stakeholders using electronic communications and cloud platforms. The Systems Office also provides training and assistance to staff in other offices in using certain Bureau databases.

<sup>44</sup> See HAW. REV. STAT. § 23G-3(6).

<sup>45</sup> See *id.* (also providing that use is subject to priorities established by the Director).

<sup>46</sup> See *id.* HAW. REV. STAT. § 93-16 mandates that all government agency reports required to be submitted to the Legislature also be submitted to the Bureau's Library.

<sup>47</sup> For example, the collection also includes House and Senate journals dating back to 1901, SLH dating back to 1848, and numerous other reference volumes and reports. Additionally, the collection houses hundreds of volumes of law review publications, scholarly journals, magazines, and other periodicals. It should be noted that with the closure of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism reference library in 2009 and the limited availability of materials from the Honolulu Municipal Reference Center, the Bureau's library is one of the few remaining providers of resources of this nature in Hawaii.

library staff includes five research librarians who provide reference and research assistance, as well as assistance with the Westlaw online legal research database.<sup>48</sup> Research librarians also develop web content and provide technical assistance for the Bureau's website and library catalog. In addition, the library is responsible for distributing all Bureau publications.<sup>49</sup>

### ***Public Access Room (PAR)***

The Public Access Room (PAR) began operations in 1990 and was statutorily established in 1994 to ensure the ability of the public to participate in the legislative process. PAR was incorporated into the Bureau in 1996.<sup>50</sup> Like the Bureau's other divisions, PAR is nonpartisan. PAR provides individuals and groups seeking to participate in the legislative process with access to:

- Educational workshops;
- Print and digital resources, including a website, informational handouts, and social media resources highlighting the legislative process, deadlines, and other information;
- Computer workstations for legislative research and preparing testimony;
- Workspace with charging stations for electronic devices; and
- Space to monitor legislative proceedings via television.

The Public Access Room is staffed year-round by only two full-time specialists who provide research assistance, training, and public outreach. As many as two temporary session staff members are added during regular sessions to assist with the high volume of requests for services.

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<sup>48</sup> The library also employs one full-time library technician who handles fiscal and purchasing matters, assists with administrative tasks, and helps supervise the two student assistants. The student assistants are paid, must be enrolled in a college program full-time, and are limited to working 19.5 hours per week. They assist with clerical tasks such as filing, shelving, scanning, and answering telephones. The library also offers unpaid internships for students in the University of Hawaii-Manoa Library and Information Science program. This program requires interns to work 150 hours over the 16-week semester (approximately 10 hours per week), during which they assist library staff with the library catalog and other reference and information resources.

<sup>49</sup> The Bureau does not distribute the HRS, its supplements, or the SLH, which are required by statute to be distributed by the Lieutenant Governor. *See* HAW. REV. STAT. § 23G-18.

<sup>50</sup> *See* HAW. REV. STAT. §§ 21G-2, 23G-3(12).

## **Potential Impact on Legislative Staff Generally**

It is difficult to even speculate on the effect that a lengthened or continuous regular session may have on legislative operations, costs, or staff without more specificity as to what is envisioned for a lengthened or continuous session. Without knowing exactly what a "longer" session is supposed to look like, projecting its impact is problematic. Further, as noted previously, the Bureau has yet to receive substantive responses from the Chief Clerks of the House of Representatives and the Senate to our requests for information regarding the potential administrative, operational, and financial impacts that a lengthened or continuous regular session would likely have on the respective bodies.

Given this vacuum of any specific information upon which to rely, the Bureau has based the following discussion on its own admittedly subjective interpretation and assessment of how its various operations might be affected by a substantially longer regular session. However, while the Bureau would not presume to speak on behalf of others, we respectfully intimate that other legislative offices, agencies, or staff working directly for the Legislature might experience similar challenges if regular sessions were made longer. Information and data from the House and Senate Chief Clerks' offices, when available, may further clarify these issues.

### ***Potential Impact on Recruitment, Retention, and Benefits***

Recruitment and retention of qualified staff could become more challenging if a longer regular session were implemented. The often onerous schedule, long work hours, and stressful working conditions during legislative sessions, and the generally less-competitive pay compared to executive branch<sup>51</sup> or private sector employment, have long been known to contribute to high staff burnout and turnover, which only accelerated in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. Further, the current focus of many persons in the workforce today on maintaining a work/life balance seems to deter some qualified candidates from even applying for employment with the Legislature. Currently, the intense session schedule, which often requires extended work hours late into the night and during weekends and holidays, particularly around major legislative deadlines, is somewhat offset by more predictable working conditions and business hours during the interim period between sessions. Significantly increasing the duration of the demanding work periods could significantly reduce the more normal working time periods, thus exacerbating existing staffing challenges.

In addition, for many legislative staff members, as with Bureau staff, the significant increase in workload related to the session begins in the autumn months, well before the start of each regular session. Because of this, legislative employees' ability to use their earned paid leave is generally limited as the regular session approaches and throughout its duration. Thus, the reality is that most legislative personnel must already restrict their use of accrued paid leave to periods within the five to six months between regular sessions and while still ensuring that their interim workloads are appropriately managed. Implementing a lengthened or continuous session period

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<sup>51</sup> Legislative employees are employed at-will and are exempt from the civil service system and its compensation and classification policies. See HAW. REV. STAT. § 76-16(b)(4).

could further restrict employees' ability to schedule vacation or other leave unless actions are taken to ensure adequate staffing levels during busy periods when employees are on leave. This may require hiring additional permanent employees.

Significant changes to the work schedules of legislative employees, without concomitant changes to compensation and benefits or adding staff to address the increased workload, could prompt the departure or retirement of some employees and thus require the recruitment, hiring, and training of new employees. If staff attrition rates are high, they will likely include the loss of experienced employees having specialized knowledge and institutional memory of the Legislature and legislative process. These staff members would be difficult to replace. Each state's legislature is a unique place to work, and a significant loss of institutional knowledge among key legislative staff would have a detrimental impact on the ability of remaining staff to serve the Hawaii Legislature effectively.

Further, the already high vacancies in other non-legislative state departments and agencies suggest that hiring significant numbers of additional qualified legislative employees may be challenging.<sup>52</sup> To incentivize valued employees to remain and/or to recruit new, qualified replacements, particularly in an overall employment market where vacancies sometimes outnumber qualified applicants, would likely require increasing existing salary levels or providing other retention incentives.<sup>53</sup> In addition, it may be necessary to increase the number of permanent legislative employees to manage the increased workload burden on existing staff, also raising costs.

Moreover, lengthening regular sessions would likely affect legislative offices and operations that currently rely heavily on session hires. This could conceivably necessitate retaining session staff for longer periods or, depending on the actual session durations (particularly continuous sessions), hiring additional permanent full-time employees in place of session staff. This would require increasing staff budgets for this purpose, thus increasing overall costs of legislative sessions.

It should be noted that hiring additional full-time staff would also necessitate the provision of additional office space, equipment, and supplies — all of which would require additional funds. However, identifying suitable office space in the Capitol building could be particularly challenging, as space is already severely limited and insufficient for many offices. Increasing the duration of regular sessions would likely increase the need for additional space among all Capitol

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<sup>52</sup> See, e.g., Ben Angarone, *Laid Off Federal Workers: Hawai'i Governor Wants You For State Vacancies*, HONOLULU CIVIL BEAT (Feb. 18, 2025), <https://www.civilbeat.org/2025/02/laid-off-federal-workers-hawai%CA%BBi-governor-wants-you-for-state-vacancies/>; Dan Nakaso, *Hawaii Labor Force is Shrinking as Population Ages, Workers Leave*, HONOLULU STAR-ADVERTISER (Sept 1, 2025), <https://www.staradvertiser.com/2025/09/01/hawaii-news/isle-labor-force-is-shrinking-as-population-ages-workers-leave/>.

<sup>53</sup> See, e.g., 2025 Haw. Sess. Laws 276, noting that:

[T]he State is facing a significant labor shortage within state agencies that may worsen in the future. The department of human resources development reported an increase in vacant positions within state agencies in recent years, from eighteen per cent in 2019 before the COVID-19 pandemic to twenty-seven per cent in 2023. While the COVID-19 pandemic may have contributed to this uptick, the department also reported that thirty per cent of existing state employees will be eligible for retirement in the next five years.

agencies and offices. Similarly, a limited number of parking stalls in or near the Capitol are reserved for permanent employees of the Legislature and do not presently accommodate all staff. Hiring additional permanent staff would increase these shortfalls.

It should also be recognized that if the overall number of permanent full-time legislative employees is increased, the employer costs for contributions to the Employees' Retirement System (ERS) and the Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund (EUTF) for these employees will likewise increase. While section 88-54.2, HRS, presently excludes session employees of the Legislature from membership with the ERS,<sup>54</sup> employer contributions to the ERS and the EUTF for permanent full-time legislative staff are a responsibility of the Department of Budget and Finance. Any estimates are unknown at this point in time, but the Department of Budget and Finance would presumably be able to provide more precise information on these costs once desired staffing levels are known.

### ***Renewed Interest in Collective Bargaining for Legislative Employees***

As lengthening the duration of regular sessions may require hiring additional permanent full-time employees, it may again raise the question of whether the expanded legislative workforce should be subject to collective bargaining like most other state and county employees.<sup>55</sup> Section 89-6(f)(11), HRS, currently prohibits collective bargaining for legislative staff,<sup>56</sup> who are considered at-will public employees exempt from the civil service system.<sup>57</sup> Hawaii legislators have introduced several bills since 2010 to establish collective bargaining rights for legislative staff,<sup>58</sup> but those measures have not advanced far in the legislative process.<sup>59</sup>

### **Potential Impact on Legislative Productivity**

While some proponents of increasing the duration of legislative sessions have asserted that longer sessions would make the Legislature more productive,<sup>60</sup> there appears to be no objective standard for measuring legislative productivity or productivity gains.

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<sup>54</sup> HAW. REV. STAT. § 88-54.2.

<sup>55</sup> Haw. Const. art. XIII, § 2 provides that "[p]ersons in public employment shall have the right to organize for the purpose of collective bargaining as provided by law." Under current law, the vast majority of state and county employees are covered by collective bargaining agreements that govern wages, benefits, work schedules, and other employment conditions. *See* HAW. REV. STAT. § 89-6.

<sup>56</sup> HAW. REV. STAT. § 89-6(f)(11).

<sup>57</sup> *Id.* § 76-16(b)(4).

<sup>58</sup> We note that California enacted a law in 2023 to provide their legislative employees the right to form, join, and participate in the activities of unions for the purpose of representation on all matters of employer-employee relations. 2023 Cal. Stat. Ch. 313. The law will take effect on July 1, 2026. *Id.*

<sup>59</sup> None of these bills crossed over from their chamber of origin. *See* H.B. 2103, 25th Leg., Reg. Sess. (Haw. 2010); H.B. 385, H.D. 1, 26th Leg., Reg. Sess. (Haw. 2011); S.B. 2760, 32nd Leg., Reg. Sess. (Haw. 2024); H.B. 2632, 32nd Leg., Reg. Sess. (Haw. 2024) (a companion measure to S.B. 2760).

<sup>60</sup> *See, e.g.,* S.B. 733, 33rd Leg., Reg. Sess. § 1 (Haw. 2025) (proposing to amend the Hawaii State Constitution to establish a continuous legislature and commenting in part that productivity could thus be improved). In January 2025, the Senate Standing Committee on Judiciary heard this measure but deferred it indefinitely. No further action

***Productivity During Session***

Some academic studies have suggested the following as indicators of legislative productivity: the total number of bills passed in a year or biennium; the percentage of bills introduced that were passed; the number of "important" bills passed; and whether a state's budget bill was passed prior to the beginning of the state's forthcoming fiscal year.<sup>61</sup> However, as in any state, any number of factors can affect the passage of bills. These may include, but are not limited to, limitations on the number of bills that may be introduced each session, a bill's content and fiscal impact, political goals and strategies, ideological differences, and public opinion. Moreover, there may be a substantial difference of opinion as to whether a particular action is productive or unproductive. Thus, passing any given bill may not necessarily be viewed as "productive" or "important," just as *not passing* any given bill may not necessarily be viewed as "unproductive."

It should be noted that significantly more bills are introduced during each regular session than are ultimately enacted into law. Table 4-3, below, provides data, from 2021 to 2025, on the number of (1) bills that were introduced in regular session; and (2) the number of bills that were ultimately enacted into law. The arithmetic mean (average) number of bills introduced per year was 2,861. The average number of bills that actually became law each year was 279. Thus, on average, 9.8 percent of the bills introduced in a regular session were passed during the legislative process and were subsequently enacted into law.

**Table 4-3  
BILLS INTRODUCED AND ENACTED  
Regular Sessions of 2021 to 2025**

<b>Regular Session</b>	<b>Number of Bills Introduced</b>	<b>Acts (percentage of bills introduced)</b>
2021	2,820	248 (9%)
2022	2,505	317 (13%)
2023	3,132	263 (8%)
2024	2,678	253 (9%)
2025	3,172	313 (10%)

It does seem likely that there would be general, if not universal, sentiment that funding state government services is important. Regarding the passage of state budget bills, as discussed

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has been taken on the measure. *SB733*, HAW. STATE LEGISLATURE, [https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session/measure\\_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=733&year=2025](https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session/measure_indiv.aspx?billtype=SB&billnumber=733&year=2025) (last visited Nov. 21, 2025).

<sup>61</sup> See, e.g., William D. Schreckhise et al., *Legislative Civility, Gridlock, Polarization, and Productivity*, 24 STATE POL. & POL'Y Q. 1, 2 (2024).

in Chapter 2, the Hawaii State Constitution requires the Legislature to transmit an appropriation bill or bills to the Governor (the general appropriations bill) during the regular session in each odd-numbered year.<sup>62</sup> As also discussed in Chapter 2, the Constitution also prohibits the passage on final reading of any appropriation bill, except for an emergency appropriation bill or the legislative budget bill, until the general appropriations bill (or supplemental appropriations bill, as applicable in even years) has been transmitted to the Governor.<sup>63</sup> As Hawaii's fiscal year begins on July 1 of each year, these existing provisions have generally ensured that the state budget is passed by the Legislature well before the start of the new fiscal year.

It should be recognized that all bills pending at final adjournment (*sine die*) of the regular session in odd-numbered years carry over to the next regular session and may thus be further considered by the committees to which the bill was referred.<sup>64</sup> During the interim period, interested stakeholders can and do meet with legislators to discuss these bills, as well as potential new bills, and to advocate for or against their passage or for amendments in the upcoming session. Accordingly, interim periods arguably allow for thoughtful consideration and refinement of pending bills, and it is not clear that a lengthened or continuous regular session, in and of itself, would necessarily lead to or facilitate increased productivity or participation in the legislative process.

Moreover, although Article III, section 10, of the Hawaii State Constitution authorizes the extension of any legislative session by up to 15 session days,<sup>65</sup> the Legislature has rarely exercised this authority. From 1992 to 2025, a regular session of the Legislature has been extended only four times: in 1992 (extended 2 days by the Legislature and 5 hours by the Governor); 1997 (extended 1 day by the Legislature); 1998 (extended by the Governor from May 6 to May 14); and 2009 (extended 2 days by the Legislature).<sup>66</sup> Thus, it appears from the contemporary record that the Legislature has concluded its legislative actions within the 60-session-day limitation in the vast majority of regular sessions. Completion of legislative business could reasonably be viewed as a measure of productivity, and the Legislature's rare use of extensions already permitted by the Constitution would appear to suggest that an extended or continuous regular session would not necessarily increase productivity.

### ***Productivity During Interim Periods***

Significantly increasing the duration of regular sessions could affect activities that legislators and permanent legislative staff normally undertake during interim periods between sessions. These activities may include interacting with constituents to address concerns; meeting with key stakeholders regarding policy issues and holdover bills, if applicable, that are likely to be considered during the next regular session; researching various issues of interest and concern; and

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<sup>62</sup> HAW. CONST. art. VII, § 9. For further discussion, see *supra* Chapter 2, notes 62-72 and accompanying text.

<sup>63</sup> HAW. CONST. art. VII, § 9. For further discussion, see *supra* Chapter 2, notes 62-72 and accompanying text.

<sup>64</sup> Pursuant to the Hawaii State Constitution, "[a]ny bill pending at the final adjournment of a regular session in an odd-numbered year shall carry over with the same status to the next regular session." HAW. CONST. art III, § 15.

<sup>65</sup> *Id.* art. III, § 10. For further discussion, see *supra* Chapter 2, notes 1, 4 and accompanying text.

<sup>66</sup> *The State of Hawaii Data Book 2024: A Statistical Abstract - Table 8.13*, HAW. DEP'T OF BUS., ECON. DEV., & TOURISM, RSCH. & ECON. ANALYSIS DIV., STAT. & DATA SUPPORT BRANCH (Aug. 2025), [https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/economic/databook/db2024/DB2024\\_final.pdf#page=401](https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/economic/databook/db2024/DB2024_final.pdf#page=401).

crafting legislation for introduction in the upcoming session. Legislative committees may meet for informational briefings, to convene oversight hearings, or to conduct various site visits while the Legislature is not in session. Further, legislators may participate in task forces and working groups during this interim period to consider various issues and formulate recommendations for proposed legislation.<sup>67</sup>

Legislative staff, depending upon their role as staff for individual legislators or in legislative agencies, may engage in research, prepare memoranda, draft bills, handle constituent services, or otherwise respond to any number of requests from the Legislature or individual legislators. Legislative staff may also conduct in-depth research and prepare memoranda or reports to support task force and working group endeavors. Additionally, the Bureau is generally tasked by the Legislature with conducting in-depth studies during interim periods and submitting reports on these studies to the Legislature, usually due prior to the start of the next regular session.<sup>68</sup> During the interim, legislators and legislative staff members also often participate in national or regional training sessions and conferences to hear from national legal, policy, and technical experts on issues relevant to state legislatures and to otherwise participate in professional development opportunities to sharpen their skills.

All these activities may be negatively affected by changes in the duration of regular sessions, depending on the extent of the changes. For example, a continuous regular session having a substantial increase in session days, with no concomitant increase in staffing levels, would likely inhibit the ability of existing staff to conduct in-depth studies or support legislative working groups or task forces while also managing the increased session workload.

## Potential Impact on Legislative Transparency

It has sometimes been asserted that the current regular session timeframe hinders transparency in the legislative process by providing insufficient time to consider and act upon all bills.<sup>69</sup> However, it is not clear what the term "increased transparency" specifically means in this context. Moreover, it is not clear that increasing the duration of regular sessions *alone* would produce any greater transparency.

Part I of Chapter 92, HRS, often referred to as the "Sunshine Law," generally applies to government entities.<sup>70</sup> However, it includes provisions explicitly authorizing the Legislature to determine, by its own rules and procedures, open meeting, public notice, and other requirements

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<sup>67</sup> See, e.g., HAWAII HOUSE REPRESENTATIVES, LAULIMA FOR LAHAINA RENEWING HEARTS, HOMES, AND COMMUNITY (2023).

<sup>68</sup> For further discussion, see *supra* note 37 and accompanying text.

<sup>69</sup> See, e.g., Colin Moore, *Hawaii Needs A Continuous Legislative Session*, HONOLULU CIVIL BEAT (June 11, 2023), <https://www.civilbeat.org/2023/06/hawaii-needs-a-continuous-legislative-session/>.

<sup>70</sup> HAW. REV. STAT. ch. 92, pt. I, known as the Sunshine Law, governs public meetings for state and county boards, including county councils. The Sunshine Law includes requirements pertaining to open public meetings, providing advance notice for meetings and retaining minutes of meetings, and providing public access to meeting materials, testimony, remote meetings, and discussions of official business amongst board members.

related to the conduct of legislative business that would otherwise be governed by Chapter 92, HRS.<sup>71</sup> Section 92-10, HRS, states:

Notwithstanding any provisions contained in this chapter to the contrary, open meeting requirements, and provisions regarding enforcement, penalties and sanctions, as they are to relate to the state legislature or to any of its members shall be such as shall be from time to time prescribed by the respective rules and procedures of the senate and the house of representatives, which rules and procedures shall take precedence over this part. Similarly, provisions relating to notice, agenda and minutes of meetings, and such other requirements as may be necessary, shall also be governed by the respective rules and procedures of the senate and the house of representatives.

Thus, establishing a longer regular session would not affect the Legislature's authority under Section 92-10, HRS, to determine how to conduct legislative business. Accordingly, instituting a longer regular session would not necessarily result in a corresponding extension or removal of procedural deadlines for the passage of bills, especially for fiscal bills that need to be enacted within an expeditious timeframe prior to the commencement of the ensuing fiscal year, and for legislatively proposed constitutional amendments that need to be placed on the general election ballot in the same year.<sup>72</sup>

Although Part I of Chapter 92, HRS, establishes many requirements for government entities, for purposes of this report and discussion, we focus only on potentially increasing the public notice requirements for hearing bills. Section 92-7(a), HRS, requires advanced public notice of at least six calendar days for any regular, special, emergency, or rescheduled meeting, or executive meeting if anticipated in advance, of an entity subject to the Sunshine Law. However, Section 92-10, HRS, empowers each legislative chamber to determine, by rule, the minimum public notice timeframe for public hearings on legislation.<sup>73</sup> In other words, unless each chamber of the Legislature adopts corresponding amendments to its respective rules to require longer public

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<sup>71</sup> HAW. CONST. § 92-10 governs the applicability of the Sunshine Law to the Legislature. The original draft of H.B. 126, 8th Leg., Reg. Sess. (Haw. 1975), which contained provisions that were later codified as HAW. REV. STAT. ch. 92, pt. I, included a proposed statutory section that authorized the Legislature to determine its own rules and procedures. The proposed statutory section also began with the following two sentences:

It is the intent of this part [of Chapter 92, HRS] that it apply to the legislative body and its various committees. The legislature recognizes, however, that due to the shortness of the legislative session, certain requirements can not be applied to the activities of the senate, the house of representatives, or their various committees.

The latter of the two sentences did not appear in subsequent drafts of the bill. See, e.g., H.B. 126, H.D. 1, 8th Leg., Reg. Sess. (Haw. 1975). The first of the two sentences was removed by the Senate. See H.B. 126, S.D. 1, 8th Leg., Reg. Sess. (Haw. 1975).

<sup>72</sup> For further discussion on timing issues relating to fiscal bills and legislatively proposed constitutional amendments, see *supra* Chapter 3, notes 5, 13-15 and accompanying text.

<sup>73</sup> For Senate committees, "[t]he notice for the first Senate meeting on a measure shall be filed at least 72 hours before the meeting and at least 48 hours before any subsequent meeting." Rule 21, Haw. Rules of the Senate (2025-2026). For committees of the House of Representatives, "[n]otice of meetings shall be publicly posted or announced on the House floor at least 48 hours prior to the meeting." Rule 11.5(2), Haw. Rules of the House of Representatives (2025-2026).

notice for hearing bills, simply lengthening the term of regular sessions would not necessarily provide increased public notice timeframes for legislation.

In addition, even if the regular session is significantly lengthened or made continuous, there remains a practical impediment to implementing increased public notice requirements for fiscal bills that must be enacted by July 1 of each year.

As discussed earlier in this chapter, the Legislature has generally passed annual state budgets before the beginning of the next fiscal year.<sup>74</sup> Further, other fiscal bills have generally also been passed within this timeframe. As we noted in Chapter 3, fiscal bills (including budget bills) should be enacted before the beginning of each fiscal year, even if the regular session calendar is lengthened or made continuous.<sup>75</sup> Doing otherwise would create fiscal uncertainty for state agencies, public employees, vendors, and contractors, and would affect their ability to provide state government equipment, supplies, and services to the public.

Although it could be reasoned that the Honolulu City Council, despite being subject to the Sunshine Law, is able to pass its annual budget legislation before the July 1 start of its ensuing fiscal year, there are key differences between the City Council and the State Legislature that should be recognized. One distinction is that the Council introduces approximately 70 to 80 bills each year,<sup>76</sup> not all of which are fiscally related, as compared to the thousands of bills introduced at the Legislature during each regular session. For example, according to the searchable database at the Council's legislative information website,<sup>77</sup> a total of 142 bills were referred to the Council's Committee on Budget over the past five years, or an average of only 28.4 bills per year. Furthermore, the City Council is a unicameral body consisting of nine members, and in which bills do not need to cross from one legislative chamber to another, unlike the 76-member bicameral Legislature. Further, the Council does not need to meet in conference with a second chamber to negotiate compromises in policy positions and conflicting versions of bills passed by each of two chambers, as with the Legislature. Consequently, it would appear that the Council does not experience the same time pressures as the Legislature in passing bills, including fiscal bills.

We note that fiscal bills generally comprise a supermajority of all bills introduced at the Legislature. As Table 4-4 shows, from 2021 to 2025, of the bills introduced in regular session each year, 68 to 75 percent were referred to the Senate Standing Committee on Ways and Means (WAM), the House Standing Committee on Finance (FIN), or both committees. If this pattern continues, then the large majority of bills enacted each year would need to move through the legislative process and be passed by the Legislature well before July 1, regardless of how long the regular session lasts. Thus, if the Sunshine Law's standard six-day public notice requirement is applied to fiscal bills, it may delay the enactment of 68 to 75 percent of bills that are commonly enacted before July 1 of each year. If fiscal bills were exempted from the six-day public notice

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<sup>74</sup> See discussion at *supra* notes 62-63 and accompanying text.

<sup>75</sup> For further discussion, see *supra* Chapter 3, note 5 and accompanying text.

<sup>76</sup> *Lawmaking 101*, HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL, <https://www.honolulucitycouncil.org/lawmaking-101> (last visited Oct. 9, 2025).

<sup>77</sup> *Honolulu Records Collection*, HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL, <https://hnlldoc.ehawaii.gov/hnlldoc/> (last visited Oct. 9, 2025).

requirement, the requirement would only apply to approximately 25 to 32 percent of all bills introduced and considered by the Legislature.

**Table 4-4**  
**BILLS INTRODUCED AND ENACTED WITH FISCAL REFERRALS**  
**Regular Sessions of 2021 to 2025**

Regular Session	Number of Bills Introduced	Number of Bills Introduced & Referred to FIN and/or WAM	Of All Acts, Number and Percentage that Advanced Through FIN and/or WAM
2021	2,820	1,909 (68%)	181 (73%)
2022	2,505	1,875 (75%)	249 (79%)
2023	3,132	2,157 (69%)	149 (57%)
2024	2,678	1,913 (71%)	164 (65%)
2025	3,172	2,186 (69%)	205 (65%)

If a longer public notice requirement were to apply to fiscal bills, the start and end dates of the State's fiscal year may need to be changed to avoid jeopardizing the financial stability of state agencies, public employees, vendors, and contractors, and thus the ability to provide public services in a timely manner. But such a change may present its own complications. Although the July 1 to June 30 fiscal year calendar is not specifically established by a constitutional or statutory provision, it is established by the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) by longstanding authority granted to the Department by section 40-2, HRS.<sup>78</sup> If legislators wish to amend the fiscal year calendar to accommodate a longer regular session, this presumably could be accomplished by amending section 40-2, HRS, to specify the dates of the new fiscal year, or by inserting a new HRS section for that purpose. *However*, it would seem that significant financial, operational, and practical complications could result from changing the State's fiscal year, and anything less than a thoughtful, phased implementation of such a change could have chaotic consequences. As the Bureau lacks the expertise to assess the potential impacts of such a change, a detailed formal study by experts familiar with such matters may be advisable.

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<sup>78</sup> For further discussion, see *supra* Chapter 3, note 5 and accompanying text.

## Potential Limits on Outside Employment for Legislators

Presently, Hawaii legislators are not considered full-time state employees,<sup>79</sup> do not accrue medical leave or vacation leave, and are not normally required to report to the Capitol when the Legislature is not in regular session. Thus, legislators are not completely barred from holding other employment. Article III, section 8 of the Hawaii State Constitution provides in part that "[n]o member of the legislature shall hold any other public office under the State[.]"<sup>80</sup> Comparable prohibitions apply to legislators in the five states we examined in Chapter 3.<sup>81</sup> However, unlike prohibitions on outside employment for Hawaii's governor or county mayors,<sup>82</sup> Hawaii state legislators are not prohibited by constitutional or statutory law from simultaneously holding outside employment in the private sector or with the federal government. No provision of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, the county charters, or the county ordinances explicitly prohibits county council members from simultaneously retaining other employment, despite the continuous nature of the legislative processes in which they participate. Further, none of the five states we examined in Chapter 3 broadly prohibit legislators from simultaneously being employed in the private sector. Nevertheless, substantially increasing the length of regular sessions could create time constraints that would effectively limit the ability of Hawaii legislators to engage in business or employment activities outside the Legislature. It also could reasonably be expected to raise the question of whether such outside activities should continue to be permitted.

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<sup>79</sup> *But see* COMMISSION ON SALARIES, REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE 2025 LEGISLATURE, at 22 (2025), <https://dhrd.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/2025-0313-COS-FINAL-Report-Appendices-1.pdf>. ("[T]he Commission is convinced that [the] Hawai'i state legislature is in fact a full-time legislature.")

<sup>80</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 8. The section also provides that "nor shall the member, during the term for which the member is elected or appointed, be elected or appointed to any public office or employment which shall have been created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased, by legislative act during such term." *Id.*

<sup>81</sup> CAL. CONST. art. IV, § 13; WIS. STAT. § 16.417(2)(b); MASS. GEN. LAWS ANN. ch. 30, § 21 (West); PA. CONST. art. II § 6; MICH. CONST. art. 4, § 8. For further discussion on these states, *see supra* Chapter 3, pp. 31-43.

<sup>82</sup> The HRS prohibit the Governor (per HAW. REV. STAT. § 84-14.5(a)) and county mayors (per HAW. REV. STAT. § 78-65(a)) from holding other employment, maintaining a controlling interest in a business, or receiving any emolument. Similarly, the Attorney General and deputy attorneys general "shall not engage in the private practice of law, nor accept any fees or emoluments other than their official salaries for any legal services[.]" though this prohibition "shall not apply to any special deputy employed on a part-time basis for a limited period." HAW. REV. STAT. § 28-10. It generally appears that other directors and board members who govern entire state executive branch departments are not subject to such broad statutory prohibitions. However, certain lower-level officials with more focused responsibilities might be subject to similarly broad prohibitions. *See, e.g.*, HAW. REV. STAT. § 11-1.6(d) (which prohibits the Chief Election Officer from serving "as an officer, director, manager, advisor, or employee of any business"); HAW. REV. STAT. § 269-2(a) (which prohibits Public Utilities Commissioners from holding "any other public office or other employment" during their terms).

## Potential Impact on Budgetary Timing

As discussed in Chapter 2, several constitutional and statutory provisions relating to state budgets require that executive and judicial agencies and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) create and deliver budget-related documents to the Legislature prior to the convening of regular sessions.<sup>83</sup> Substantially increasing the duration of regular sessions conceivably would reduce the time between consecutive regular sessions, thus possibly impacting the timely production and delivery of those documents to the Legislature. Consequently, any discussion regarding lengthening regular sessions should include representatives from the executive and judicial agencies and OHA that are responsible for creating and delivering budget-related documents to the Legislature to ensure that sufficient time is provided for the continued timely delivery of these documents.

## Potential Impact on Use of the State Capitol as Election Vote-Counting Center

Establishing a substantially lengthened or continuous regular session could affect the ability of the Office of Elections to continue using the Capitol building as the statewide vote-counting center.

The State Capitol building has historically served as the state vote-counting center, providing a secure,<sup>84</sup> centralized, and accessible state facility that meets strict election standards and procedures<sup>85</sup> for primary and general elections held in August and November, respectively, each even-numbered year, and for occasional special elections. Although permanent full-time staff continue working in the Capitol building during these periods, there is significantly less public activity and fewer persons entering the Capitol than during regular sessions, which would thus

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<sup>83</sup> For further discussion, see *supra* Chapter 2, notes 62-72, 79-88 and accompanying text.

<sup>84</sup> See HAW. REV. STAT. § 11-154 ("The voted ballots shall be kept secure and handled only in the presence of representatives not of the same political party or official observers in accordance with rules adopted for the various voting systems. After all the ballots have been tabulated they shall be sealed in containers. Thereafter, these containers shall be unsealed and resealed only as prescribed by rules governing elections.")

<sup>85</sup> See *id* §§ 11-2 (the Chief Election Officer supervises and adopts rules governing all state elections), 11-108 ("All handling and counting of ballots shall be conducted in accordance with procedures established by the chief election officer."), 11-152 ("For votes cast using the electronic voting system, the ballots shall be taken in the sealed ballot containers to the counting center according to the procedure and schedule adopted by the chief election officer to promote the security of the ballots."), 16-44 ("The chief election officer . . . shall designate counting center employees who will be responsible for the tabulation of the ballots. . . . Counting center employees shall follow the procedures established by the chief election officer for the tabulation of the ballots."), 16-45 ("The chief election officer . . . shall give all official observers reasonable notice of the time and place where the ballots shall be counted. No person shall be permitted in the counting center without the written authorization of the chief election officer. . . ."). See also HAW. CODE R. §§ 3-177-751 ("Centralized counting involves the receipt of ballots which are counted at a counting center designated by the chief election officer. . . . A "counting center" means the facilities and surrounding premises designated by the chief election officer or the clerk where ballots or other electronic voting system votes are processed, counted, and tabulated."), 3-177-757 ("No person shall be permitted into the counting center without the authorization of the chief election officer, clerk in county elections, or designated representative."), 3-177-767 ("Valid return identification envelopes, including validated mail ballot packages returned by electronic transmission, shall be transported to the counting center or designated location in secured containers in accordance with procedures established by the chief election officer.").

appear to decrease the potential for some types of threats to security at the Capitol. Moreover, vote counting typically occurs in either the House or Senate chamber, which are not in use except during active legislative sessions. When the Office of Elections uses the Capitol as the vote-counting center, the legislative chamber utilized is further secured and restricted to authorized election personnel only.<sup>86</sup>

Designating a different facility as the vote-counting center would require consideration of various factors, including costs, availability, security, and infrastructure, to ensure the facility could accommodate specific election requirements and procedures. It may be possible to establish a lengthened or continuous regular session schedule that accommodates continued use of the Capitol building as the counting center, depending upon the session schedule. However, it would seem advisable to consult directly with the Chief Election Officer on this issue.

### **Potential Impact on Miscellaneous Events Dependent Upon the Legislative Session Calendar**

Increasing the duration of regular sessions may also affect several activities guided by the regular session calendar, as noted in Chapter 2.<sup>87</sup> Two of these could be especially impacted and will be further examined below.

#### ***Revisor of Statutes - Printing of Session Laws and Hawaii Revised Statutes***

The Bureau's Revisor of Statutes is required to prepare the publication of session laws "[a]s soon as possible after the close of each session,"<sup>88</sup> while similar preparation is required for cumulative statutory supplements "[a]s soon as possible after the close of each regular session[.]"<sup>89</sup> The Revisor may also replace and update the permanent hardbound volumes of the HRS.<sup>90</sup> The timely preparation of the printed statutory replacement volumes and supplements of the HRS is vital, as the "matter set forth" in those volumes "shall be prima facie evidence of the law."<sup>91</sup>

A substantially lengthened regular session could be expected to affect the ability of the Revisor of Statutes to update the printed session laws and the HRS in a timely manner. The Revisor of Statutes begins to prepare those publications once a bill becomes law and receives an Act number from the Governor. Generally, this process begins in earnest near the end of each regular session in early May, but the complete universe of Acts may not be apparent until 45 working days after final adjournment of the regular session, which is the deadline by which the

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<sup>86</sup> See *supra* note 85.

<sup>87</sup> See *supra* Chapter 2, notes 93-110 and accompanying text.

<sup>88</sup> HAW. REV. STAT. § 23G-13.

<sup>89</sup> *Id.* § 23G-14.

<sup>90</sup> *Id.* § 23G-16.

<sup>91</sup> *Id.* § 23G-15.

Governor may sign or veto bills.<sup>92</sup> Revision of Statutes Division staff work diligently to complete these publications for distribution before the next regular session begins in January of the following year.

Recently, Revision of Statutes Division staff have experienced significant delays in publishing and printing updated HRS volumes and supplements. This is due in part to the shrinking availability of qualified printers. Adopting a significantly lengthened or continuous regular session calendar would leave little time between the adjournment of one regular session and the convening of the next regular session, further complicating the challenges of completing production of these publications in a timely manner. A significant delay in the printed statutory volumes would also delay updating the electronic database that legislative drafting agencies use to draft bills for legislators, as well as updating the online version of the HRS on the Legislature's public website,<sup>93</sup> both of which are based upon data provided by the Revisor of Statutes. Avoiding publication delays caused by a lengthened or continuous session would likely require increased funding to hire additional staff for the Revision of Statutes Division to expedite completion of their work in a shorter timeframe, to obtain suitable office space for them, and to cover higher costs to expedite the publication and shipping of the Session Laws of Hawaii and Hawaii Revised Statutes supplements and replacement volumes.<sup>94</sup>

### ***Effect Upon Campaign Finance Activity Prohibitions***

Increasing the duration of regular sessions would also extend the time periods during which legislators are prohibited from holding political campaign fundraising events or receiving campaign contributions from lobbyists. Section 11-342(c), HRS, prohibits any state elected official from holding a campaign fundraiser event "[d]uring any regular session or special session of the state legislature, *including* any extension of any regular session or special session and *any legislative recess days*, holidays, and weekends . . . ."<sup>95</sup> Further, pursuant to section 11-365(a), HRS, during the same aforementioned timeframes, as well as five days before and after each legislative session,<sup>96</sup> "no lobbyist shall make, or promise to make at a later time, any contributions or expenditures to or on behalf of an elected official, candidate, candidate committee, or any other individual required to file an organizational report . . . ."<sup>97</sup> Accordingly, it should be recognized

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<sup>92</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 16. For further discussion, see *supra* Chapter 2, notes 52-58 and accompanying text.

<sup>93</sup> The online version of the HRS is based on the printed version and is not considered *prima facie* evidence of the law.

<sup>94</sup> In recent years, only one entity, GGS Information Services, Inc. (GGS), which is located on the United States continent, has submitted proposals to prepare the SLH and HRS. GGS performs the typesetting for the publications and subcontracts with printing companies to print the books. It should be noted that the Replacement Volumes, which are hardcover, are sent to a different printing company and take longer to print than the supplements. Once printed, the Replacement Volumes are trucked to the location of the supplements, where they are collated into sets and boxed. At that point, the boxes are trucked to the airport and boat harbor from which they will be delivered to Hawaii. Accordingly, the Bureau's receipt of the HRS each year is very much dependent on the timetables of GGS and the printing companies.

<sup>95</sup> HAW. REV. STAT. § 11-342(c) (emphasis added).

<sup>96</sup> That is, when both legislative houses are in session. *Id.* § 11-365(b).

<sup>97</sup> The relevant restrictions in *Id.* § 11-342(c) were enacted in 2022 by 2022 Haw. Sess. Laws 283. HAW. REV. STAT. § 11-365(a) was enacted in 2023 by 2023 Haw. Sess. Laws 128.

that under present statutory provisions<sup>98</sup> the periods in which campaign fundraisers and the receipt of campaign contributions from lobbyists are allowed would be decreased in proportion to any increase in the duration of regular sessions.

## PART II: LEGISLATOR SALARIES

This Part responds to H.C.R. No. 138's request to "[e]xamine salary needs for full-time legislators[.]"

### Legislator Compensation and the Commission on Salaries

Article XVI, section 3.5, of the Hawaii State Constitution, and section 26-56, HRS, require the periodic convening of a Commission on Salaries,<sup>99</sup> which every six years recommends to the Legislature the salaries of state legislators, as well as "justices and judges of all state courts . . . department heads or executive officers of the executive departments and the deputies or assistants to department heads of the executive departments as provided by law, excluding the University of Hawaii and the department of education."<sup>100</sup> The recommended salaries become effective unless the Legislature disapproves the recommendation as a whole by adopting a concurrent resolution prior to the final adjournment of the regular session in which the recommendation is submitted.<sup>101</sup> Recommended salaries for executive and judicial branch positions take effect on July 1 of the next fiscal year.<sup>102</sup>

However, with respect to legislator salaries, the Hawaii State Constitution explicitly provides that "any change in salary which becomes effective shall not apply to the legislature to which the recommendation for the change in salary was submitted."<sup>103</sup> Accordingly, new legislative salaries apply after the next Legislature convenes (not the next regular session), and only legislators who are in office after the next general election are subject to those salaries. Thus, new legislative salaries do not take effect until the second calendar year after the Commission submits its report of salary recommendations to the Legislature.<sup>104</sup>

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<sup>98</sup> See 2022 Haw. Sess. Laws 283; 2023 Haw. Sess. Laws 128.

<sup>99</sup> HAW. CONST. art. XVI, § 3.5; HAW. REV. STAT. § 26-56.

<sup>100</sup> HAW. CONST. art. XVI, § 3.5.

<sup>101</sup> *Id.*; HAW. REV. STAT. § 26-56(d).

<sup>102</sup> HAW. REV. STAT. § 26-56(d).

<sup>103</sup> HAW. CONST. art. XVI, § 3.5.

<sup>104</sup> In practice, new legislative salaries are set to begin on January 1 of the applicable year. See, e.g., COMMISSION ON SALARIES, REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE 2025 LEGISLATURE, at 5-6 (2025) [hereinafter 2025 COMMISSION ON SALARIES REPORT], <https://dhrd.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/2025-0313-COS-FINAL-Report-Appendices-1.pdf>.

As required by law,<sup>105</sup> the most recent Commission on Salaries convened in November 2024.<sup>106</sup> After conducting several meetings through March 2025, the Commission finalized its report to the Legislature on March 13.<sup>107</sup> The 2025 report included recommendations for legislative salary increases,<sup>108</sup> to take effect beginning with the next Legislature.<sup>109</sup> Specifically, the Commission recommended that the annual salaries of non-presiding state senators and representatives, which were \$74,160 at the time,<sup>110</sup> be increased by 32 percent as of January 1, 2027 (to \$97,896), by four percent on January 1, 2028 (to \$101,808), and again on January 1, 2029 (to \$105,876), and finally by eight percent on January 1, 2030 (to \$114,348).<sup>111</sup> The Commission also recommended the same percentage increase to the annual salaries of the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives, which were \$83,052 at the time,<sup>112</sup> by 32 percent as of January 1, 2027 (to \$109,632), by four percent on January 1, 2028 (to \$114,012), and again on January 1, 2029 (to \$118,572), and finally by eight percent on January 1, 2030 (to \$128,052).<sup>113</sup>

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<sup>105</sup> Haw. REV. STAT. § 26-56(d).

<sup>106</sup> 2025 COMMISSION ON SALARIES REPORT, *supra* note 104, at 10.

<sup>107</sup> *Id.* at 11. The 2025 Commission report also included, for reference, the entire 2019 Commission report as an appendix. The 2019 report included tables of all the 2019 Commission's salary recommendations, which covered the period from July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2025, for executive and judicial branch officials, and the period from January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2026, for legislators. COMMISSION ON SALARIES, REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE 2019 LEGISLATURE, at 15-17 (2019), [https://dhrd.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/2019-COS-ReportAppendices\\_FINAL\\_3-19-19.pdf](https://dhrd.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/2019-COS-ReportAppendices_FINAL_3-19-19.pdf). We have copied these tables into Appendix 4-Q. We note that due to the economic downturn from the COVID-19 pandemic, all recommended salary increases from the 2019 report were deferred until January 1, 2023, pursuant to session laws enacted in 2020 and 2021. *See* 2020 Haw. Sess. Laws 2, as amended by 2021 Haw. Sess. Laws 14.

<sup>108</sup> The report also included various salary increases over a six-year period for top positions in the State's executive and judicial branches, to take effect beginning on July 1, 2025:

- Increases of 15 percent for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and most department Directors and Deputy Directors; 12 percent for Circuit Court Judges; and 10 percent for the Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Hawaii Supreme Court, Chief Judge and Associate Judges of the Intermediate Court of Appeals, and District Court Judges, effective July 1, 2025;
- Increases of four percent for all executive branch positions, and 10 percent for all judicial branch positions, for which the Salary Commission makes recommendations, effective July 1, 2026;
- Increases of nine percent for Associate Judges of the Intermediate Court of Appeals and Circuit Court Judges; eight percent for the Governor, Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Hawaii Supreme Court, Chief Judge of the Intermediate Court of Appeals, and District Court Judges; six percent for the Lieutenant Governor; and four percent for most executive branch Directors and Deputy Directors, effective July 1, 2027; and
- Increases of four percent each year for all executive and judicial branch positions for which the Salary Commission makes recommendations, effective July 1, 2028; July 1, 2029; and July 1, 2030.

*See* 2025 COMMISSION ON SALARIES REPORT, *supra* note 104, at 5-6. The Commission included figures listing the exact dollar amounts of the foregoing recommend salaries. *Id.* at 18, 21. We have copied these figures into Appendix 4-P.

<sup>109</sup> *Id.* at 22-23.

<sup>110</sup> *Id.* at app. D-1.

<sup>111</sup> *Id.* at 23.

<sup>112</sup> *Id.* at app. D-1.

<sup>113</sup> *Id.* at 23.

In its report, the Commission commented in part:

The Commission is aware that due to the constitutionally mandated schedule of the legislature, there is a misperception that the Legislature is a part-time body and does not work year-round. In calculating the constitutionally required meeting dates and reviewing the Legislature's internal calendar, *the Commission is convinced that [the] Hawai'i state legislature is in fact a full-time legislature. Legislators work on projects before, during and after the legislative session and convene special sessions when necessary.*<sup>114</sup>

Thus, it appears that the request in H.C.R. No. 138 to "examine salary needs for full-time legislators" has largely been addressed by the Commission on Salaries.

The Commission also noted:

Moreover, the scope and responsibilities of the Legislature exceed that of any county council in the state.

...

[The] annual salary for state legislators is 15% lower than the median salary of the county councils in the State of Hawai'i, and is 37% below the salaries of council members of the City and County of Honolulu. Annual salary for the Senate President and House Speaker is currently 14% below the median of the council chairs, and 35% below the salary of the chair of the council of the City and County of Honolulu.

...

Additionally, the state budget, over which the legislature presides, is approximately five times larger than that of the City and County of Honolulu, and twenty times larger than the average of the neighbor island counties' budgets. Furthermore, the state budget encompasses all three branches of government, the University of Hawaii, and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.<sup>115</sup>

The Commission further opined that "the Legislature as the policy making body for the State of Hawai'i must attract talented and committed individuals from diverse backgrounds, and salary should not be a deterrent to running for office."<sup>116</sup>

If the regular session were lengthened significantly or made continuous, it would seem likely that the next Commission would consider similar factors when recommending future adjustments to legislators' salaries.

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<sup>114</sup> *Id.* at 22 (emphasis added).

<sup>115</sup> *Id.* We note that the Commission seems to use the term "state budget" in a holistic sense by stating that it includes the budgets of all branches of state government and its agencies.

<sup>116</sup> *Id.* at 23.

## Allowance, Vehicle Mileage, and Per Diem Payments for Hawaii State Legislators

Article III, section 9, of the Hawaii State Constitution grants a legislative allowance for members of the Legislature that is "reasonably related to expenses as provided by law."<sup>117</sup> Pursuant to section 24-1, HRS, legislators receive an annual allowance for "incidental expenditures connected with legislative duties."<sup>118</sup> The allowance is unrelated to legislative sessions and is unlikely to be affected by changes in the duration of regular sessions. The statute was last amended by Act 119, Session Laws of Hawaii 2005, which set this allowance at \$7,500.<sup>119</sup> However, section 24-1, HRS, further provides that "when the legislative salary is increased, the legislative allowance shall be increased by the same percentage."<sup>120</sup> Accordingly, as of January 18, 2024, the annual incidental allowance for legislators is \$16,350.<sup>121</sup>

Sections 24-2 to 24-5, HRS, authorize the payment of per diem allowances to legislators.<sup>122</sup> Each statutory section sets the allowance at a single rate, respectively, subject to the following guidelines:

- (1) Not exceed the greater of the maximum allowance for such expenses payable to any public officer or employee of the federal government or the State;
- (2) Be reasonably calculated to cover the expenses specified in this section; and
- (3) Be determined jointly by the president of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives for the legislature as a whole.<sup>123</sup>

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<sup>117</sup> HAW. CONST. art. III, § 9 (legislators "shall receive allowances reasonably related to expenses as provided by law"). We consulted the Council of State Governments' Book of the States to find similar allowance information for the five states with lengthened or continuous sessions we reviewed for this study (California, Wisconsin, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, and Michigan). Data for Pennsylvania was not available. Information varied considerably for the remaining four states with respect to the availability and purposes of allowance moneys, and thus could not be easily summarized and did not lend itself to generalities. See *Table 3.10 - Legislative Compensation: Other Payments and Benefits*, BOOK STATES (2023), <https://bookofthestates.org/tables/2023-3-10/>. These allowances are separate from the per diem and mileage reimbursements for those five states, which are discussed at *infra* note 135, accompanying text, and Table 4-6.

<sup>118</sup> Haw. REV. STAT. § 24-1.

<sup>119</sup> 2005 Haw. Sess. Laws 119.

<sup>120</sup> Haw. REV. STAT. § 24-1.

<sup>121</sup> Guideline Memorandum on Annual Allowances (Jan. 18, 2024), <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/Docs/LegislativeAllowanceGuidelines.pdf>.

<sup>122</sup> HAW. REV. STAT. §§ 24-2 ("A member of the legislature whose legal residence is on an island other than Oahu shall receive an additional allowance to cover all personal expenses such as board, lodging, and incidental expenses but not travel expenses."), 24-3 ("A member of the legislature whose legal residence is on the island of Oahu and who is required to remain away from the island of the member's legal residence but within the State overnight or longer while on official legislative business during a session and when authorized by the presiding officer of the respective house, shall receive an allowance to cover all personal expenses such as board, lodging, and incidental expenses but not travel expenses."), 24-4 ("When a session of the legislature is recessed for more than three days pursuant to a concurrent resolution or for any interim official legislative business, a member of the legislature while on official legislative business on the island of the member's legal residence and when authorized by the presiding officer of the respective house, shall receive an allowance of \$10 a day to cover personal expenses."), and 24-5 ("A member of the legislature while traveling *without the State* on official legislative business and when authorized by the presiding officer of the respective house, shall receive an allowance to cover all personal expenses, such as board, lodging, and incidental expenses but not travel expenses." (emphasis added)).

<sup>123</sup> HAW. REV. STAT. §§ 24-2 to -5.

As of June 1, 2025, Hawaii legislators whose legal residence is on an island other than Oahu receive a tax-exempt per diem of \$295 per day during the legislative session.<sup>124</sup> This amount is also available to Oahu legislators conducting official legislative business on an island other than Oahu.<sup>125</sup> Additionally, legislators are eligible to receive this per diem amount during recess or for interim official legislative business when members are required to be *away from their home island* overnight or longer, as approved by the presiding officer of the member's respective chamber.<sup>126</sup> Alternatively, during a recess lasting more than three days, or during the legislative interim, and when authorized by the presiding officer of the respective chamber, a legislator conducting official legislative business *on the island of the member's legal residence* (i.e., legislators not requiring interisland travel for official business) receives a per diem of \$10 per day.<sup>127</sup>

Members of the Senate may claim mileage reimbursement at the maximum federal mileage rate of \$0.70 per mile.<sup>128</sup> As of 2024, members of the House of Representatives do not receive mileage reimbursement.<sup>129</sup> Notably, like the annual legislative allowance described above, the mileage reimbursement for Senators is not limited to the legislative session.<sup>130</sup> It would thus appear unlikely to be impacted by a lengthened or continuous regular session. However, a substantially lengthened regular session could be expected to result in increased per diem costs due to more-frequent inter-island travel by legislators whose legal residence is on an island other than Oahu, depending upon the actual session schedule.

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<sup>124</sup> *Id.* § 24-2 ("The allowance shall be paid to each member at the rate prescribed for each day, from the first to the last day of each session, including Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and days of recess pursuant to the mandatory recess required by article III, section 10, of the Constitution or a concurrent resolution, except for days of recess when a session of the legislature is recessed for more than three days pursuant to a concurrent resolution and for days of unexcused absence of the member from a meeting of the respective house.") (The updated \$295 amount for 2025 was obtained in consultation with the House Chief Clerk and Senate Chief Clerk.)

<sup>125</sup> See HAWAII STATE SENATE, ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MANUAL OF THE SENATE, THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, at Title 2, Chapter 3 (2020) [hereinafter SENATE MANUAL], <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2023/docs/SenateAdminManual2023.pdf>; HAWAII STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, HOUSE ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL MANUAL, THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2025-2026, at Part II, Chapter 6 (2025) [hereinafter HOUSE MANUAL], <https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/docs/HouseAdminManual.pdf>.

<sup>126</sup> SENATE MANUAL, *supra* note 125, at Title 2, Chapter 3; HOUSE MANUAL *supra* note 125, at Part II, Chapter 6.

<sup>127</sup> HAW. REV. STAT. § 24-4.

<sup>128</sup> See SENATE MANUAL, *supra* note 125, at Title 2, Chapter 4; *Standard Mileage Rates*, INTERNAL REVENUE SERV. (July 17, 2025), <https://www.irs.gov/tax-professionals/standard-mileage-rates>.

<sup>129</sup> *2024 Legislator Compensation*, NAT. CONF. STATE LEGISLATURES (April 10, 2025), <https://www.ncsl.org/about-state-legislatures/2024-legislator-compensation>.

<sup>130</sup> See SENATE MANUAL, *supra* note 125, at Title 2, Chapter 4

## Legislator Compensation and Reimbursement in Selected States

Chapter 3 of this report reviewed the session calendars of five states having regular legislative sessions longer than those of Hawaii.<sup>131</sup> Below, we review data compiled by the National Conference of State Legislatures<sup>132</sup> showing how legislators in those states are compensated through salary reimbursements for certain expenses. We acknowledge that the relevance of this information is limited. Unlike Hawaii, none of those states has a constitutionally required process for establishing legislator salaries through a salary commission. Furthermore, those states have varying cost-of-living challenges and different policy goals and priorities than Hawaii. Nevertheless, the information may provide useful background to facilitate a discussion regarding compensation for Hawaii legislators should the regular session be lengthened or made continuous.

Legislator salaries among the five states reviewed in Chapter 3 vary widely. Table 4-5 below lists 2024 base legislator salaries, ranging from a low of \$57,408 to a high of \$128,215,<sup>133</sup> as well as the total number of members of each legislature, and the number of members in the upper and lower chambers of those legislatures.<sup>134</sup> For consistency, the states are listed in the order in which they appear in Chapter 3.

**Table 4-5  
Legislator Salaries**

State	Members (Total)	Upper Chamber	Lower Chamber	2024 Base Salary
California	120	40	80	\$128,215
Wisconsin	132	33	99	\$57,408
Massachusetts	200	40	160	\$73,655.01
Pennsylvania	253	50	203	\$106,422.33
Michigan	148	38	110	\$71,685

<sup>131</sup> For further discussion, see *supra* Chapter 3, pp. 31-43.

<sup>132</sup> *2024 Legislator Compensation*, *supra* note 129.

<sup>133</sup> *Id.*

<sup>134</sup> *Table 6.02 - State Legislature Members to be Elected: 2023-2027*, BOOK STATES (2023), <https://bookofthestates.org/tables/2023-6-2/>.

## Vehicle Mileage and Per Diem Payments for Legislators in Other States

Legislators in the five reviewed states may be reimbursed for certain expenses or receive certain allowances. Table 4-6 below lists the 2024 vehicle mileage reimbursement and per diem rates<sup>135</sup> and includes notes explaining particular circumstances. Mileage reimbursements range from no reimbursement to 67 cents per mile. Per diem rates range from no payment to \$214 per day.

**Table 4-6  
Vehicle Mileage Reimbursement**

State	Mileage Reimbursement	Per Diem	Notes
California	67 cents/mile (tied to federal rate)	\$214/day	No geographic limitation specified on per diem
Wisconsin Senate	51 cents/mile	\$140/day	Per diem \$70/day for members residing in state capitol
Wisconsin Assembly	51 cents/mile (car); 28.5 cents/mile (motorcycle)	\$155.70/day	Per diem \$77.85/day for members residing in state capitol
Massachusetts	None	None	N/A
Pennsylvania	67 cents/mile (tied to federal rate)	\$185/day	No geographic limitation specified on per diem
Michigan	67 cents/mile (tied to federal rate)	None	No per diem, but legislators annually receive \$10,800 for expenses

## Council Member Compensation in Hawaii's Four Counties

As county councils in Hawaii are legislative bodies that meet year-round, we have reviewed their compensation levels to provide additional context. Similar to the State, each of Hawaii's four counties has a salary commission that sets salaries for the respective county's council members (and certain other county officials).<sup>136</sup> However, while state constitutional and statutory provisions authorize the Legislature to disapprove recommendations by the State Commission on Salaries,<sup>137</sup> comparable provisions are not included in the charters and codes of the neighbor island counties. Further, although the Revised Charter of Honolulu authorizes the Honolulu City Council to reject the Honolulu Salary Commission's changes to salaries of officials who are not council members,<sup>138</sup> neither the Charter nor the Revised Ordinances of

<sup>135</sup> 2024 Legislator Compensation, *supra* note 129.

<sup>136</sup> Honolulu, HAW. REV. CHARTER § 3-122(1); HAW. CNTY. CHARTER § 13-28(a); MAUI CNTY. CHARTER § 8-17.1; KAUAI CNTY. CHARTER § 29.01.

<sup>137</sup> See *supra* note 101 and accompanying text.

<sup>138</sup> Honolulu, HAW. REV. CHARTER § 3-122(3). For further information on this point, see *infra* note 140.

Honolulu authorize the Council to reject the Honolulu Salary Commission's changes to council member salaries.

### ***City and County of Honolulu***

Pursuant to a charter amendment approved during the November 2024 general election,<sup>139</sup> changes to the salaries of Honolulu council member must be "substantially equivalent to the average of the most recent annual salary changes of employees in the city's various collective bargaining units[,]" and the Commission is not authorized to increase council member salaries by more than five percent from one fiscal year to the next.<sup>140</sup> In 2025, the Honolulu Salary Commission increased the salaries of Honolulu council members (except the council chair) to \$122,064, and increased the council chair's salary to \$132,048, effective July 1, 2025.<sup>141</sup> These were four percent increases from the prior fiscal year, during which most council member salaries were \$117,360, and the chair's salary was \$127,368.<sup>142</sup>

### ***County of Hawaii***

Hawaii County's Salary Commission is required to "review and compensate all county elected officials and appointed directors and deputy directors so that their total salaries and benefits have a reasonable relationship to compensation in the public and private sectors."<sup>143</sup> Most council members are paid an annual salary of \$90,024, while the council chair receives \$99,024.<sup>144</sup>

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<sup>139</sup> *2024 City Charter Amendment Ballot Questions*, City & COUNTY OF HONOLULU, ELECTIONS DIVISION, <https://www.honolulu.gov/elections/charter-amendment-2024/> (last visited Nov. 21, 2025).

<sup>140</sup> HONOLULU, HAW. REV. CHARTER § 3-122(3). Notably, the same charter amendments also repealed council members' authority to reject the Commission's salary recommendations for council members, but left intact council members' authority to reject the Commission's salary recommendations for other City and County employees. (Such a rejection must be made by three-fourths of the full Council, and made within 60 days after the Commission's adoption of its resolution.) *Id.*; Honolulu, Haw. Resolution 24-105, CD1.

<sup>141</sup> SALARY COMMISSION, THE 2025 CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU'S SALARY COMMISSION RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING THE SALARIES FOR THE POSITION OF HONOLULU CITY COUNCILMEMBER (2025), <https://hnlldoc.ehawaii.gov/hnlldoc/document-download?id=24594#page=7>.

<sup>142</sup> SALARY COMMISSION, RESOLUTION OF THE 2024 SALARY COMMISSION (2024), [https://www4.honolulu.gov/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-330738/CC-121\(24\).pdf#page=7](https://www4.honolulu.gov/docushare/dsweb/Get/Document-330738/CC-121(24).pdf#page=7).

<sup>143</sup> HAW. CNTY. CHARTER § 13-28(d).

<sup>144</sup> COUNTY OF HAWAI'I SALARY COMMISSION, PROPOSED FINDINGS OF FACT at exh. A (2023), <https://records.hawaiicounty.gov/weblink/1/doc/126093/Page1.aspx>. The Salary Commission met in 2024, but apparently made no recommendation regarding changing council member salaries. *See* COUNTY OF HAWAI'I SALARY COMMISSION, PROPOSED FINDINGS OF FACT (2024), <https://records.hawaiicounty.gov/weblink/1/doc/139513/Page1.aspx>.

### ***County of Maui and County of Kauai***

In the County of Maui, most council members receive annual salaries of \$101,302, while the chair receives an annual salary of \$106,367.<sup>145</sup> Their counterparts on Kauai are paid \$78,672 and \$88,512, respectively.<sup>146</sup>

### **PART III: LEGISLATIVE STAFF SALARIES**

This Part responds to H.C.R. No. 138's request to "[e]xamine salary needs for full-time . . . staff[.]"

#### **Impacts on Funding for Staff Salaries are Uncertain**

Significantly lengthening regular sessions, or making them continuous, could be expected to affect the compensation levels for employees of the Legislature. Specific changes to compensation would likely be shaped by the impact those changes would have on staff working conditions, workloads, and schedules and on the ability to retain or attract qualified employees. Projected potential impacts that a substantially lengthened regular session may have on legislative staff are explored earlier in this chapter. As noted, the Bureau believes that a lengthened regular session could substantially affect its own staff workload. It seems likely that significantly longer regular sessions would similarly impact House and Senate staff.

Funding for legislative staff positions is provided by moneys appropriated through annual legislative budget acts.<sup>147</sup> However, the budget act appropriations to the respective chambers of the Legislature are generally made in a lump sum form and do not specify allocations or compensation rates for legislative staff. Absent specific information about the method for setting compensation rates, the Bureau is unable to provide a more meaningful discussion regarding the potential impact that a lengthened or continuous regular session could have on legislative staff compensation, other than to suggest that it would have to increase.

Furthermore, the way in which each chamber decides how to staff a lengthened or continuous regular session (e.g., longer-term, temporary session hires; more full-time permanent, year-round staff; or both) would be a significant determining factor in a cost analysis. H.C.R. No. 138 did not specify any dates or timeframes for a continuous or lengthened regular session; however, it is recognized that there could be a substantial difference in staff funding needs depending upon the specific length of the regular session. For example, a continuous regular

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<sup>145</sup> Nikki Schenfeld, *Maui County Officials to Get Significant Pay Raises Starting July 1*, KHON (Apr. 6, 2025), <https://www.khon2.com/local-news/maui-county-officials-to-get-significant-pay-raises-starting-july-1/>.

<sup>146</sup> See SALARY COMMISSION, COUNTY OF KAUAI RESOLUTION 2019-1 (2019), <https://www.kauai.gov/files/assets/public/v/1/boards-and-commissions/documents/resolution-2019-1.pdf>; SALARY COMMISSION, COUNTY OF KAUAI RESOLUTION 2022-1 (2022), <https://www.kauai.gov/files/assets/public/v/1/boards-and-commissions/documents/2022-1-salary-resolution-adopted-7-27-2022.pdf>.

<sup>147</sup> See, e.g., 2024 Haw. Sess. Laws 2; *supra* p. 69.

session may require the hiring of additional full-time permanent staff in lieu of temporary session employees. In contrast, a lengthened session of six months, ending in June, might only require extending the work period for temporary session staff by a matter of weeks or so.

## Legislative Staff Salaries in Other States

Information about other jurisdictions may provide some context regarding the potential salary needs of legislative staff. However, we caution that this information may be of limited utility given the vast differences in economic conditions and cost factors across jurisdictions and among specific staff positions and responsibilities.

Moreover, recent findings by researchers at the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) caution against placing too much significance on salary comparisons among state legislatures. Specifically, a recent NCSL article states that:

Legislatures contact NCSL regularly to ask for data about what other legislatures pay their staff. Often, their intent is to ensure their compensation levels are appropriate and competitive.

Unfortunately, salary survey data from other legislatures often are not as relevant as other data for this kind of analysis. In fact, NCSL discontinued collecting 50-state staff salary data many years ago because: 1) without a great deal of study and analysis, it is extremely difficult to know if a job title in one state has duties, responsibilities and minimum qualifications equivalent to the same title in another legislature, and 2) capital city job markets vary significantly by state. For example, the job market for attorneys may look different in Austin compared to Annapolis, Atlanta or Augusta.<sup>148</sup>

The article further notes:

[ . . . ] NCSL encourages state legislatures to minimize the value of interstate legislative salary data as a comparative benchmark for most positions. Instead, legislative employers should focus more on salary data collected in relevant job markets. These relevant markets may be different for different kinds of legislative jobs, but for most state legislatures, local salary data is best.<sup>149</sup>

Consistent with NCSL's cautionary advice, the Bureau found it challenging to directly compare legislative staff salaries between Hawaii and other states. For example, monthly salaries for legislative aides in California's Senate range from \$3,432 to \$8,000, or the equivalent of \$41,184 to \$96,000 annually (see Appendix 4-R). Annual salaries for legislative aides in the House of Representatives in Michigan range from \$35,000 to \$80,000 (see Appendix 4-S). Although the Hawaii House of Representatives also has legislative aide positions, we cannot state with any level of certainty whether the qualifications and responsibilities for these

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<sup>148</sup> Natalie Wood, *Setting Legislative Staff Pay—A Complicated Calculation*, NAT. CONF. STATE LEGISLATURES (Jan. 11, 2024), <https://www.ncsl.org/center-for-legislative-strengthening/setting-legislative-staff-pay-a-complicated-calculation>.

<sup>149</sup> *Id.*

positions, or the economic conditions and local job markets, in the states are remotely similar, much less identical.

## **County Legislative Staff in the State of Hawaii**

Information concerning legislative staff salaries for Hawaii's counties may provide a more useful reference. But again, it is difficult to draw meaningful conclusions by comparing job positions in different legislative bodies, even when those positions have the same or similar titles. For example, job descriptions, workloads, and local employment markets may not offer a one-to-one comparison between the state legislature and the various county councils.

Nevertheless, the Bureau requested information from the county council chairs for each of Hawaii's four counties regarding staff positions and salaries for county council employees. (See Appendices 4-T to 4-X). We received responses from the three neighbor island counties. (See Appendices 4-Y to 4-AA) but did not receive a substantive response from the Honolulu City Council.<sup>150</sup>

### ***City and County of Honolulu***

Although the Bureau did not receive a substantive response from the Honolulu City Council, we reviewed publicly available aggregate staff salary information from the City and County of Honolulu's legislative budget.<sup>151</sup> Appropriations for the City and County of Honolulu totaled \$29,907,004 for fiscal year 2024-2025, including \$29,766,304 in general fund appropriations. Of the general fund appropriations, \$10,388,046 was designated for the City Council, including \$7,386,663 for salaries for 83 positions; an additional \$3,266,968 for the Office of Council Services, including \$2,930,468 for salaries for 30 positions; \$6,422,619 for the City Clerk's office, including \$2,548,931 for salaries for 43 positions; and \$1,965,401 for the City Auditor's office, including \$1,364,590 for salaries for 13 positions. Thus, the nine-member Honolulu City Council appropriated \$14,230,652 to fund 169 salaried positions.

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<sup>150</sup> The Bureau sent an initial letter of inquiry dated October 3, 2024, through interagency delivery (attached as Appendix 4-T). We sent a follow-up letter dated November 22, 2024; however, this follow-up letter was returned to us in December, as it apparently never reached its intended destination. We subsequently called the Council Chair's office and left a voicemail message. The Chair's staff in December acknowledged receipt of our initial October 3, 2024, letter of inquiry and informed us that a response was in progress. We made subsequent telephone calls and sent email messages to the Council Chair's office in March and April of this year (a copy of the email thread is attached in Appendix 4-U).

<sup>151</sup> Honolulu, Haw. Ordinance 24-8.

### ***County of Hawaii***

Correspondence from the Hawaii County Council (Appendix 4-Y) indicated various staff salaries and wages, the most pertinent<sup>152</sup> of which are summarized below:

- Staff for the Council:
  - 18 staff positions, with salaries ranging from \$30,024 to \$66,354
- Council Chair Support Staff:
  - 5 staff positions, with salaries ranging from \$30,024 to \$63,138;
- Videoconferencing Services:
  - 5 hourly positions, with wages ranging from \$15 to \$80 per hour;
- County Clerk:
  - 5 staff positions, with salaries ranging from \$52,060 to \$162,540;
- Legislative Research Branch:
  - 3 staff positions, with salaries ranging from \$56,304 to \$83,376;
- Support Services and Machine Room:
  - 4 staff positions, with salaries ranging from \$36,072 to \$58,932;
- County Auditor:
  - 5 staff positions, with salaries ranging from \$63,408 to \$162,540

Correspondence from Hawaii County indicated that staff generally worked 40 or more hours per week, with the head Auditor working up to 55 hours per week. Hourly staffers' hours varied depending on the Council's meetings.

### ***County of Maui***

Correspondence received from the Maui County Council (Appendix 4-Z) indicated that, for the Office of the County Clerk, there are salaries of \$156,982 for the County Clerk and \$149,132 for the Deputy County Clerk, with another \$483,060 for salaries, in the aggregate, among nine staff positions in that office—five of which have titles indicating election-related duties, and thus are unlikely to be equivalent to positions in the Hawaii State Legislature. The correspondence also indicated that salaries for the Office of Council Services (OCS) range from \$40,956 to \$154,628 for 35 different positions within that office but does not specify which positions are attached to which salaries. These salary ranges for Office of Council Services staff are determined explicitly by county ordinance.<sup>153</sup> The council also stated that OCS staff work 40-hour weeks, but

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<sup>152</sup> We excluded positions in the County of Hawaii's Elections Division, as the Hawaii State Legislature does not have equivalent positions.

<sup>153</sup> The Maui County Council's response enclosed a copy of Maui, Haw. Ordinance 5669, which amended MAUI CNTY. CODE § 2.08.060 (*see* Appendix 4-Z).

work longer "during high-demand periods, such as during the annual budget session from the end of March to early June, and for special projects throughout the year," and that "[e]ach Council Member [...] hires and determines the salaries of their executive assistants based on the amount allocated per Council Members' [*sic*] office in the fiscal year's budget."

### ***County of Kauai***

Correspondence from the Kauai County Council (Appendix 4-AA) indicates salaries for several positions, the most pertinent<sup>154</sup> of which are in the Council Services Division (headed by the County Clerk). The Division includes 21 salaried positions, with salaries ranging from \$10,341 for a council secretarial assistant to \$148,728 for the county clerk, and four hourly positions, with wages ranging from \$35 to \$46 per hour. Salaried workers typically work 40 hours per week but may work an additional 10-15 hours per week during annual budget review periods (March to May), or an additional 10-20 hours per week to assist with special events. Hourly workers typically work 20 hours or less per week.

### **Summary of Staff Salary Needs**

In summary, the impact on salary needs for legislative staff would depend upon the specific changes to the duration of regular sessions, staff workload and schedules, and informed decisions by each chamber as to how its additional staffing needs should be addressed. Further, it is acknowledged that information about staff compensation levels in other jurisdictions having different cost-of-living factors than Hawaii may be of limited value in determining those needs. However, the information presented here may nevertheless help shape further discussions on this issue.

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<sup>154</sup> We excluded positions in the County of Kauai's Elections Division, as the Hawaii State Legislature does not have equivalent positions. We also excluded the Kauai County Auditor's office, as all positions were vacant at the time of the County's response.

## Chapter 5

### IN CONCLUSION: REVIEW, COMMENTS, AND OBSERVATIONS

Pursuant to the request made in H.C.R. No. 138, the Bureau conducted a study regarding potential changes to the duration of regular sessions of the Hawaii State Legislature, including: establishing a continuous legislature, lengthening regular sessions, and adding additional recess days to increase the total duration of regular sessions; focusing on what a calendar, including deadlines for bills and budgets, may look like for a continuous or extended regular session or a regular session with additional recess days; exploring certain legal and practical limitations to consider when contemplating a lengthened or continuous regular session; and examining the resulting salary needs for full-time legislators and staff if a continuous or lengthened regular session were established or if additional recess days were scheduled for the session.

While Chapter 1 of this report provides a brief introduction, Chapter 2 presents a contextual foundation for discussing potential changes to the Legislature's current regular session calendar. Chapter 2 includes an overview of applicable state constitutional<sup>1</sup> and statutory<sup>2</sup> provisions, along with a brief discussion of relevant legislative rules, that have shaped the current regular session framework and duration.<sup>3</sup>

Chapter 3 responds to H.C.R. No. 138's specific request to focus on what a lengthened or continuous regular session calendar may look like, including bill and budget deadlines. The chapter highlights certain state legal and practical limitations that warrant consideration when evaluating potential alternative models for regular sessions.<sup>4</sup> Chapter 3 examines relevant legal provisions and calendars of legislative bodies in certain jurisdictions to illustrate how lengthened or continuous legislative sessions are implemented elsewhere.<sup>5</sup> It also reviews recently proposed legislation that would amend applicable constitutional provisions to establish a continuous regular session in Hawaii.<sup>6</sup> Finally, Chapter 3 explores how the total duration of regular sessions could be lengthened by adding additional recess days,<sup>7</sup> without necessitating any constitutional or statutory law changes, and presents, for illustrative purposes only, mock-up session calendars with various deadlines for the 2026 and 2027 Regular Sessions.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Chapter 2, Part I: The Hawaii State Constitution and Potential Amendments.

<sup>2</sup> Chapter 2, Part II: Statutory Law and Certain Events That Affect Sessions.

<sup>3</sup> Chapter 2, Part III: Legislative Rules.

<sup>4</sup> Chapter 3, Part I, section entitled Some Timing-Related Issues and Other Concerns for Alternative Session Calendars.

<sup>5</sup> Chapter 3, Part II, section entitled Jurisdictions Having Longer Legislative Sessions.

<sup>6</sup> Chapter 3, Part III, section entitled Senate Bill No. 733 and House Bill No. 770 (2025).

<sup>7</sup> Chapter 3, Part IV: Legislative Sessions May Be Lengthened with Recess Days.

<sup>8</sup> Chapter 3, Part IV, section entitled Illustrative Calendars for Lengthening the 2026 and 2027 Regular Sessions, and Tables 3-2 and 3-3.

In Chapter 4, the Bureau presents other potential factors or issues that may be relevant to a discussion of whether and how to establish a lengthened or continuous regular session.<sup>9</sup> Chapter 4 also examines recent state legislator salary adjustments<sup>10</sup> and, for general benchmarking purposes, presents information regarding legislator<sup>11</sup> and staff<sup>12</sup> compensation in certain jurisdictions reviewed in Chapter 3. Any further discussion of staff salary needs is constrained by the absence of specific information about current salaries and the proposed duration of a lengthened regular session. Thus, the potential impacts of a lengthened session on staffing levels and costs remain decidedly unclear.

## KEY OBSERVATIONS

1. The duration of Hawaii's annual regular session appears to generally fall within the same timeframe as regular sessions in the majority of other states.<sup>13</sup>
  - Only 11 states do not formally limit the length of a regular session; however, the absence of a limit does not necessarily indicate that a state legislature meets continuously throughout the year.<sup>14</sup>
  - States having legislative sessions that may be described as "continuous" or "lengthened" do not necessarily meet and conduct formal business in floor sessions every month of the year; further, several of these states have lengthy recess periods throughout their sessions.<sup>15</sup>
2. The Legislature appears to have broad discretion to determine its regular session calendar.<sup>16</sup>
  - The Hawaii State Constitution provides that the Legislature shall convene annually in regular session on the third Wednesday in January. Regular sessions are limited to 60 session days but may be extended by adding up to 15 more session days.<sup>17</sup> Each chamber must provide by rule for a bill introduction deadline.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>9</sup> Chapter 4, Part I: Relevant Factors to Consider.

<sup>10</sup> Chapter 4, Part II, section entitled Legislator Compensation and the Commission on Salaries.

<sup>11</sup> Chapter 4, Part II, sections entitled Legislator Compensation and Reimbursement in Selected States; Council Member Compensation in Hawaii's Four Counties.

<sup>12</sup> Chapter 4, Part III, sections entitled Legislative Staff Salaries in Other States; County Legislative Staff in the State of Hawaii.

<sup>13</sup> Chapter 3, Part II, section entitled Legislative Session Length Limitations Across the 50 States.

<sup>14</sup> *Id.*

<sup>15</sup> *Id.*

<sup>16</sup> Chapter 2, Part III, section entitled Legislative Rules Relevant to the Session Calendar; Chapter 3, Part IV, section entitled Potential Models Using Recess Days to Lengthen Regular Sessions.

<sup>17</sup> Chapter 2, Part I, section entitled Constitutional Provisions Relating to Legislative Sessions; Chapter 3, Part IV, section entitled Constitutional and Statutory Provisions and the Historical Scheduling of Session Recess Days.

<sup>18</sup> Chapter 2, Part I, section entitled Bill Introductions, Committee Referrals, and Readings of Bills.

- Session days are days on which each legislative chamber may formally convene in floor session to act on bills or conduct other business. Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and recess days are explicitly excluded from the computation of the total number of session days.<sup>19</sup>
  - There is no constitutional or statutory provision requiring a specific final adjournment date for a regular session or specifying how the authorized 60 session days must be scheduled (other than mandating the start date, requiring that each chamber adopt by rule a bill introduction deadline, and a five-day recess between the 20th and 40th days of a regular session).<sup>20</sup>
  - During regular sessions, legislators and legislative committees may engage in certain official business on recess days, including holding committee hearings and committee votes on bills.<sup>21</sup>
3. Certain legal requirements and practical factors may influence the degree to which regular sessions could be lengthened or made continuous,<sup>22</sup> such as:
- The State's fiscal year begins each July 1 and ends on June 30 of the following year. Thus, it would seem that the state budget should generally be enacted before July 1 to ensure its timely passage and avoid creating economic uncertainty and disruption of public services.<sup>23</sup>
    - Passage of the state budget is also crucial to passing most other fiscal bills.<sup>24</sup>
    - Fiscal bills generally comprise a supermajority of all bills introduced<sup>25</sup> and also should be passed before the start of the new fiscal year, regardless of how long the regular session lasts.<sup>26</sup>
  - Even-numbered election years raise unique scheduling issues, including:
    - Elected legislators begin their terms on general election day in November. If it is desirable to ensure that legislators who will not remain in office after the election may participate in a special session convened in response to a

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<sup>19</sup> Chapter 2, Part I, section entitled Current Requirements for Regular Sessions of the Legislature.

<sup>20</sup> Chapter 2, Part I, section entitled Bill Introductions, Committee Referrals, and Readings of Bills; Chapter 3, Part IV, section entitled Constitutional and Statutory Provisions and the Historical Scheduling of Session Recess Days.

<sup>21</sup> Chapter 3, Part IV, section entitled Limitations and Possibilities.

<sup>22</sup> Chapter 3, Part I, section entitled Some Timing-Related Issues and Other Concerns for Alternative Regular Session Calendars.

<sup>23</sup> Chapter 3, Part I, section entitled Enactment of Fiscal Bills Before the July 1 Start of Each Fiscal Year.

<sup>24</sup> Chapter 2, Part I, section entitled Constitutional Budget Requirements Relating to Legislative Timetables.

<sup>25</sup> Chapter 4, Table 4-4.

<sup>26</sup> Chapter 3, Part I, section entitled Enactment of Fiscal Bills Before the July 1 Start of Each Fiscal Year.

- gubernatorial veto, final adjournment (adjournment *sine die*) should occur no later than 45 business days before each general election.<sup>27</sup>
- The Attorney General is required to prepare voter informational materials regarding legislatively proposed constitutional amendments and must transmit those materials to the Office of Elections no later than 75 days before each applicable general election.<sup>28</sup> The full text of proposed amendments must be made available for public inspection 30 days before the proposed amendment is submitted to voters, among other requirements.<sup>29</sup> Any proposal to lengthen a regular session that occurs in an election year should thus include a constitutional amendment adoption deadline that takes into consideration these duties of the Attorney General and the Office of Elections.
  - The vote-counting operations of the Office of Elections would likely be impacted if the legislative chambers are not available for those operations.
4. It appears that regular sessions may be lengthened or made continuous by adding recess days pursuant to an agreement between the House and Senate, which would not require constitutional or statutory amendments.<sup>30</sup> Mock-up calendars for the 2026 and 2027 Regular Sessions include additional recess days and are intended to serve solely as examples of how a maximum 60-day regular session could be lengthened without necessitating constitutional or statutory amendments.<sup>31</sup> These mock-ups also attempt to address the timing issues raised concerning fiscal bills, proposed constitutional amendments, and veto override sessions. These calendars are presented in Tables 3-2 and 3-3 in Chapter 3.
5. Establishing a lengthened or continuous regular session may increase operational and staffing costs by an undetermined amount and thus require increased annual expenditures by the Legislature.<sup>32</sup>
- It is difficult to even speculate about the effect that a lengthened or continuous regular session could have on legislative operations, costs, or staff without more specificity. Without knowing exactly what a "lengthened" session is supposed to look like, projecting its impact is highly problematic. Further, the Bureau has not yet received estimates of specific operational and cost impacts from the Chief Clerks of the House and Senate.<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>27</sup> Chapter 3, Part I, section entitled Legislative Action on Vetoed Bills Before General Election Day.

<sup>28</sup> Chapter 3, Part I, section entitled Timely Action on Proposed Constitutional Amendments.

<sup>29</sup> Chapter 2, Part I, section entitled Legislative Proposals to Amend the Constitution; Chapter 4, Part I, section entitled Ratification of Proposed Constitutional Amendments.

<sup>30</sup> Chapter 3, Part IV: Legislative Sessions May Be Lengthened with Recess Days.

<sup>31</sup> Chapter 3, Part IV, section entitled Illustrative Calendars for Lengthening the 2026 and 2027 Regular Sessions, and Tables 3-2 and 3-3.

<sup>32</sup> Chapter 4, Part I, section entitled Operational and Financial Impacts on the Legislature.

<sup>33</sup> Chapter 4, Part I, section entitled Impacts on the Legislature.

- Significant changes to the workload and schedules of legislative employees, without concomitant changes to compensation and benefits or adding staff to address the increased workload, could prompt the departure or retirement of some employees and thus require the recruitment, hiring, and training of new employees. Measures such as incentivizing valued employees to remain on the job, recruiting qualified replacements, and hiring additional temporary session or permanent staff would likely require raising existing salary levels and/or providing other incentives, thus increasing costs.<sup>34</sup>
  - DAGS has expressed concern that a lengthened or continuous regular session may conflict with emergency repairs and critical maintenance and upgrade projects for the State Capitol, decreasing the time available to complete those projects. A lengthened session may also increase utility costs and maintenance needs.<sup>35</sup>
6. Some proponents have suggested that longer regular sessions would increase legislative productivity and transparency.
- It is difficult to quantify legislative productivity objectively, and it is unclear whether a lengthened or continuous regular session would necessarily increase productivity in any measurable way.<sup>36</sup>
    - It appears that since the early 1990s the Legislature has concluded its legislative actions within the 60-session-day limitation in the vast majority of regular sessions.<sup>37</sup> Completion of legislative business could reasonably be viewed as a measure of productivity, and the Legislature's rare use of extensions already permitted by the Hawaii State Constitution would appear to suggest that an extended or continuous regular session would not necessarily improve productivity.
  - It is not clear that increasing the duration of regular sessions alone would provide for greater legislative transparency.<sup>38</sup>
    - In particular, establishing a lengthened regular session would not necessarily provide more time to consider fiscal bills absent changes to the State's fiscal year structure, as the July 1 start of the fiscal year appears to limit the time by which fiscal bills should be enacted.<sup>39</sup>

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<sup>34</sup> Chapter 4, Part I, section entitled Potential Impact on Recruitment, Retention, and Benefits.

<sup>35</sup> Chapter 4, Part I, section entitled Operational and Financial Impact; Various Agencies, Department of Accounting and General Services.

<sup>36</sup> Chapter 4, Part I, section entitled Potential Impact on Legislative Productivity.

<sup>37</sup> *Id.*

<sup>38</sup> Chapter 4, Part I, section entitled Potential Impact on Legislative Transparency.

<sup>39</sup> *Id.*

7. Significantly lengthening the State's regular sessions could have certain impacts on members of the Legislature.
  - No legal provisions currently prohibit or restrict legislators from simultaneously retaining employment outside the Legislature. Establishing a significantly lengthened or continuous regular session may render some outside employment impractical or raise ethical considerations or concerns about continuing that employment during legislative sessions.<sup>40</sup>
  - State statutes prohibit legislators from holding election campaign fundraising events, and prohibit lobbyists from making campaign contributions or expenditures, during any legislative session, including during recess periods. The duration of these restrictions would thus appear to be commensurate with the duration of any lengthened or continuous regular session.<sup>41</sup>
8. Pursuant to the Hawaii State Constitution, salaries for state legislators are determined by the Commission on Salaries; salary increases recommended by the 2024-2025 Commission on Salaries will take effect on January 1, 2027.<sup>42</sup>
  - The 2024-2025 Commission on Salaries opined that the Hawaii State Legislature is already a "full-time" legislative body and therefore calculated salary increases accordingly.<sup>43</sup>
9. Absent specific information about most current staff compensation rates and how they are determined, as well as specific information about how changes to the regular session calendar would affect staff workloads and working conditions, the Bureau is unable to provide a more detailed and informative discussion regarding the impact that establishing a lengthened or continuous regular session may have on legislative staff compensation, other than to suggest that compensation and staffing levels would likely need to be increased.<sup>44</sup>

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS NEEDED**

This report attempts to provide useful information to inform discussions regarding various scenarios in which regular sessions may be lengthened or made continuous, including scenarios that would not necessitate changes to constitutional or statutory law. However, considering the numerous issues, variables, and unknown facts related to establishing longer regular sessions, the Bureau respectfully suggests that the Legislature first determine the essential timing and framework for a desirable lengthened legislative calendar for both election and non-election years.

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<sup>40</sup> Chapter 4, Part I, section entitled Potential Limits on Outside Employment for Legislators.

<sup>41</sup> Chapter 4, Part I, section entitled Effect Upon Campaign Finance Activity Prohibitions.

<sup>42</sup> Chapter 4, Part II, section entitled Legislator Compensation and the Commission on Salaries.

<sup>43</sup> *Id.*

<sup>44</sup> Chapter 4, Part III: Legislative Staff Salaries.

Once that first step is completed, the Legislature can then gather additional information from affected stakeholders, resolve how each chamber would address its staffing needs (e.g., longer terms of temporary session hire employment, more full-time, year-round permanent staff, etc.), and consider how to address other operational and cost issues. Parties having direct in-depth knowledge regarding potential fiscal, operational, administrative, legal, and labor impacts within the legislative environment could provide valuable insight and guidance.

The Bureau believes that establishing a specific and concrete proposal regarding the duration of a desirable regular session calendar, clarifying staffing needs and other operational issues, and producing cost information regarding the House of Representatives and Senate operations, including staffing, would facilitate further discussion and enable the preparation of a more complete and accurate assessment of the feasibility and cost of establishing a lengthened or continuous regular session.

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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU TO CONDUCT A STUDY  
OF A CONTINUOUS LEGISLATIVE SESSION, EXTENDING THE  
LEGISLATIVE SESSION, AND ADDING ADDITIONAL RECESS DAYS.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii's state legislature only has sixty session  
2 days per year, generally stretching from the middle of January  
3 until early May; and

4  
5 WHEREAS, the representatives and senators who comprise the  
6 state legislature are part-time employees of the State; and

7  
8 WHEREAS, the efficiency, productivity, orderliness, and  
9 transparency of the state legislature could be improved by  
10 requiring that the Legislature be in session during every month  
11 of the year, making the elected officials who comprise the state  
12 legislature into full-time employees of the State; now,  
13 therefore,

14  
15 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
16 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
17 Session of 2024, the Senate concurring, that the Legislative  
18 Reference Bureau is requested to conduct a study of a continuous  
19 legislature, extending the legislative session, and adding  
20 additional recess days; and

21  
22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study is requested to:

- 23  
24 (1) Discuss the pros and cons of a continuous legislative  
25 session, extending the legislative session, and adding  
26 additional recess days;  
27  
28 (2) Focus on what a continuous legislative calendar,  
29 extended legislative calendar, and a legislative  
30 calendar day with additional recess days for the State



1           may look like, including bill and budget deadlines;  
2           and

3  
4           (3) Examine salary needs for full-time legislators and  
5           staff; and

6  
7           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this  
8 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the  
9 Legislative Reference Bureau.



# 2025 SENATE INTERNAL TIMETABLE

JANUARY	SUN	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
				1 NEW YEAR'S DAY			
	5	6	7	8 <i>Prefiling of Bills Begins</i>	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15 OPENING DAY	16	17 Non-Admin Bill Pkg Cutoff & Grants/Subsidies Cutoff <i>Unlimited Bill Intro Cutoff</i>	18
	19	20 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY	21 State of the State Address & Admin Bill Package Cutoff <i>5 Bills/Day Limit Begins</i>	22 RECESS #1 <i>5 Bills/Day Limit</i>	23 State of the Judiciary Address & Bill Intro Cutoff <i>5 Bills/Day Limit Ends</i>	24 RECESS #2	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	

FEBRUARY	SUN	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
							1
	2	3	4	5	6 <i>Triple Referral (SBs) Filing Deadline</i>	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13 <i>Double Referral (SBs) Filing Deadline</i>	14 <i>First Lateral (SBs)</i>	15
	16	17 PRESIDENTS' DAY	18	19	20 Mandatory 5-Day Recess Begins	21	22
	23	24	25	26 Last Day of Mandatory 5-Day Recess	27 <i>Single Referral (SBs) Filing Deadline</i>	28 <i>First Decking (SBs)</i>	29

MARCH	SUN	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
							1
	2	3 RECESS #3	4	5 RECESS #4	6 First Crossover (Bills)	7 Substantive Reso Cutoff	8
	9	10 Budget Decking	11	12 Budget Crossover	13 <i>Triple Referral (HBs) Filing Deadline</i>	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20 <i>Double Referral (HBs) Filing Deadline</i>	21 <i>Second Lateral (HBs)</i>	22
	23	24 <i>First Lateral (SCRs)</i>	25	26 KUHIO DAY	27	28 <i>Last Day to Receive Advise &amp; Consent from Gov.</i>	29
	30	31					

APRIL	SUN	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
			1	2 <i>Deadline to file SCRs</i>	3 <i>First Crossover (Conc. Resos) &amp; Single Referral (HBs) Filing Deadline</i>	4 <i>Second Decking (HBs)</i>	5
	6	7 RECESS #5	8	9 RECESS #6	10 Second Crossover (Bills) & Disagree	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17 <i>Constitutional Amendments &amp; Deadline to file Amended HCRs</i>	18 GOOD FRIDAY	19
	20	21 <i>Second Crossover (Concurrent Resos)</i>	22	23	24 <i>Final Decking (Non-Fiscal Bills)</i>	25 <i>Final Decking (Fiscal Bills)</i>	26
	27	28 RECESS #7 <i>Deadline to file Advise &amp; Consent SSCRs</i>	29 RECESS #8	30			

MAY	SUN	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SAT
					1 RECESS #9	2 ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE	3
							60

*RWD D. Kouchi*

Senate President Ronald D. Kouchi

November 27, 2024

Date

*Internal Deadline in italics.*

# 2025 SENATE *INTERNAL* LEGISLATIVE TIMETABLE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LEG. DAY</u>	<u>DEADLINE OR EVENT</u>
Jan. 8 (W)		<i>Clerk's Office begins accepting bills for introduction (prefiling).</i>
Jan. 15 (W)	1 <sup>st</sup>	Opening Day.
Jan. 17 (F)	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Last day to introduce all packages of bills except for the administration's (State Executive Branch). Last day for organizations to submit grant and subsidy requests to the Legislature. <i>Unlimited bill introduction deadline.</i>
Jan. 21 (T)	4 <sup>th</sup>	State of the State Address. Last day to introduce the administration's package of bills (State Executive Branch). <i>Bill Introduction Limit Begins — Day One — Five SBs per Senator per day.</i>
Jan. 22 (W)		One-day recess (No Floor Session) & <i>Day Two — Five SBs per Senator per day.</i>
Jan. 23 (Th)	5 <sup>th</sup>	State of the Judiciary Address. Last day for bill introductions & <i>Day Three — Five SBs per Senator per day.</i>
Jan. 24 (F)		One-day recess. (No Floor Session)
Feb. 6 (Th)	14 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Filing deadline for <u>triple</u> referral SBs — Last day for first committee to file committee report.</i>
Feb. 13 (Th)	19 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Filing deadline for multiple referral SBs — Second to last committee must file committee report.</i>
Feb. 14 (F)	20 <sup>th</sup>	<i>First Lateral — Last day for Senate Bills to move to final committee in the Senate.</i>
Feb. 20 (Th) through Feb. 26 (W)		Mandatory 5-day recess. (No Floor Session for five days)
Feb. 27 (Th)	23 <sup>rd</sup>	<i>Deadline to file Senate committee reports on <u>single</u> referral SBs.</i>
Feb. 28 (F)	24 <sup>th</sup>	Filing deadline for First Decking. Last day to deck non-budget bills for Third Reading in the originating body.
March 3 (M)		One-day recess. (No Floor Session)
March 5 (W)		One-day recess. (No Floor Session)
March 6 (Th)	26 <sup>th</sup>	First Crossover for bills. Last day for Third Reading of bills in the originating body.
March 7 (F)	27 <sup>th</sup>	Last day to introduce substantive resolutions.
March 10 (M)	28 <sup>th</sup>	Filing deadline for budget bills.
March 12 (W)	30 <sup>th</sup>	Budget Crossover. Last day for Third Reading of budget bills in the originating body.
March 13 (Th)	31 <sup>st</sup>	<i>Filing deadline for <u>triple</u> referral HBs — Last day for first committee to file committee report.</i>
March 20 (Th)	36 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Filing deadline for multiple referral HBs — Second to last committee must file committee report.</i>
March 21 (F)	37 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Second Lateral — Last day for House Bills to move to final committee in the Senate.</i>
March 24 (M)	38 <sup>th</sup>	<i>First Lateral for Senate Concurrent Resolutions — Last day for SCRs to move to final committee in the Senate.</i>
March 28 (F)	41 <sup>st</sup>	<i>Deadline for Governor to submit Advise &amp; Consent messages to the Senate.</i>
April 2 (W)	44 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Deadline to file Senate committee reports on Senate Concurrent Resolutions (SCRs).</i>
April 3 (Th)	45 <sup>th</sup>	First Crossover for concurrent resolutions. Last day to pass concurrent resolutions to the non-originating body.
April 4 (F)	46 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Deadline to file Senate committee reports on <u>single</u> referral HBs.</i> Filing deadline for Second Decking. Last day to deck bills that were amended by the receiving (non-originating) body.
April 7 (M)		One-day recess. (No Floor Session)
April 9 (W)		One-day recess. (No Floor Session)
April 10 (Th)	48 <sup>th</sup>	Second Crossover for bills. Last day for Third Reading of bills that were amended by the receiving (non-originating) body.
April 17 (Th)	53 <sup>rd</sup>	Disagree. Last day to disagree to amendments made to bills by the non-originating body. Deadline for transmittal of final form of Constitutional Amendments to the Governor.
April 21 (M)	54 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Deadline to file Senate committee reports on amended House Concurrent Resolutions (HCRs).</i> Second Crossover for concurrent resolutions. Last day to pass concurrent resolutions that were amended by the receiving (non-originating) body.
April 24 (Th)	57 <sup>th</sup>	Last day to file non-fiscal bills to deck for Final Reading.
April 25 (F)	58 <sup>th</sup>	Last day to file fiscal bills to deck for Final Reading.
April 28 (M)		One-day recess. (No Floor Session)
April 29 (T)		<i>Deadline to file Senate Committee reports on Advise &amp; Consent measures.</i>
May 1 (Th)		One-day recess. (No Floor Session)
May 2 (F)	60 <sup>th</sup>	One-day recess. (No Floor Session) Adjournment Sine Die.

**NOTE: Deadlines in *italics* are Senate *Internal* Deadlines**

*RWD. Kouchi.*

November 27, 2024

Senate President Ronald D. Kouchi

Date

# 2025 HOUSE INTERNAL LEGISLATIVE TIMETABLE

J A N U A R Y	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8 Prefiling of Bills Begins	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15 OPENING DAY	16	17 Non-Admin Bill Package Cutoff & Grants/Subsidies Cutoff	18
	19	20 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY	21 State of the State Address, Admin Bill Package Cutoff, & 5 Bills/Day Limit Begins	22 RECESS #1	23 State of the Judiciary Address, Bill Intro Cutoff & 5 Bills/Day Limit Ends	24 RECESS #2	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	
			6	7	8	9	10

F E B R U A R Y	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
							1
	2	3	4	5 Triple Referral Filing (Bills)	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17 PRESIDENTS' DAY	18	19	20 Mandatory 5-Day Recess Begins	21	22
	23	24	25	26 Last Day of Mandatory 5-Day Recess	27	28 First Decking (Bills)	29

M A R C H	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
							1
	2	3 RECESS #3	4	5 RECESS #4	6 First Crossover (Bills)	7 Substantive Reso Cutoff	8
	9	10 Budget Decking	11	12 Budget Crossover	13 Triple Referral Filing (Bills)	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20 Second Lateral Filing (Bills)	21 Second Lateral (Bills)	22
	23	24	25	26 KUHIO DAY	27 First Lateral Filing (Concurrent Resos)	28 First Lateral (All Concurrent Resos to Final Committee)	29

A P R I L	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 First Crossover Filing (Concurrent Resos)	3 First Crossover (Concurrent Resos)	4 Second Decking (Bills)	5
	6	7 RECESS #5	8	9 RECESS #6	10 Second Crossover (Bills) & Disagree	11 Second Lateral Filing (Concurrent Resos)	12
	13	14 Second Lateral (All Concurrent Resos to Final Committee)	15	16	17 Constitutional Amendments & Second Crossover Filing (Concurrent Resos)	18 GOOD FRIDAY	19
	20	21 Second Crossover (Concurrent Resos)	22	23	24 Final Decking (Non-Fiscal Bills)	25 Final Decking (Fiscal Bills)	26
	27	28 RECESS #7	29 RECESS #8	30	31		

M A Y	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 RECESS #9	3 ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE

*Nadine K. Nakamura*  
Nadine K. Nakamura  
Speaker of the House

11/26/24  
Date

*Sean Quinlan*  
Sean Quinlan  
Majority Leader

11/26/24  
Date

# 2025 HOUSE INTERNAL LEGISLATIVE TIMETABLE

(underlined items are internal to the House)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LEG. DAY</u>	<u>DEADLINE OR EVENT</u>
<u>Jan. 8th (Wed)</u>		<u>Prefiling of bills begins.</u>
Jan. 15 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)	1 <sup>st</sup>	Opening Day.
Jan. 17 <sup>th</sup> (Fri)	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Last day to introduce all packages of bills except for the administration's (State Executive Branch). Last day for organizations to submit grant and subsidy requests to the Legislature.
Jan. 21 <sup>st</sup> (Tue)	4 <sup>th</sup>	State of the State Address. Last day to introduce the administration's package of bills (State Executive Branch). <u>Filing limit of 5 bills per day begins.</u>
Jan. 22 <sup>nd</sup> (Wed)		One-day recess.
Jan. 23 <sup>rd</sup> (Thur)	5 <sup>th</sup>	State of the Judiciary Address. Last day for bill introductions. <u>Filing limit of 5 bills per day ends.</u>
Jan. 24 <sup>th</sup> (Fri)		One-day recess.
<u>Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> (Wed)</u>	<u>13<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Filing deadline for triple referral bills for Second Reading.</u>
<u>Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> (Thur)</u>	<u>19<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Filing deadline for First Lateral (Bills).</u>
<u>Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> (Fri)</u>	<u>20<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>First Lateral (Bills). All bills to final committee in the originating body.</u>
Feb. 20 <sup>th</sup> (Thur) through Feb. 26 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)		Mandatory 5-day recess.
Feb. 28 <sup>th</sup> (Fri)	24 <sup>th</sup>	Filing deadline for First Decking. Last day to deck non-budget bills for Third Reading in the originating body.
March 3 <sup>rd</sup> (Mon)		One-day recess.
March 5 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)		One-day recess.
March 6 <sup>th</sup> (Thur)	26 <sup>th</sup>	First Crossover for bills. Last day for Third Reading of bills in the originating body.
March 7 <sup>th</sup> (Fri)	27 <sup>th</sup>	Last day to introduce substantive resolutions.
March 10 <sup>th</sup> (Mon)	28 <sup>th</sup>	Filing deadline for budget bills.
March 12 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)	30 <sup>th</sup>	Budget Crossover. Last day for Third Reading of budget bills in the originating body.
<u>March 13<sup>th</sup> (Thur)</u>	<u>31<sup>st</sup></u>	<u>Filing deadline for triple referral bills for Second Reading.</u>
<u>March 20<sup>th</sup> (Thur)</u>	<u>36<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Filing deadline for Second Lateral (Bills).</u>
<u>March 21<sup>st</sup> (Fri)</u>	<u>37<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Second Lateral (Bills). All bills to final committee in the non-originating body.</u>
<u>March 27<sup>th</sup> (Thur)</u>	<u>40<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Filing deadline for First Lateral (Concurrent Resolutions).</u>
<u>March 28<sup>th</sup> (Fri)</u>	<u>41<sup>st</sup></u>	<u>First Lateral (Concurrent Resolutions). All concurrent resolutions to final committee in the originating body.</u>
<u>March 31<sup>st</sup> (Mon)</u>	<u>42<sup>nd</sup></u>	<u>Last day for floor presentations.</u>
<u>April 2<sup>nd</sup> (Wed)</u>	<u>44<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Filing deadline for First Crossover for concurrent resolutions.</u>
April 3 <sup>rd</sup> (Thur)	45 <sup>th</sup>	First Crossover for concurrent resolutions. Last day to pass concurrent resolutions to the non-originating body.
April 4 <sup>th</sup> (Fri)	46 <sup>th</sup>	Filing deadline for Second Decking. Last day to deck bills that were amended by the receiving (non-originating) body.
April 7 <sup>th</sup> (Mon)		One-day recess.
April 9 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)		One-day recess.
April 10 <sup>th</sup> (Thur)	48 <sup>th</sup>	Second Crossover for bills. Last day for Third Reading of bills that were amended by the receiving (non-originating) body. Disagree. Last day to disagree with the other body's drafts of bills.
<u>April 11<sup>th</sup> (Fri)</u>	<u>49<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Filing deadline for Second Lateral (Concurrent Resolutions).</u>
<u>April 14<sup>th</sup> (Mon)</u>	<u>50<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Second Lateral (Concurrent Resolutions). All concurrent resolutions to final committee in the non-originating body.</u>
April 17 <sup>th</sup> (Thur)	53 <sup>rd</sup>	Deadline for transmittal of final form of Constitutional Amendments to the Governor. <u>Filing deadline for Second Crossover for concurrent resolutions.</u>
April 21 <sup>st</sup> (Mon)	54 <sup>th</sup>	Second Crossover for concurrent resolutions. Last day to pass concurrent resolutions that were amended by the receiving (non-originating) body.
April 24 <sup>th</sup> (Thur)	57 <sup>th</sup>	Last day to file non-fiscal bills to deck for Final Reading.
April 25 <sup>th</sup> (Fri)	58 <sup>th</sup>	Last day to file fiscal bills to deck for Final Reading.
April 28 <sup>th</sup> (Mon)		One-day recess.
April 29 <sup>th</sup> (Tues)		One-day recess.
May 1 <sup>st</sup> (Thurs)		One-day recess.
May 2 <sup>nd</sup> (Fri)	60 <sup>th</sup>	Adjournment Sine Die.



Nadine K. Nakamura  
Speaker of the House

11/26/24

Date



Sean Quinlan  
Majority Leader

11/26/24

Date

# 2025 LEGISLATIVE TIMETABLE

JANUARY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12	13	14	15 OPENING DAY	16	17 Non-Admin Bill Package Cutoff & Grants/Subsidies Cutoff	18	
19	20 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY	21 State of the State Address & Admin Bill Package Cutoff	22 RECESS #1	23 State of the Judiciary Address & Bill Intro Cutoff	24 RECESS #2	25	
26	27	28	29	30	31		

FEBRUARY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
							1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17 PRESIDENTS' DAY	18	19	20 Mandatory 5-Day Recess Begins	21	22	
23	24	25	26 Last Day of Mandatory 5-Day Recess	27	28	29 First Decking (Bills)	30

MARCH	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
							1
2	3 RECESS #3	4	5 RECESS #4	6 First Crossover (Bills)	7 Substantive Reso Cutoff	8	
9	10 Budget Decking	11	12 Budget Crossover	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26 KUHIO DAY	27	28	29	
30	31						

APRIL	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3 First Crossover (Concurrent Resos)	4 Second Decking (Bills)	5
6	7 RECESS #5	8	9 RECESS #6	10 Second Crossover (Bills) & Disagree	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17 Constitutional Amendments	18 GOOD FRIDAY	19	
20	21 Second Crossover (Concurrent Resos)	22	23	24 Final Decking (Non-Fiscal Bills)	25 Final Decking (Fiscal Bills)	26	
27	28 RECESS #7	29 RECESS #8	30				

MAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 RECESS #9	2 ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE	3

*Ronald D. Kouchi*

Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate

11/25/24  
Date

*Nadine K. Nakamura*

Nadine K. Nakamura  
Speaker of the House

11/25/24  
Date

## 2025 LEGISLATIVE TIMETABLE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LEG. DAY</u>	<u>DEADLINE OR EVENT</u>
Jan. 15 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)	1 <sup>st</sup>	Opening Day.
Jan. 17 <sup>th</sup> (Fri)	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Last day to introduce all packages of bills except for the administration's (State Executive Branch). Last day for organizations to submit grant and subsidy requests to the Legislature.
Jan. 21 <sup>st</sup> (Tue)	4 <sup>th</sup>	State of the State Address. Last day to introduce the administration's package of bills (State Executive Branch).
Jan. 22 <sup>nd</sup> (Wed)		One-day recess.
Jan. 23 <sup>rd</sup> (Thur)	5 <sup>th</sup>	State of the Judiciary Address. Last day for bill introductions.
Jan. 24 <sup>th</sup> (Fri)		One-day recess.
Feb. 20 <sup>th</sup> (Thur) through Feb. 26 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)		Mandatory 5-day recess.
Feb. 28 <sup>th</sup> (Fri)	24 <sup>th</sup>	Filing deadline for First Decking. Last day to deck non-budget bills for Third Reading in the originating body.
March 3 <sup>rd</sup> (Mon)		One-day recess.
March 5 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)		One-day recess.
March 6 <sup>th</sup> (Thur)	26 <sup>th</sup>	First Crossover for bills. Last day for Third Reading of bills in the originating body.
March 7 <sup>th</sup> (Fri)	27 <sup>th</sup>	Last day to introduce substantive resolutions.
March 10 <sup>th</sup> (Mon)	28 <sup>th</sup>	Filing deadline for budget bills.
March 12 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)	30 <sup>th</sup>	Budget Crossover. Last day for Third Reading of budget bills in the originating body.
April 3 <sup>rd</sup> (Thur)	45 <sup>th</sup>	First Crossover for concurrent resolutions. Last day to pass concurrent resolutions to the non-originating body.
April 4 <sup>th</sup> (Fri)	46 <sup>th</sup>	Filing deadline for Second Decking. Last day to deck bills that were amended by the receiving (non-originating) body.
April 7 <sup>th</sup> (Mon)		One-day recess.
April 9 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)		One-day recess.
April 10 <sup>th</sup> (Thur)	48 <sup>th</sup>	Second Crossover for bills. Last day for Third Reading of bills that were amended by the receiving (non-originating) body.
April 17 <sup>th</sup> (Thur)	53 <sup>rd</sup>	Disagree. Last day to disagree with the other body's drafts of bills. Deadline for transmittal of final form of Constitutional Amendments to the Governor.
April 21 <sup>st</sup> (Mon)	54 <sup>th</sup>	Second Crossover for concurrent resolutions. Last day to pass concurrent resolutions that were amended by the receiving (non-originating) body.
April 24 <sup>th</sup> (Thur)	57 <sup>th</sup>	Last day to file non-fiscal bills to deck for Final Reading.
April 25 <sup>th</sup> (Fri)	58 <sup>th</sup>	Last day to file fiscal bills to deck for Final Reading.
April 28 <sup>th</sup> (Mon)		One-day recess.
April 29 <sup>th</sup> (Tues)		One-day recess.
May 1 <sup>st</sup> (Thurs)		One-day recess.
May 2 <sup>nd</sup> (Fri)	60 <sup>th</sup>	Adjournment Sine Die.



\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate

11/25/24

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



\_\_\_\_\_  
Nadine K. Nakamura  
Speaker of the House

11/25/24

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



**2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION CALENDAR**

(Updated January 2, 2025)

State	Regular Session			Special Session		
	Convene	Adjourn	Comments	Convene	Adjourn	Comments
Alabama	Feb. 6	May 9				
Alaska	Jan. 16	May 15				
Arizona	Jan. 8	June 15				
Arkansas	April 10	May 9		June 17	June 19	Re: Game and fish budget
California	Jan. 3	Aug. 31	In recess 7/4/24-8/5/24	Aug. 31 Dec. 2	Oct. 15 Jan. 6, 2025	Re: Gas prices Re: State values
Colorado	Jan. 10	May 8		Aug. 26	Aug. 29	Re: Property tax relief
Connecticut	Feb. 7	May 8				
Delaware	Jan. 9	June 30		June 30 Dec. 16	Jan. 13, 2025 Dec. 16	Re: Unfinished business Re: Gubernatorial Appointments
Florida	Jan. 9	March 8				
Georgia	Jan. 8	March 28				
Hawaii	Jan. 17	May 3		June 26	June 27	Re: Appointments
Idaho	Jan. 8	April 10				
Illinois	Jan. 10	*	Adjourned to the call			
Indiana	Jan. 8	March 14	Organization day 11/21/23			
Iowa	Jan. 8	April 20				
Kansas	Jan. 8	April 30	First adjournment 4/5/24; Recess 4/6/24 - 4/28/24; Veto session 4/29/24	June 18	June 18	Re: Tax relief
Kentucky	Jan. 2	April 15	Veto recess 3/29/24 - 4/9/24			
Louisiana	March 11	June 3	Organizational session 1/8/24 - 1/10/24	Jan. 15 Feb. 19 Nov. 6	Jan. 19 Feb. 29 Nov. 22	Re: Redistricting Re: Crime Re: State tax structure
Maine	Jan. 3	May 10				
Maryland	Jan. 10	April 8				
Massachusetts	Jan. 3	Dec. 31	Formal session ends 7/31/24; Informal session 8/1/24 - 12/31/24			
Michigan	Jan. 10	Dec. 31	In recess 6/27/24-7/30/24; In recess 8/1/24-8/13/24; In recess 12/20/24-12/30/24			
Minnesota	Feb. 12	May 20				
Mississippi	Jan. 2	May 14		Jan. 18 Jan. 25	Jan. 18 Jan. 25	Re: Economic development project Re: Economic development project

**APPENDIX 3-A**

State	Regular Session			Special Session		
	Convene	Adjourn	Comments	Convene	Adjourn	Comments
Missouri	Jan. 3	May 30				
Montana			No regular session in 2024			
Nebraska	Jan. 3	April 18	In recess 4/12/24 - 4/18/24	July 25	Aug. 10	Re: Property Tax Valuation
Nevada			No regular session in 2024			
New Hampshire	Jan. 3	June 13	In recess 5/31/24-6/13/24; In recess 6/14/24			
New Jersey	Jan. 9	*	In recess 6/28/24-9/12/24			
New Mexico	Jan. 16	Feb. 15		July 18	July 18	Re: Public safety
New York	Jan. 3	*	In recess 6/8/24- 1/8/25			
North Carolina	April 24	Dec. 13	Non-voting sessions 1/17-18, 2/14 -15, 3/13-14, 4/10-11; In recess 6/28/24-7/10/24; In recess 8/2/24-9/9/24; In recess 10/10/24-10/24/24; In recess 10/25/24-11/19/24			
North Dakota			No regular session in 2024			
Ohio	Jan. 2	Dec. 30	In skeleton session	May 28	June 11	Re: Presidential election
Oklahoma	Feb. 5	May 30		Jan. 29 June 11	Aug. 30 Aug. 30	Re: Income tax rates Re: Appointments
Oregon	Feb. 5	March 7		Dec. 12	Dec. 12	Re: 2024 Wildfire Season
Pennsylvania	Jan. 2	Nov. 13	In recess 12/12/23 - 2/5/24; In recess 2/7/24-3/18/24; In recess 7/12/24-9/16/24; In recess 10/10/24-10/21/24			
Rhode Island	Jan. 2	June 30	Adjourned to the call			
South Carolina	Jan. 9	May 9	Veto sessions convene 6/5/24, 6/18/24, 6/25/24			
South Dakota	Jan. 9	March 26	Veto recess 3/8/24 - 3/24/24			
Tennessee	Jan. 9	April 25				
Texas			No regular session in 2024			
Utah	Jan. 16	March 1		June 19 Aug. 21	June 19 Aug. 21	Re: Unfinished business RE: Ballot measure process
Vermont	Jan. 3	May 11				
Virginia	Jan. 10	March 9		May 13	Aug. 30	Re: Budget

State	Regular Session			Special Session		
	Convene	Adjourn	Comments	Convene	Adjourn	Comments
Washington	Jan. 8	March 7				
West Virginia	Jan. 10	March 9		May 19 Sept. 30	May 21 Oct. 8	Re: Budget Re: Income tax cut
Wisconsin	Jan. 16	*	Hearings resume 1/3/24; First floor session 1/16/24; Adjourned to the call			
Wyoming	Feb. 12	March 8				
American Samoa			TBD			
Dist. of Columbia	Jan. 2	Jan. 2, 2025				
Guam	Jan. 8	Jan. 11, 2025		Mar. 8 Mar. 12 Aug. 9	Mar. 8 Mar. 12 Aug. 9	Re: Unfinished business Re: Unfinished business RE: Education Authority
No. Mariana Is.			TBD			
Puerto Rico	Jan. 9	Nov. 19		Dec. 9	Dec. 16	
Virgin Islands	Jan. 9	Jan. 3, 2025				

Key:

\*=Legislature meets throughout the year.

Gray fill: Adjourned sine die

Orange fill: Special session

**Contact for More Information**

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**2025 LEGISLATIVE SESSION CALENDAR**

(Updated November 17, 2025)

State	Regular Session			Special Session		
	Convene	Adjourn	Comments	Convene	Adjourn	Comments
Alabama	Feb. 4	May 14				
Alaska	Jan. 21	May 20		Aug. 2	Aug. 31	Re: Education reform, Ag. Dept., vetoes; In recess 8/2/25-8/19/25; In recess 8/20/25-8/30/25
Arizona	Jan. 13	June 27				
Arkansas	Jan. 13	May 5	Organization Day House 11/19/24; Target adjournment, begin veto recess 4/16/26; may reconvene for veto overrides anytime before sine die 5/5/25			
California	Dec. 2	Sept. 13	Organizational session 12/2/24; In recess 7/18/25-8/18/25			
Colorado	Jan. 8	May 7		Aug. 21	Aug. 26	Re: Budget, AI
Connecticut	Jan. 8	June 4	Veto session 7/21/25	Nov. 12	Nov. 13	Re: Budget
Delaware	Jan. 14	June 30	In recess 1/31/25-3/11/25; In recess 3/28/25-4/8/25	June 30	TBD	Re: Unfinished business
Florida	Mar. 4	June 16	Organizational session 11/19/24	Jan. 27 Jan. 27 Feb. 11	Jan. 27 Jan. 29 Feb. 14	Re: Many subjects Re: Immigration Re: Immigration
Georgia	Jan. 13	April 4				
Hawaii	Jan. 15	May 2				
Idaho	Jan. 6	April 4	Organizational session 12/5/24-12/6/24			
Illinois	Jan. 8	May 31	2023-2024 Lame duck session 1/4/25 - 1/7/25; In recess 2/8/25-2/18/25; Veto session 10/14/25 - 10/30/25			
Indiana	Nov. 19	April 24	In recess 11/20/24-1/8/25; Session anticipated to end	Dec. 1	Dec. 12	Re: Redistricting

**APPENDIX 3-B**

State	Regular Session			Special Session		
	Convene	Adjourn	Comments	Convene	Adjourn	Comments
			4/24/25, but may be extended to 4/29/25; 2026 Session organizational session 11/18/25			
Iowa	Jan. 13	May 15				
Kansas	Jan. 13	April 11	First adjournment 3/28/25; recess 3/29/25 - 4/9/25; Veto session 4/10/25-4/12/25			
Kentucky	Jan. 7	March 28	Veto recess 3/15/25-3/26/25			
Louisiana	April 14	June 12		Oct. 23	Oct. 29	Re: Elections
Maine	Dec. 4	March 21	Pre-legislative Conference 12/2/24-12/3/24; In recess 12/4/24-1/8/25	March 25	June 25	Re: Unfinished business
Maryland	Jan. 8	April 7				
Massachusetts	Jan. 1	*				
Michigan	Jan. 8	*	In recess 7/30/25-8/11/25			
Minnesota	Jan. 14	May 19		June 9	June 9	Re: Budget
Mississippi	Jan. 7	April 3		May 28	May 29	Re: Budget
Missouri	Jan. 8	May 15	Veto session 9/10/25	June 2 Sept. 3	June 11 Sept. 12	Re: Storm assistance Re: Redistricting
Montana	Jan. 6	April 30				
Nebraska	Jan. 8	June 2				
Nevada	Feb. 3	June 3		Nov. 13	Dec. 3	Re: Unfinished business
New Hampshire	Jan. 8	*	In recess 2/7/25-2/13/25; In recess 3/14/25-3/20/25; Adjourned to the call 6/26/25			
New Jersey	Jan. 14	*	In recess 7/1/25; Lame duck after session 11/4/25			
New Mexico	Jan. 21	March 22		Oct. 1 Nov. 10	Oct. 2 Nov. 10	Re: Budget, federal cuts Re: SNAP assistance
New York	Jan. 8	*	In recess 6/18/25-1/7/26			
North Carolina	Jan. 8	*	Organization Day 1/29/25	Nov. 17	Dec. 17	Re: Medicaid Shortfall
North Dakota	Jan. 7	May 3	Organizational session 12/2/24-12/4/24			
Ohio	Jan. 6	*				
Oklahoma	Feb. 3	May 30	Organization Day 1/7/25			
Oregon	Jan. 21	June 27	Organization Days 1/13/25-1/17/25	Aug. 29	Oct. 1	RE: DOT Shortfall

State	Regular Session			Special Session		
	Convene	Adjourn	Comments	Convene	Adjourn	Comments
Pennsylvania	Jan. 7	*	In recess 2/5/25-3/17/25; Senate in recess 2/5/25-3/24/25			
Rhode Island	Jan. 7	June 20	Winter recess 2/17/25 – 2/21/25; Spring recess 4/14/25-4/18/25			
South Carolina	Jan. 14	May 8	Veto/budget session 5/28/25			
South Dakota	Jan. 14	March 31	In recess 3/14/25-3/31/25	Sept. 23	Sept. 23	Re: Prison reform
Tennessee	Jan. 14	April 22	Organization Day 1/14/25	Jan. 27	Jan. 30	Re: Disaster Relief/Education
Texas	Jan. 14	June 2		July 21 Aug. 15	Aug. 15 Sept. 4	Re: Unfinished business, redistricting, floods Re: Unfinished business, redistricting, floods
Utah	Jan. 21	March 7		Oct. 6	Oct. 6	Re: Redistricting
Vermont	Jan. 8	June 16				
Virginia	Jan. 8	Feb. 22	Governor deadline to act 3/24/25; Veto session 4/2/25	May 13, 2024	Nov. 16, 2025	Re: Budget, redistricting
Washington	Jan. 13	April 27				
West Virginia	Feb. 12	April 12	Organization Day 1/8/25; In recess 1/9/25-2/12/25			
Wisconsin	Jan. 6	*	Organization Day 1/6/25			
Wyoming	Jan. 14	March 6				
American Samoa	Jan. 8	TBD				
Dist. of Columbia	Jan. 2	*				
Guam	Jan. 6	Jan. 5, 2026		Aug. 30 Sept. 5 Sept. 10	Oct. 3 Sept. 5 Sept. 15	Re: Governor's emergency powers Re: Budget counter proposal Re: Guam Memorial Hospital
No. Mariana Is.	Jan. 13	TBD				
Puerto Rico	Jan. 13	Nov. 17				
Virgin Islands	Jan. 13	*		Aug. 1	Aug. 1	Re: Public service reform

Key:

\*=Legislature meets throughout the year.

Gray fill: Adjourned sine die

Blue fill: Special session

**Contact for More Information**

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**2023 TENTATIVE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR**

COMPILED BY THE OFFICE OF THE ASSEMBLY CHIEF CLERK AND THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE  
Revised 11-4-22

**DEADLINES**

JANUARY							
	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Wk. 1	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Wk. 2	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Wk. 3	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Wk. 4	29	30	31				

- Jan. 1** Statutes take effect (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)).
- Jan. 4** Legislature reconvenes (J.R. 51(a)(1)).
- Jan. 10** Budget must be submitted by Governor (Art. IV, Sec. 12(a)).
- Jan. 16** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
- Jan. 20** Last day to submit **bill requests** to the Office of Legislative Counsel.

FEBRUARY							
	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
Wk. 4				1	2	3	4
Wk. 1	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Wk. 2	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Wk. 3	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Wk. 4	26	27	28				

- Feb. 17** Last day for bills to be **introduced** (J.R. 61(a)(1), J.R. 54(a)).
- Feb. 20** Presidents' Day.

MARCH							
	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
Wk. 4				1	2	3	4
Wk. 1	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Wk. 2	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Wk. 3	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Wk. 4	26	27	28	29	30	31	

- Mar. 30** **Spring Recess** begins upon adjournment (J.R. 51(a)(2)).
- Mar. 31** Cesar Chavez Day observed.

APRIL							
	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
Wk. 4							1
Spring Recess	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Wk. 1	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Wk. 2	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Wk. 3	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Wk. 4	30						

- Apr. 10** Legislature reconvenes from **Spring Recess** (J.R. 51(a)(2)).
- Apr. 28** Last day for **policy committees** to hear and report to fiscal committees **fiscal bills** introduced in their house (J.R. 61(a)(2)).

MAY							
	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
Wk. 4		1	2	3	4	5	6
Wk. 1	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Wk. 2	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Wk. 3	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
No Hrgs.	28	29	30	31			

- May 5** Last day for **policy committees** to hear and report to the Floor **nonfiscal bills** introduced in their house (J.R. 61(a)(3)).
- May 12** Last day for **policy committees** to meet prior to June 5 (J.R. 61(a)(4)).
- May 19** Last day for **fiscal committees** to hear and report to the Floor bills introduced in their house (J.R. 61(a)(5)).  
Last day for **fiscal committees** to meet prior to June 5 (J.R. 61(a)(6)).
- May 29** Memorial Day.
- May 30-June 2** **Floor session only.** No committee may meet for any purpose except Rules Committee, bills referred pursuant to A.R. 77.2, and Conference Committees (J.R. 61(a)(7)).

\*Holiday schedule subject to final approval by Rules Committee.

**2023 TENTATIVE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR**

COMPILED BY THE OFFICE OF THE ASSEMBLY CHIEF CLERK AND THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE  
Revised 11-4-22

JUNE							
	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
No Hrgs.					1	2	3
Wk. 4	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Wk. 1	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Wk. 2	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Wk. 3	25	26	27	28	29	30	

- June 2** Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house (J.R. 61(a)(8)).
- June 5** Committee meetings may resume (J.R. 61(a)(9)).
- June 15** Budget Bill must be passed by midnight (Art. IV, Sec. 12(c)(3)).

JULY							
	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
Wk. 3							1
Wk. 4	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Wk. 1	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Summer Recess	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Summer Recess	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Summer Recess	30	31					

- July 4** Independence Day.
- July 14** Last day for **policy committees** to meet and report bills (J.R. 61(a)(10)).
- Summer Recess** begins upon adjournment, provided Budget Bill has been passed (J.R. 51(a)(3)).

AUGUST							
	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
Summer Recess			1	2	3	4	5
Summer Recess	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Wk. 2	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Wk. 3	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Wk. 4	27	28	29	30	31		

- Aug. 14** Legislature reconvenes from Summer Recess (J.R. 51(a)(3)).

SEPTEMBER							
	S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
Wk. 4						1	2
No Hrgs.	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
No Hrgs.	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Interim Recess	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Interim Recess	24	25	26	27	28	29	30

- Sept. 1** Last day for **fiscal committees** to meet and report bills (J.R. 61(a)(11)).
- Sept. 4** Labor Day.
- Sept. 5-14** **Floor session only.** No committees may meet for any purpose, except Rules Committee, bills referred pursuant to Assembly Rule 77.2, and Conference Committees (J.R. 61(a)(12)).
- Sept. 8** Last day to **amend** on the Floor (J.R. 61(a)(13)).
- Sept. 14** Last day for each house to pass bills. (J.R. 61(a)(14)).
- Interim Recess** begins upon adjournment (J.R. 51(a)(4)).

**IMPORTANT DATES OCCURRING DURING INTERIM RECESS**

**2023**

Oct. 14 Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature on or before Sept. 14 and in the Governor's possession on or after Sept. 14 (Art. IV, Sec. 10(b)(1)).

**2024**

Jan. 1 Statutes take effect (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)).

Jan. 3 Legislature reconvenes (J.R. 51(a)(4)).

\*Holiday schedule subject to final approval by Rules Committee.

**2024 TENTATIVE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR**

COMPILED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE AND THE OFFICE OF THE ASSEMBLY CHIEF CLERK  
Revised 11/4/22

**DEADLINES**

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

- Jan. 1** Statutes take effect (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)).
- Jan. 3** **Legislature Reconvenes** (J.R. 51(a)(4)).
- Jan. 10** Budget must be submitted by Governor (Art. IV, Sec. 12(a)).
- Jan. 12** Last day for **policy committees** to hear and report to **fiscal committees** fiscal bills introduced in their house in the **odd-numbered year** (J.R. 61(b)(1)).
- Jan. 15** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
- Jan. 19** Last day for any committee to hear and report to the **floor** bills introduced in that house in the odd-numbered year (J.R. 61(b)(2)).  
  
Last day to **submit bill requests** to the Office of Legislative Counsel.
- Jan. 31** Last day for each house to **pass bills introduced** in that house in the odd-numbered year (J.R. 61(b)(3), (Art. IV, Sec. 10(c)).

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

- Feb. 16** Last day for bills to be **introduced** (J.R. 61(b)(4), (J.R. 54(a)).
- Feb. 19** Presidents' Day.

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

- Mar. 21** **Spring Recess** begins upon adjournment of this day's session (J.R. 51(b)(1)).
- Mar. 29** Cesar Chavez Day observed.

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

- Apr. 1** Legislature Reconvenes from **Spring Recess** (J.R. 51(b)(1)).
- Apr. 26** Last day for **policy committees** to hear and report to **fiscal committees** fiscal bills introduced in their house (J.R. 61(b)(5)).

MAY						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

- May 3** Last day for **policy committees** to hear and report to the floor **non-fiscal** bills introduced in their house (J.R. 61(b)(6)).
- May 10** Last day for **policy committees** to meet prior to May 28 (J.R. 61(b)(7)).
- May 17** Last day for **fiscal committees** to hear and report to the floor bills introduced in their house (J.R. 61(b)(8)).  
  
Last day for **fiscal committees** to meet prior to May 28 (J.R. 61(b)(9)).
- May 20- 24 Floor Session only.** No committees, other than conference or Rules committees, may meet for any purpose (J.R. 61 (b)(10)).
- May 24** Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house (J.R. 61(b)(11)).
- May 27** Memorial Day.
- May 28** Committee meetings may resume (J.R. 61(b)(12)).

\*Holiday schedule subject to Senate Rules committee approval

**2024 TENTATIVE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR**

COMPILED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE AND THE OFFICE OF THE ASSEMBLY CHIEF CLERK  
Revised 11/4/22

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

**June 15** Budget Bill must be passed by **midnight** (Art. IV, Sec. 12(c)(3)).

**June 27** Last day for a legislative measure to qualify for the Nov. 5 General Election ballot (Elections Code Sec. 9040).

JULY						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**July 3** Last day for **policy committees** to meet and report bills (J.R. 61(b)(13)).

**Summer Recess** begins upon adjournment provided Budget Bill has been passed (J.R. 51(b)(2)).

**July 4** Independence Day.

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

**Aug. 5** Legislature Reconvenes from **Summer Recess** (J.R. 51(b)(2)).

**Aug. 16** Last day for **fiscal committees** to meet and report bills (J.R. 61(b)(14)).

**Aug. 19-31 Floor Session only.** No committees, other than conference and Rules committees, may meet for any purpose (J.R. 61(b)(15)).

**Aug. 23** Last day to **amend** on the floor (J.R. 61(b)(16)).

**Aug. 31** Last day for **each house to pass bills.** (Art. IV, Sec. 10(c), (J.R. 61(b)(17)).

**Final Recess** begins upon adjournment (J.R. 51(b)(3)).

\*Holiday schedule subject to Senate Rules committee approval

**IMPORTANT DATES OCCURRING DURING FINAL STUDY RECESS**

**2024**

Sept. 30 Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature before Sept. 1 and in the Governor’s possession on or after Sept. 1 (Art. IV, Sec. 10(b)(2)).

Nov. 5 General Election

Nov. 30 Adjournment *Sine Die* at midnight (Art. IV, Sec. 3(a)).

Dec. 2 12 Noon convening of the 2025-26 Regular Session (Art. IV, Sec. 3(a)).

**2025**

Jan. 1 Statutes take effect (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)).

**2025 TENTATIVE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR**

COMPILED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE AND THE OFFICE OF THE ASSEMBLY CHIEF CLERK  
Revised October 16, 2024

**DEADLINES**

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

MAY						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- Jan. 1** Statutes take effect (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)).
- Jan. 6** Legislature Reconvenes (J.R. 51(a)(1)).
- Jan. 10** Budget must be submitted by Governor (Art. IV, Sec. 12(a)).
- Jan. 20** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.
- Jan. 24** Last day to submit **bill requests** to the Office of Legislative Counsel.

- Feb. 17** Presidents' Day.
- Feb. 21** Last day for bills to be **introduced** (J.R. 61(a)(1), (J.R. 54(a)).

- Mar. 31** Cesar Chavez Day

- Apr. 10** **Spring Recess** begins upon adjournment of this day's session (J.R. 51(a)(2)).
- Apr. 21** Legislature reconvenes from **Spring Recess** (J.R. 51(a)(2)).

- May 2** Last day for **policy committees** to hear and report to **fiscal committees** fiscal bills introduced in their house (J.R. 61(a)(2)).
- May 9** Last day for **policy committees** to hear and report to the Floor **nonfiscal** bills introduced in their house (J.R. 61(a)(3)).
- May 16** Last day for **policy committees** to meet prior to June 9 (J.R. 61(a)(4)).
- May 23** Last day for **fiscal committees** to hear and report to the Floor bills introduced in their house (J.R. 61(a)(5)). Last day for **fiscal committees** to meet prior to June 9 (J.R. 61 (a)(6)).
- May 26** Memorial Day.

\*Holiday schedule subject to Senate Rules committee approval.

**2025 TENTATIVE LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR**

COMPILED BY THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE SENATE AND THE OFFICE OF THE ASSEMBLY CHIEF CLERK  
Revised October 16, 2024

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

**June 2 - 6 Floor Session Only.** No committees, other than conference or Rules committees, may meet for any purpose (J.R. 61(a)(7)).

**June 6** Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house (J.R. 61(a)(8)).

**June 9** Committee meetings may resume (J.R. 61(a)(9)).

**June 15 Budget Bill** must be **passed by midnight** (Art. IV, Sec. 12(c)(3)).

JULY						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

**July 4** Independence Day.

**July 18** Last day for **policy committees** to meet and report bills (J.R. 61(a)(10)). **Summer Recess** begins upon adjournment of session provided Budget Bill has been passed (J.R. 51(a)(3)).

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**Aug. 18** Legislature reconvenes from **Summer Recess** (J.R. 51(a)(3)).

**Aug. 29** Last day for **fiscal committees** to meet and report bills to the Floor. (J.R. 61(a)(11)).

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

**Sept. 1** Labor Day.

**Sept. 2-12 Floor Session Only.** No committees, other than conference or Rules committees, may meet for any purpose (J.R. 61(a)(12)).

**Sept. 5** Last day to **amend** on the Floor (J.R. 61(a)(13)).

**Sept. 12** Last day for **each house to pass bills** (J.R. 61(a)(14)). **Interim Study Recess** begins at end of this day's session (J.R. 51(a)(4)).

\*Holiday schedule subject to Senate Rules committee approval.

**IMPORTANT DATES OCCURRING DURING INTERIM STUDY RECESS**

**2025**

Oct. 12 Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills passed by the Legislature on or before Sept. 12 and in the Governor's possession after Sept. 12 (Art. IV, Sec.10(b)(1)).

**2026**

Jan. 1 Statutes take effect (Art. IV, Sec. 8(c)).  
Jan. 5 Legislature reconvenes (J.R. 51(a)(4)).

## 2025-2026 Session Schedule at a Glance

January 6, 2025	2025 Inauguration
January 7 to 9, 2025	Floorperiod
January 13 to 15, 2025	Floorperiod
January 21 to 23, 2025	Floorperiod
February 18 to 20, 2025	Floorperiod
March 11 to 20, 2025	Floorperiod
April 15 to 25, 2025	Floorperiod
May 8, 2025	Bills sent to Governor
May 13 to 15, 2025	Floorperiod
June 3 to 30, 2025, OR budget passage	Floorperiod
August 7, 2025	Nonbudget bills sent to Governor
August 7, 2025 (or later)	Budget bill sent to Governor
September 2 to 11, 2025	Floorperiod
October 7 to 16, 2025	Floorperiod
November 11 to 20, 2025	Floorperiod
December 4, 2025	Bills sent to Governor
January 13 to 15, 2026	Floorperiod
January 20 to 22, 2026	Floorperiod
February 10 to 19, 2026	Floorperiod
March 17 to 19, 2026	Last general-business Floorperiod
April 2, 2026	Bills sent to Governor
April 14 to 16, 2026	Limited-business Floorperiod
April 23, 2026	Bills sent to Governor
May 12 and 13, 2026	Veto Review Floorperiod
May 27, 2026	Bills sent to Governor
March 20, 2026 to January 4, 2027	Interim, committee work
January 4, 2027	2027 Inauguration

## APPENDIX 3-D

***2025-2026 Session Legislative Deadlines  
AND Significant Dates***

**194<sup>th</sup> General Court**

***First Annual Session (2025)***

**JANUARY 1, 2025**

— *1st Wednesday in January of Each Year* —  
House and Senate convene.

**JANUARY 17, 2025**

— *3rd Friday in January of 1st Annual Session* —  
Deadline for Submitting Petitions (prior to 5:00 p.m.).

**By JANUARY 22, 2025**

— *Within 3 Weeks of Convening of the General Court; except 1st year of a term of a new  
Governor --within 8 weeks* —  
Governor submits General Appropriation Bill

**MARCH 27, 2025**

4 Weeks after Appointment of Committees in 1st Annual Session  
Deadline for Submitting Committee Rules.

**APRIL 30, 2025**

— *Last Wednesday in April* —  
Last day to report on Proposals for Amendments to the Constitution.  
(Note: In the 2nd year, reports may be made only on measures  
referred subsequent to Last Wednesday in April of 1st Annual Session).

**MAY 14, 2025**

— *2nd Wednesday in May of Each Year* —  
Last day to call up a Proposal for an Amendment to the Constitution, and  
Last day for the convening of the Joint Session to consider Amendments to the Constitution.

**MAY 14, 2025**

— *2nd Wednesday in May of Each Year* —  
Last day for the House Committee on Ways and Means  
to report the General Appropriation Bill.

**NOVEMBER 19, 2025**

— *3rd Wednesday of November* —  
*in First Annual Session*  
Last day for Formal Sessions.

**APPENDIX 3-E**

***2025-2026 Session Legislative Deadlines  
AND Significant Dates***

**December 3, 2025**

***—1st Wednesday in December in 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Session —***  
Joint Rule 10 deadline.

Last day for reports to be made from joint committees [except Health Care Financing] on matters referred to them before the first day of October in the first annual session.

\*\*also see House Rule 27

**JANUARY 6, 2026**

***Tuesday preceding the 1st Wednesday in January of 2nd year —***  
Last day of Session in the 1st Annual Session.

---

***Second Annual Session (2026)***

**JANUARY 7, 2026**

***— 1st Wednesday in January of Each Year —***  
House and Senate convene.

**JANUARY 28, 2026**

***— Within 3 weeks of convening of the General Court —***  
Governor submits General Appropriation Bill.

**January 28, 2026**

***— Last Wednesday in March of the 2nd Annual Session —***  
Joint Rule 10 Day for committee on Health Care Financing on matters referred to them on or before the fourth Wednesday of December in the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Session.

**APRIL 29, 2026**

***— Last Wednesday in April of Each Session —***  
Last day to report on Proposals for Amendments to the Constitution.  
(Note: In the 2nd year, reports may be made only on measures referred to committees subsequent to the last Wednesday in April of 1st Annual Session).

**MAY 5, 2026**

***— Tuesday preceding first Wednesday in May —***  
Last day to enact Initiative Petitions for changes in Laws.

**MAY 13, 2026**

***— 2nd Wednesday in May of Each Year —***  
Last day to call up a late filed Proposal for an Amendment to the Constitution.

**MAY 13, 2026**

***— 2nd Wednesday in May —***  
Last day for the House Committee on Ways and Means to report the General Appropriation Bill.

***2025-2026 Session Legislative Deadlines  
AND Significant Dates***

**JULY 31, 2026**

***— Last day of July of the 2nd Annual Session —***

Last day for Formal Sessions.

**NOVEMBER 4, 2026**

***— 1st Wednesday in November —***

Agency Filings Due by 5:00 P.M. for consideration in the 195th General Court.

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2027**

***Tuesday preceding the convening of a new General Court***

***on the 1st Wednesday in January of the 3rd***

***Last day of Session in the 2nd Annual Session.***

## 2025-2026 Senate Session Days



The PA Senate will be in open session the following dates. Click a past session date to find more information on documents relating to that specific session day.

### 2025 Session Days

JANUARY	7	23 NV	27	28	29						
FEBRUARY	3	4	5								
MARCH	24	25	26	31							
APRIL	1	2									
MAY	5	6	7	12	13						
JUNE	2	3	4	9	10	11	23	24	25	26	30
JULY	16	17									
AUGUST	12										
SEPTEMBER	8	9	10								
OCTOBER	3 NV	6	7	8	20	21	22	27	28	29	
NOVEMBER	11	12									

### Upcoming Session Days

NOVEMBER	17	18	19
DECEMBER	8	9	10

\*\* LRB Note: "NV" indicates Non-Voting days LRB



**i** The House of Representatives will be in open session the following dates. Click a past session date to find more information on documents relating to that specific session day.

2025 Session Days

JANUARY	3	23	23	23			
FEBRUARY	3	3	3				
MARCH	23	23	23	23	23	23	
APRIL	3	3	3	21 NV	23	23	23
MAY	2 NV	2 NV	3	3	3	3	3
	14	30 NV					
JUNE	3	3	3	3	23	3	23
	17	18 NV	20 NV	23	23	23	23
	23						
JULY	3	2 NV	3	3	3	14	15 NV
	16 NV						
AUGUST	8 NV	8 NV	10	11			
SEPTEMBER	9 NV	22 NV	11 NV	22 NV	22 NV	29	30
OCTOBER	3	3	3	3	23	23	23
NOVEMBER	11 NV	12					

Upcoming Session Days

NOVEMBER	17	18	18
DECEMBER	15 NV	18	17

## 2023-2024 Senate Session Days



**i** The PA Senate will be in open session the following dates. Click a past session date to find more information on documents relating to that specific session day.

### 2024 Session Days

JANUARY	2
FEBRUARY	5, 6, 7
MARCH	18, 19, 20
APRIL	8, 9, 10, 29, 30
MAY	1, 6, 7, 8
JUNE	3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29
JULY	1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11
SEPTEMBER	16, 17, 18, 30
OCTOBER	1, 7, 8, 9, 21, 22, 23
NOVEMBER	13

### 2023 Session Days

JANUARY	3, 6, 9, 10, 11, 13, 17, 18
FEBRUARY	27, 28
MARCH	1, 6, 7, 8
APRIL	24, 25, 26
MAY	1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10
JUNE	5, 6, 7, 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30
AUGUST	3, 30
SEPTEMBER	18, 19, 20
OCTOBER	2, 3, 4, 16, 17, 18, 23, 24, 25
NOVEMBER	1, 13, 14, 15, 16
DECEMBER	11, 12, 13

## 2023-2024 House Session Days



**i** The House of Representatives will be in open session the following dates. Click a past session date to find more information on documents relating to that specific session day.

### 2024 Session Days

JANUARY	2 NV
FEBRUARY	6 NV
MARCH	18 19 20 25 26 27
APRIL	8 9 10 15 16 17 29 30
MAY	1 6 7 8 20 NV 21 22
JUNE	3 4 5 10 11 12 24 25 26 27 28
JULY	1 2 3 5 NV 8 9 10 11
SEPTEMBER	23 NV 24 NV 25 NV 30
OCTOBER	1 2 7 8 9 18 NV 20 NV 21 22 23
NOVEMBER	12 13

### 2023 Session Days

JANUARY	3 6 NV 24 NV
FEBRUARY	27 NV 28
MARCH	1 2 NV 6 7 8 NV 13 NV
APRIL	21 NV 24 25 26
MAY	1 2 3 22 23 24
JUNE	5 6 7 12 13 14 20 21 22 26 27 28 29 30
JULY	5 6 7 11 NV
SEPTEMBER	22 NV 26 27
OCTOBER	2 3 4 5 16 17 18 23 NV 30 31
NOVEMBER	13 14 15
DECEMBER	10 NV 11 12 13



MICHIGAN STATE SENATE  
**SEN. SAM SINGH**  
 MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

**B**      **ssE**

**JN**

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**FI**

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

**MI**

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

**AR**

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

**MX**

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

**JN**

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						



**h** **N**



Session Day



Tentative Session Day



State Holiday

**APPENDIX 3-G**



MICHIGAN STATE SENATE  
**SEN. SAM SINGH**  
 MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

**JY**

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**AF**

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**ER**

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

**OD**

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

**NI**

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

**DI**

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

**RI**





MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**ABRAHAM AIYASH**  
 MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

**2024 SESSION SCHEDULE**

**Session:**  
 Tuesday - 1:30 PM  
 Wednesday - 1:30 PM  
 Thursday - NOON

**Exceptions:**  
 January 10 - NOON

**State Holidays:**  
 1/1 New Year's Day  
 1/15 MLK, Jr. Day  
 2/19 President's Day  
 5/27 Memorial Day  
 6/19 Juneteenth

**Religious Holidays:**  
 3/11 Ramadan  
 3/31 Easter  
 4/5 Laylat al-Qadr  
 4/9-4/10 Eid-ul-Fitr  
 4/13 Vaisakhi  
 4/22-4/30 Passover  
 6/16-6/17 Eid al-Adha

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

MARCH						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

APRIL						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

MAY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

JUNE						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

12 - gray box - Session Day    12 - border box - State Holiday



MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**ABRAHAM AIYASH**  
 MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

**2024 SESSION SCHEDULE**

**Session:**  
 Tuesday - 1:30 PM  
 Wednesday - 1:30 PM  
 Thursday - NOON

JULY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

AUGUST						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

OCTOBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

NOVEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

DECEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**State Holidays:**

- 7/4 Independence Day
- 9/2 Labor Day
- 11/11 Veterans Day
- 11/28-11/29 Thanksgiving
- 12/24-12/25 Christmas
- 12/31 New Year's Eve

**Religious Holidays:**

- 10/2-10/4 Rosh Hashanah
- 10/11-10/12 Yom Kippur
- 10/31 or 11/1 Diwali

12 - gray box - Session Day    12 - border box - State Holiday



MICHIGAN STATE SENATE  
**SEN. SAM SINGH**  
 MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

\* LRB Note: September is superseded by an amended calendar. See next page.

**2025 Senate Session Schedule**

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

March						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

July						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Session Day State Holiday



MICHIGAN STATE SENATE  
**SEN. SAM SINGH**  
 MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

**2025 Senate Session Schedule**

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

December						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

 Session Day     State Holiday



\* LRB Note: September and October are superseded by an amended calendar.  
See next page.

90TH DISTRICT  
STATE CAPITOL  
P.O. BOX 30014  
LANSING, MI 48909-7514

MICHIGAN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
**BRYAN POSTHUMUS**  
MAJORITY FLOOR LEADER

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BryanPosthumus@house.mi.gov  
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# SESSION CALENDAR 2025

## JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## FEBRUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

## MARCH

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

## APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

## MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

## JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

## AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

## SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

## OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## NOVEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

## DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

### SESSION:

Tuesday - 1:30 PM  
Wednesday - 1:30 PM  
Thursday - NOON

### State Holidays:

- 1/1 - New Year's Day
- 1/20 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 2/17 - President's Day
- 5/26 - Memorial Day
- 6/19 - Juneteenth
- 7/4 - Independence Day
- 9/1 - Labor Day
- 9/23 - Rosh Hoshanah
- 10/2 - Yom Kippur
- 11/11 - Veterans Day
- 11/27 - Thanksgiving
- 11/28 - Day After Thanksgiving
- 12/24 - Christmas Eve
- 12/25 - Christmas Day
- 12/31 - New Years Eve

Session days - ■  
Holidays - ■



90TH DISTRICT  
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# SESSION CALENDAR 2025

**SESSION:**  
Tuesday - 1:30 PM  
Wednesday - 1:30 PM  
Thursday - NOON



S	N	M	W	T	F	S	S	T
		1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	0	1	2	3		
4	5	6	7	8	9	0		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
8	9	0						



S	N	M	W	T	F	S	S	T
				1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	0	1		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
9	0	1	2	3	4	5		
6	7	8	9	0	1	2		

**State Holidays:**

- 1 -
- 2 -
- 3 -
- 4 -
- 5 -
- 6 -
- 7 -
- 8 -
- 9 -
- 0 -
- 1 -
- 2 -
- 3 -
- 4 -
- 5 -
- 6 -
- 7 -
- 8 -
- 9 -



S	N	M	W	T	F	S	S	T
								1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
9	0	1	2	3	4	5		
6	7	8	9	0	1	2		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
0								



S	N	M	W	T	F	S	S	T
		1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	0	1	2	3		
4	5	6	7	8	9	0		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7		
8	9	0	1	2	3	4		

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# 2025 CITY COUNCIL CALENDAR • CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

All meeting dates scheduled on this calendar are subject to change. Please check our website ([honolulucitycouncil.org](http://honolulucitycouncil.org)) for the latest information.

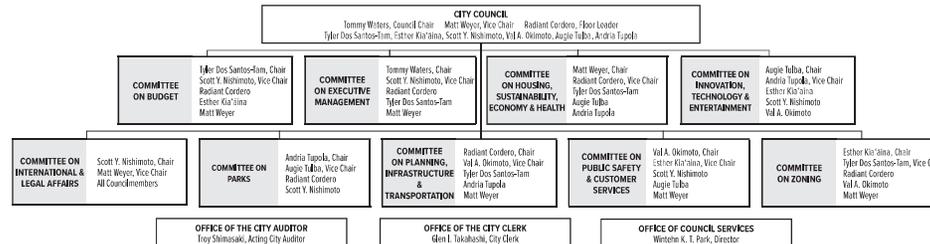
JAN	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1 New Year's Day	2 Inauguration	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14 COMMITTEES	15 COMMITTEES Legislature Opening Day	16 COMMITTEES	17	18
	19	20 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29 COUNCIL	30	31	1
FEB	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11 COMMITTEES	12 COMMITTEES	13 COMMITTEES	14	15
	16	17 Presidents' Day	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26 COUNCIL	27	28	1
MAR	2	3	4 COMMITTEES	5 COMMITTEES	6 COMMITTEES	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26 COUNCIL	27	28	29
	30	31		26 Prince Joseph Kūiākea Kūiākea Day			

APR	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1 COMMITTEES	2 COMMITTEES	3 COMMITTEES	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16 COUNCIL	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	1 Good Friday	2	3
MAY	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14 COUNCIL	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21 NACo WBR Conference, Pennington County/Rapid City, S.D. 5/21-23	22	23	24
	25	26 Memorial Day	27	28 COMMITTEES	29 COMMITTEES	30	31
JUN	1	2	3	4 COUNCIL	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11 King Kamehameha Day	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19 Juneteenth	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	COMMITTEES	COMMITTEES	COMMITTEES		

JUL	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5
	6	7	8	9 COUNCIL	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
AUG	3	4	5	6 COUNCIL	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
SEP	31	1 Labor Day	2	3 COUNCIL	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30				

OCT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				1 COUNCIL (Kapolei Hale)	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14 COMMITTEES	15 COMMITTEES	16 COMMITTEES	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
NOV	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18 COMMITTEES	19 COMMITTEES	20 COMMITTEES	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27 Thanksgiving Day	28	29
DEC	30	31	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10 COUNCIL	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30	31 Christmas Day			

## CITY COUNCIL OFFICES AND COMMITTEES



### Committee Schedule – At A Glance

- Tuesday:**  
9:00 a.m. Budget  
1:00 p.m. Housing, Sustainability, Economy & Health  
2:30 p.m. Parks
- Wednesday:**  
9:00 a.m. Planning, Infrastructure & Transportation  
1:00 p.m. International & Legal Affairs  
2:30 p.m. Executive Management (as needed)
- Thursday:**  
9:00 a.m. Zoning  
1:00 p.m. Public Safety & Customer Services  
2:30 p.m. Innovation, Technology & Entertainment

Generally, City Council meetings are held once each month on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. in the Council Chamber on the 3rd floor of Honolulu Hale, 530 South King Street.

The public is encouraged to participate by video conference, via written testimony, or in person.

Special Council or Committee meetings may be called at any time when deemed necessary.

Meeting dates, times, and locations are subject to change.

Live and repeat telecasts of regular City Council and Committee meetings are broadcast on O'lelo Community Television, Spectrum Channel 54 and Hawaiian Telcom TV Channel 54.

Live meetings and archived videos of previous meetings can be viewed at: <http://www.honolulucitycouncil.org>

## APPENDIX 3-H



# County of Hawai'i

# COUNCIL CALENDAR December 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 9:00 a.m. <b>COUNCIL (Sine Die)</b>  12:00 Noon <b>INAUGURATION</b>  3:00 p.m. <b>COUNCIL (1<sup>st</sup> Council) (Kona)</b>	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 <b>COUNCIL (Hilo)</b>  <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (1/7 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (1/8 Council Mtg. Agenda)	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 <b>Christmas</b>	26	27	28
29	30	31	<b>APPENDIX 3-I</b>			



# County of Hawai'i

# COUNCIL CALENDAR January 2025

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 <b>New Year's Day</b>	2 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (1/21 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (1/22 Council Mtg. Agenda)	3	4
5	6	7 <b>COMMITTEES (Hilo)</b>	8 <b>COUNCIL (Hilo)</b>	9 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (Committee Reports 1/7 mtgs.)	10	11
12	13	14	15 <i>Hawai'i State Legislature Convenes</i>	16 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (2/4 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (2/5 Council Mtg. Agenda)	17	18
19	20 <b>Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</b>	21 <b>COMMITTEES (Kona)</b>	22 <b>COUNCIL (Kona)</b>	23 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (Committee Reports 1/21 mtgs.)	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (2/18 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (2/19 Council Mtg. Agenda)	31	



# County of Hawai'i

# COUNCIL CALENDAR February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 <b>COMMITTEES</b> (Hilo)	5 <b>COUNCIL</b> (Hilo)	6 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (Committee Reports 2/4 mtgs.)	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 <b>Presidents' Day</b>	18 <b>COMMITTEES</b> (Kona) <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (3/6 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (3/7 Council Mtg. Agenda)	19 <b>COUNCIL</b> (Kona)	20 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (Committee Reports 2/18 mtgs.)	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (3/18 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (3/19 Council Mtg. Agenda)  <u>Due:</u> Fiscal Year 2025-26 Operating and Capital Budgets	



# County of Hawai'i

# COUNCIL CALENDAR March 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 <b>NACo Legislative Conference (Washington, D.C.)</b>
2 <b>NACo</b>	3 <b>NACo</b>	4 <b>NACo</b>	5	6 <b>COMMITTEES (Hilo)</b>	7 <b>COUNCIL (Hilo)</b>	8
9	10 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (Committee Reports 3/6 mtgs.)	11	12	13 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (4/1 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (4/2 Council Mtg. Agenda)	14	15
16	17	18 <b>COMMITTEES (Kona)</b>	19 <b>COUNCIL (Kona)</b>	20 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (Committee Reports 3/18 mtgs.) <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (4/8-4/10 Sp. Finance Committee Mtg. Agenda)	21	22
23	24	25	26 <b>Prince Kūhiō Day</b>	27	28	29
30	31				31 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (4/15 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (4/16 Council Mtg. Agenda)	



# County of Hawai'i

# COUNCIL CALENDAR April 2025

AMENDED

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <b>COMMITTEES</b> (Hilo)	2 <b>COUNCIL</b> (Hilo)	3 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (Committee Reports 4/1 mtgs.)	4	5
6	7	8 <b>SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE</b> (Hilo) (Departmental Budget and Program Reviews)	9 <b>SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE</b> (Hilo) (Departmental Budget and Program Reviews)	10 <b>SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE</b> (Hilo) (Departmental Budget and Program Reviews)	11 <b>SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE</b> (Hilo) (Departmental Budget and Program Reviews)	12
13	14	15 <b>COMMITTEES</b> (Kona)	16 <b>COUNCIL</b> (Kona)	17 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (Committee Reports 4/15 mtgs.)  <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (5/6 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (5/7 Council Mtg. Agenda)	18 <b>Good Friday</b>	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



# County of Hawai'i

# COUNCIL CALENDAR May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (5/20 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (5/21 Council Mtg. Agenda)	3
4	5 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (5/22 Special Council Mtg. Agenda)  <u>Due:</u> Draft 2 - Fiscal Year 2025-26 Operating and Capital Budgets	6 <b>COMMITTEES</b> (Kona)	7 <b>COUNCIL</b> (Kona)	8 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon Committee Reports 5/6 mtgs.)	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (6/3 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (6/4 Council Mtg. Agenda)	16 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (6/5 Special Council Mtg. Agenda)	17
18	19	20 <b>COMMITTEES</b> (Hilo)  5:00 p.m. Public Hearing-FY 2025-26 OP/CIP Budgets  <u>Tentative:</u> 5:30 p.m. Public Hearing-Real Property Tax Rates	21 <b>COUNCIL</b> (Hilo)	22 <b>SPECIAL COUNCIL</b> (Hilo) <i>(1<sup>st</sup> Reading FY 2025-26 Operating and CIP Budgets)</i>  <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (Committee Reports 5/20 mtgs.)	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (6/17 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (6/18 Council Mtg. Agenda)	30	31



# County of Hawai'i

# COUNCIL CALENDAR June 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 COMMITTEES (Hilo)	4 COUNCIL (Hilo)	5 SPECIAL COUNCIL (Hilo) <i>(2<sup>nd</sup> Reading FY 2025-26 Operating and CIP Budgets)</i>  <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (Committee Reports 6/3 mtgs.)	6	7
8	9	10	11 King Kamehameha I Day	12	13	14
15	16	17 COMMITTEES (Kona)	18 COUNCIL (Kona)	19 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (Committee Reports 6/17 mtgs.)  <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (7/8 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (7/9 Council Mtg. Agenda)	20  <i><u>Due:</u> Adoption of FY 2025-26 Real Property Tax Rates</i>	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 <i><u>Due:</u> Adoption of FY 2025-26 OP/CIP Budgets</i>					



# County of Hawai'i

# COUNCIL CALENDAR July 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (7/22 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (7/23 Council Mtg. Agenda)	<b>Independence Day</b>	5
6	7	8 <b>COMMITTEES (Hilo)</b>	9 <b>COUNCIL (Hilo)</b>	10 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (Committee Reports 7/8 mtgs.)	11 <b>NACo Annual Conference &amp; Exposition (City and County of Philadelphia, PA)</b>	12 <b>NACo</b>
13 <b>NACo</b>	14 <b>NACo</b>	15	16	17	18 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (8/5 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (8/6 Council Mtg. Agenda)	19
20	21	22 <b>COMMITTEES (Kona)</b>	23 <b>COUNCIL (Kona)</b>	24 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (Committee Reports 7/22 mtgs.)	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (8/19 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (8/20 Council Mtg. Agenda)		



# County of Hawai'i

# COUNCIL CALENDAR August 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5 COMMITTEES (Hilo)	6 COUNCIL (Hilo)	7 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (Committee Reports 8/5 mtgs.)	8	9
10	11	12	13 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (9/2 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (9/3 Council Mtg. Agenda)	14	15 Statehood Day	16
17	18	19 COMMITTEES (Kona)	20 COUNCIL (Kona)	21 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (Committee Reports 8/19 mtgs.)	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (9/16 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (9/17 Council Mtg. Agenda)	29	30
31						



# County of Hawai'i

# COUNCIL CALENDAR September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <b>Labor Day</b>	2 <b>COMMITTEES (Hilo)</b>	3 <b>COUNCIL (Hilo)</b>	4 <u>Deadline: 12:00 noon</u> (Committee Reports 9/2 mtgs.)	5	6
7	8	9	10 <b>HSAC Annual Conference (Westin Hapuna Beach Resort)</b>	11 <b>HSAC</b>	12 <b>HSAC</b>	13
14	15	16 <b>COMMITTEES (Kona)</b>	17 <b>COUNCIL (Kona)</b>	18 <u>Deadline: 12:00 noon</u> (Committee Reports 9/16 mtgs.)	19 <u>Deadline: 12:00 noon</u> (10/7 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (10/8 Council Mtg. Agenda)	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



# County of Hawai'i

# COUNCIL CALENDAR October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3 <u>Deadline: 12:00 noon</u> (10/21 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (10/22 Council Mtg. Agenda)	4
5	6	7 <b>COMMITTEES</b> (Hilo)	8 <b>COUNCIL</b> (Hilo)	9 <u>Deadline: 12:00 noon</u> (Committee Reports 10/7 mtgs.)	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 <u>Deadline: 12:00 noon</u> (11/4 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (11/5 Council Mtg. Agenda)	18
19	20	21 <b>COMMITTEES</b> (Kona)	22 <b>COUNCIL</b> (Kona)	23 <u>Deadline: 12:00 noon</u> (Committee Reports 10/21 mtgs.)	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 <u>Deadline: 12:00 noon</u> (11/18 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (11/19 Council Mtg. Agenda)	31	



# County of Hawai'i

# COUNCIL CALENDAR November 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 <b>COMMITTEES (Hilo)</b>	5 <b>COUNCIL (Hilo)</b>	6 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (Committee Reports 11/4 mtgs.)	7	8
9	10	11 <b>Veterans' Day</b>	12	13 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (12/2 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (12/3 Council Mtg. Agenda)	14	15
16	17	18 <b>COMMITTEES (Kona)</b>	19 <b>COUNCIL (Kona)</b>	20 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (Committee Reports 11/18 mtgs.)	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 <b>Thanksgiving</b>	28 <u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (12/16 Committee Mtg. Agendas) (12/17 Council Mtg. Agenda)	29
30						



# County of Hawai'i

# COUNCIL CALENDAR December 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		<b>COMMITTEES (Hilo)</b>	<b>COUNCIL (Hilo)</b>	<u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (Committee Reports 12/2 mtgs.)		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		<b>COMMITTEES (Kona)</b>	<b>COUNCIL (Kona)</b>	<u>Deadline:</u> 12:00 noon (Committee Reports 12/16 mtgs.)		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
				<b>Christmas</b>		
28	29	30	31			

JANUARY						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 <b>New Year's Day</b>	2 <b>Council Meeting</b>	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 <b>Opening Day of Legislature</b>	16	17 <b>Council Meeting</b>	18
19	20 <b>Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</b>	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

FEBRUARY						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	4 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	5 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	6 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	7 <b>Council Meeting</b>	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 <b>Presidents' Day</b>	18 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	19 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	20 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	21 <b>Council Meeting</b>	22
23	24	25 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	26	27	28	1

MARCH						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
23	24	25	26	27	28	1 <b>NACo Legislative Conference</b>
2 <b>NACo Legislative Conference</b>	3 <b>NACo Legislative Conference</b>	4 <b>NACo Legislative Conference</b>	5	6	7 <b>Council Meeting</b>	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	18 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	19 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	20 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	21 <b>Council Meeting</b>	22
23	24	25	26 <b>Prince Jonah Kūhīō Kalaniana'ōle Day</b>	27	28	29
30	31 <b>Budget Session</b>	1	2	3	4	5

APRIL						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1 <b>Budget Session</b>	2 <b>Budget Session</b>	3 <b>Budget Session</b>	4 <b>Council Meeting</b>	5
6	7 <b>Budget Session</b>	8 <b>Budget Session</b>	9 <b>Budget Session</b>	10 <b>Budget Session</b>	11 <b>Budget Session</b>	12
13	14 <b>Budget Session</b>	15 <b>Budget Session</b>	16 <b>Budget Session</b>	17 <b>Council Meeting</b>	18 <b>Good Friday</b>	19
20	21 <b>Budget Session</b>	22 <b>Budget Session</b>	23 <b>Budget Session</b>	24 <b>Budget Session</b>	25 <b>Budget Session</b>	26
27	28 <b>Budget Session</b>	29 <b>Budget Session</b>	30 <b>Budget Session</b>	1	2	3

MAY						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	1 <b>Budget Session</b>	2 <b>Council Meeting</b>	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	13 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	14 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	15 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	16 <b>Council Meeting</b>	17
18	19	20	21 <b>WIR Conference</b>	22 <b>WIR Conference</b>	23 <b>WIR Conference</b>	24
25	26 <b>Memorial Day</b>	27	28	29	30	31

JUNE						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	3 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	4 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	5 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	6 <b>Council Meeting</b>	7
8	9	10	11 <b>King Kamehameha I Day</b>	12	13	14
15	16 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	17 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	18 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	19 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	20 <b>Council Meeting</b>	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	1	2	3	4	5

JULY						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	1 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	2 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	3 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	4 <b>Independence Day</b>	5
6	7	8 <b>Council Meeting</b>	9	10	11 <b>NACo Annual Conference</b>	12 <b>NACo Annual Conference</b>
13 <b>NACo Annual Conference</b>	14 <b>NACo Annual Conference</b>	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	22 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	23 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	24 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	25 <b>Council Meeting</b>	26
27	28	29	30	31	1	2

AUGUST						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
3	4 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	5 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	6 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	7 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	8 <b>Council Meeting</b>	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 <b>Statehood Day</b>	16
17	18 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	19 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	20 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	21 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	22 <b>Council Meeting</b>	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

SEPTEMBER						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 <b>Labor Day</b>	2 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	3 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	4 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	5 <b>Council Meeting</b>	6
7	8 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	9	10 <b>HSAC Conference</b>	11 <b>HSAC Conference</b>	12 <b>HSAC Conference</b>	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	23 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	24 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	25 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	26 <b>Council Meeting</b>	27
28	29	30	1	2	3	4

OCTOBER						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5	6 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	7 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	8 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	9 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	10 <b>Council Meeting</b>	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	21 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	22 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	23 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	24 <b>Council Meeting</b>	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1

NOVEMBER						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	4 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	5 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	6 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	7 <b>Council Meeting</b>	8
9	10	11 <b>Veterans' Day</b>	12	13	14	15
16	17 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	18 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	19 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	20 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	21 <b>Council Meeting</b>	22
23	24	25	26	27 <b>Thanksgiving Day</b>	28	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6

DECEMBER						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	1 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	2 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	3 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	4 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	5 <b>Council Meeting</b>	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	16 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	17 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	18 <b>Committee Meeting</b>	19 <b>Council Meeting</b>	20
21	22	23	24	25 <b>Christmas Day</b>	26	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3

# 2025



Mel Rapozo  
Council Chair



Kipu Kai Kualii  
Council Vice Chair



Addison Bulosan  
Councilmember



Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.  
Councilmember



Felicia Cowden  
Councilmember



Fern Holland  
Councilmember



Arryl Kaneshiro  
Councilmember



## Kaua'i County Council Historic County Building

4396 Rice Street, Suite 209  
Lihu e, Hawai i 96766

Email: [cokcouncil@kauai.gov](mailto:cokcouncil@kauai.gov)  
Phone: (808) 241-4188  
Fax: (808) 241-6349

JANUARY (Ianauli)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Jan. 1 - New Year's Day			1 Holiday	2	3	4
Jan. 20 - Martin Luther King, Jr. Day			8 Committee	9	10	11
5	6	7	15 Legislative Opening Day	16 Council	17	18
12	13	14	22 Committee	23	24	25
19	20 Holiday	21	29 Council	30	31	
26	27	28				

FEBRUARY (Pepeulali)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Feb. 17 - Presidents' Day						1
2	3	4	5 Committee	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 Council	13	14	15
16	17 Holiday	18	19 Committee	20	21	22
23	24	25	26 Council	27	28	

MARCH (Malaki)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Mar. 1-4 - NACo Legislative Conference						1
Mar. 26 - Prince Kihisi Day						
2	3	4	5	6 Committee	7	8
9	10	11	12 Council	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Committee	20	21	22
23	24 30	25 31	26 Council	27 Holiday	28	29

APRIL ('Apelila)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Committee	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Council	10	11	12
13	14	15	16 Committee	17	18 Holiday	19
20	21	22	23 Council	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	Apr. 18 - Good Friday		

MAY (Mei)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3	4 Committee	5	6	7		
10	11 Holiday	12	13	14		
17	18 Committee	19	20	21		
24	25 Council	26	27	28		
Jun. 11 - King Kamehameha Day						

JUNE (Iune)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3	4 Committee	5	6	7		
10	11 Holiday	12	13	14		
17	18 Committee	19	20	21		
24	25 Council	26	27	28		
Jun. 11 - King Kamehameha Day						

JULY (Iulai)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Jul. 4 - Independence Day						1
Jul. 11-14 - NACo Annual Conference						2
6	7	8	9 Committee	10	11 Holiday	12
13	14	15	16 Council	17	18	19
20	21	22	23 Committee	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 Council	31		

AUGUST ('Aukake)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Aug. 15 - Statehood Day						1
3	4	5	6 Committee	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Council	14	15 Holiday	16
17	18	19	20 Committee	21	22	23
24	25 31	26	27 Council	28	29	30

OCTOBER ('Okakopa)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	
7	8 Committee	9	10	11		
14	15 Council	16	17	18		
21	22 Committee	23	24	25		

NOVEMBER (Nowemapa)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Nov. 11 - Veterans Day						1
Nov. 27 - Thanksgiving Day						
2	3	4	5 Committee	6	7	8
9	10	11 Holiday	12 Council	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Committee			

DECEMBER (Kēkēmapa)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Council	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Committee	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Council	18	19	20

Note: Meeting dates are subject to change. Please call the Office of the County Clerk, Council Services Division at (808) 241-4188 for current schedule and information. For posted agendas and attachments, or to view online streaming broadcasts of meetings, please go to <http://www.kauai.gov/Government/Council/Webcast Meetings>.

### Written testimony is accepted as follows:

- WRITTEN – submit fifteen (15) copies at least thirty (30) minutes prior to the posted meeting time.
- FAX – fax signed testimony to (808) 241-6349 at least one (1) hour prior to the posted meeting time.
- EMAIL – accepted up to one (1) hour prior to the meeting to [counciltestimony@kauai.gov](mailto:counciltestimony@kauai.gov).

**For Special Accommodations, please call (808) 241-4188 five (5) days in advance.**





**Measure Title:** PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO ESTABLISH A CONTINUOUS LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

**Report Title:** Continuous Legislative Session; Constitutional Amendment; Constitutional Repeal (ConAm)

**Description:** Establishes a continuous Legislature. Requires the Legislature to convene at least once each month. Repeals language regarding special sessions, adjournment, and recesses. Creates a 2-year deadline for a bill to be submitted for gubernatorial consideration. Standardizes the number of days that the Governor must approve or veto a bill submitted for consideration. Requires the passage of the legislative budget within 45 days before the end of each fiscal year. Prohibits members of the legislature from holding any position of employment in the private sector during their term. Authorizes members to serve in the United States military reserves, National Guard, or hold any lawful position of government employment, subject to certain current ethical limitations. Establishes salaries of the members of the Legislature pursuant to recommendations by the Commission on Salaries submitted during the 2028 regular session, unless those recommendations are amended by law.

**Companion:** [HB770](#)

**Package:** None

**Current Referral:** JDC, WAM

**Introducer(s):** CHANG, GABBARD, MCKELVEY, Fevella

<a href="#">Sort by Date</a>		Status Text
1/31/2025	S	The committee on JDC deferred the measure.
1/27/2025	S	The committee(s) on JDC has scheduled a public hearing on 01-31-25 9:15AM; Conference Room 016 & Videoconference.
1/23/2025	S	Referred to JDC, WAM.
1/21/2025	S	Passed First Reading.
1/17/2025	S	Introduced.

**S** = Senate | **H** = House | **D** = Data Systems | **\$** = Appropriation measure | **ConAm** = Constitutional Amendment

Some of the above items require Adobe Acrobat Reader. Please visit [Adobe's download page](#) for detailed instructions.

JAN 17 2025

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO  
ESTABLISH A CONTINUOUS LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii's state  
2 legislature is in session for only sixty session days per year,  
3 generally from the middle of January until early May. The  
4 legislature notes that the representatives and senators who  
5 comprise the state legislature are part-time employees of the  
6 State.

7           The legislature further finds that the efficiency,  
8 productivity, and orderliness of the state legislature could be  
9 improved by requiring that the legislature be in session during  
10 every month of the year. The legislature notes that doing so  
11 would make the representatives and senators who comprise the  
12 state legislature full-time employees of the State. The  
13 legislature also finds this change in the nature of legislators'  
14 employment status will warrant a reevaluation by the commission  
15 on salaries of legislative members' salaries.



## S.B. NO. 733

1           The purpose of this Act is to propose amendments to the  
2 Constitution of the State of Hawaii to establish a continuous  
3 legislative session, beginning in January 2029. Specifically,  
4 this Act:

- 5           (1) Requires the legislature to convene at least once each  
6 month;
- 7           (2) Removes constitutional language regarding special  
8 sessions, adjournment, and recesses;
- 9           (3) Creates a two-year deadline for a bill to be submitted  
10 for gubernatorial consideration;
- 11           (4) Standardizes the number of days that the governor must  
12 approve or veto a bill submitted for consideration;
- 13           (5) Requires the passage of the legislative budget not  
14 later than forty-five days before the end of each  
15 fiscal year;
- 16           (6) Prohibits members of the legislature from holding any  
17 position of employment in the private sector during  
18 their term;
- 19           (7) Authorizes members of the legislature to serve in the  
20 United States military reserves, National Guard, or



1 hold any lawful position of government employment,  
 2 subject to certain current ethical limitations; and  
 3 (8) Establishes salaries of the members of the legislature  
 4 pursuant to recommendations by the commission on  
 5 salaries submitted during the 2028 regular session,  
 6 unless those recommendations are amended by law.

7 SECTION 2. Article III, section 8, of the Constitution of  
 8 the State of Hawaii is amended to read as follows:

9 **"DISQUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS**

10 **Section 8.** No member of the legislature [~~shall hold any~~  
 11 ~~other public office under the State, nor shall the member~~],  
 12 during the term for which the member is elected or appointed,  
 13 shall hold any position of employment in the private sector.  
 14 The member may serve in the United States military reserves,  
 15 National Guard, or hold any lawful position of government  
 16 employment; provided that the member shall not be elected or  
 17 appointed to any public office or employment [~~which~~] that shall  
 18 have been created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been  
 19 increased, by legislative act during [~~such~~] the term. The term  
 20 "public offices," for the purposes of this section, shall not  
 21 include notaries public, reserve police officers or officers of



1 emergency organizations for civilian defense or disaster relief.  
2 The legislature may prescribe further disqualifications."

3 SECTION 3. Article III, section 10, of the Constitution of  
4 the State of Hawaii is amended to read as follows:

5 " ~~[SESSIONS]~~ MEETINGS

6 Section 10. The legislature shall convene annually [~~in~~  
7 ~~regular session~~] at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the third Wednesday in  
8 January. The legislature shall convene at least once each  
9 month.

10 ~~[At the written request of two thirds of the members to~~  
11 ~~which each house is entitled, the presiding officers of both~~  
12 ~~houses shall convene the legislature in special session. At the~~  
13 ~~written request of two thirds of the members of the senate, the~~  
14 ~~president of the senate shall convene the senate in special~~  
15 ~~session for the purpose of carrying out its responsibility~~  
16 ~~established by Section 3 of Article VI. The governor may~~  
17 ~~convene both houses or the senate alone in special session.~~

18 ~~Regular sessions shall be limited to a period of sixty~~  
19 ~~days, and special sessions shall be limited to a period of~~  
20 ~~thirty days. Any session may be extended a total of not more~~  
21 ~~than fifteen days. Such extension shall be granted by the~~



1 ~~presiding officers of both houses at the written request of~~  
 2 ~~two thirds of the members to which each house is entitled or may~~  
 3 ~~be granted by the governor.~~

4 ~~Each regular session shall be recessed for not less than~~  
 5 ~~five days at some period between the twentieth and fortieth days~~  
 6 ~~of the regular session. The legislature shall determine the~~  
 7 ~~dates of the mandatory recess by concurrent resolution. Any~~  
 8 ~~session may be recessed by concurrent resolution adopted by a~~  
 9 ~~majority of the members to which each house is entitled.~~  
 10 ~~Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, the days in mandatory recess and~~  
 11 ~~any days in recess pursuant to a concurrent resolution shall be~~  
 12 ~~excluded in computing the number of days of any session.]~~

13 All [~~sessions~~] meetings shall be held in the capital of the  
 14 State. In case the capital shall be unsafe, the governor may  
 15 direct that any [~~session~~] meeting be held at some other place."

16 SECTION 4. Article III, section 12, of the Constitution of  
 17 the State of Hawaii is amended to read as follows:

18 **"ORGANIZATION; DISCIPLINE; RULES; PROCEDURE**

19 **Section 12.** Each house shall be the judge of the  
 20 elections, returns and qualifications of its own members and  
 21 shall have, for misconduct, disorderly behavior or neglect of



1 duty of any member, power to punish [~~such~~] the member by censure  
2 or, upon a two-thirds vote of all the members to which [~~such~~]  
3 the house is entitled, by suspension or expulsion of [~~such~~] the  
4 member. Each house shall choose its own officers, determine the  
5 rules of its proceedings and keep a journal. The ayes and noes  
6 of the members on any question shall, at the desire of one-fifth  
7 of the members present, be entered upon the journal.

8 Twenty days after a bill has been referred to a committee  
9 in either house, the bill may be recalled from [~~such~~] the  
10 committee by the affirmative vote of one-third of the members to  
11 which [~~such~~] the house is entitled.

12 Every meeting of a committee in either house or of a  
13 committee comprised of a member or members from both houses held  
14 for the purpose of making decision on matters referred to the  
15 committee shall be open to the public.

16 ~~[By rule of its proceedings, applicable to both houses,~~  
17 ~~each house shall provide for the date by which all bills to be~~  
18 ~~considered in a regular session shall be introduced.]"~~

19 SECTION 5. Article III, section 15, of the Constitution of  
20 the State of Hawaii is amended to read as follows:





1 gubernatorial consideration falls on a Saturday, Sunday or  
 2 holiday, the period shall extend to the next day that is not a  
 3 Saturday, Sunday or holiday."

4 SECTION 6. Article III, section 16, of the Constitution of  
 5 the State of Hawaii is amended to read as follows:

6 **"APPROVAL OR VETO**

7 **Section 16.** Every bill [~~which shall have~~] that has passed  
 8 the legislature shall be certified by the presiding officers and  
 9 clerks of both houses and shall thereupon be presented to the  
 10 governor. If the governor approves it, the governor shall sign  
 11 it and it shall become law. If the governor does not approve  
 12 [~~such~~] the bill, the governor may return it, with the governor's  
 13 objections to the legislature. Except for items appropriated to  
 14 be expended by the judicial and legislative branches, the  
 15 governor may veto any specific item or items in any bill [~~which~~]  
 16 that appropriates money for specific purposes by striking out or  
 17 reducing the same; but the governor shall veto other bills, if  
 18 at all, only as a whole.

19 The governor shall have [~~ten~~] ninety calendar days to  
 20 consider bills presented [~~to the governor ten or more days~~  
 21 ~~before the adjournment of the legislature sine die~~], and if any



1 [such] bill is neither signed nor returned by the governor  
2 within that time, it shall become law in like manner as if the  
3 governor had signed it. If the last day of the period within  
4 which the bill presented is required to be signed or returned  
5 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, the period shall extend  
6 to the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or holiday.

7 **RECONSIDERATION [~~AFTER ADJOURNMENT~~**

8 ~~The governor shall have forty-five days, after the~~  
9 ~~adjournment of the legislature sine die, to consider bills~~  
10 ~~presented to the governor less than ten days before such~~  
11 ~~adjournment, or presented after adjournment, and any such bill~~  
12 ~~shall become law on the forty-fifth day unless the governor by~~  
13 ~~proclamation shall have given ten days' notice to the~~  
14 ~~legislature that the governor plans to return such bill with the~~  
15 ~~governor's objections on that day. The legislature may convene~~  
16 ~~at or before noon on the forty-fifth day in special session,~~  
17 ~~without call, for the sole purpose of acting upon any such bill~~  
18 ~~returned by the governor. In case the legislature shall fail to~~  
19 ~~so convene, such bill shall not become law.] Any [such] bill~~  
20 may be amended to meet the governor's objections and, if so  
21 amended and passed, only one reading being required in each



1 house for [~~such~~] passage, it shall be presented again to the  
 2 governor, but shall become law only if the governor shall sign  
 3 it within ten days after presentation. If the last day of the  
 4 period within which the amended bill is required to be signed by  
 5 the governor falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, the period  
 6 shall extend to the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or  
 7 holiday.

8 ~~[In computing the number of days designated in this~~  
 9 ~~section, the following days shall be excluded: Saturdays,~~  
 10 ~~Sundays, holidays and any days in which the legislature is in~~  
 11 ~~recess prior to its adjournment as provided in section 10 of~~  
 12 ~~this article.]"~~

13 SECTION 7. Article XVI, section 3.5, of the Constitution  
 14 of the State of Hawaii is amended to read as follows:

15 **"SALARY COMMISSION**

16 **Section [3.5].** There shall be a commission on salaries  
 17 as provided by law, which shall review and recommend salaries  
 18 for the justices and judges of all state courts, members of the  
 19 legislature, department heads or executive officers of the  
 20 executive departments and the deputies or assistants to  
 21 department heads of the executive departments as provided by



1 law, excluding the University of Hawaii and the department of  
2 education. The commission shall also review and make  
3 recommendations for the salary of the administrative director of  
4 the State or equivalent position and the salary of the governor  
5 and the lieutenant governor.

6 Any salary established pursuant to this section shall not  
7 be decreased during a term of office, unless by general law  
8 applying to all salaried officers of the State.

9 Not later than the fortieth legislative day of the 2007  
10 regular legislative session and every six years thereafter, the  
11 commission shall submit to the legislature its recommendations  
12 and then dissolve.

13 The recommended salaries submitted shall become effective  
14 as provided in the recommendation, unless the legislature  
15 disapproves the entire recommendation as a whole by adoption of  
16 a concurrent resolution prior to adjournment sine die of the  
17 legislative session in which the recommendation is submitted;  
18 provided that any change in salary which becomes effective shall  
19 not apply to the legislature to which the recommendation for the  
20 change in salary was submitted.





1           "Shall the legislature meet continuously throughout  
2 the year, beginning in January 2029, subject to the  
3 following:

4           (a) Members shall be prohibited from holding any  
5 position of employment in the private sector  
6 during their term;

7           (b) Members may serve in the United States military  
8 reserves, National Guard, or hold any lawful  
9 position of government employment, subject to  
10 certain current ethical limitations;

11          (c) The legislature shall be required to meet at  
12 least once each month;

13          (d) Procedures for convening special legislative  
14 sessions shall be repealed;

15          (e) A two-year deadline for a bill to be submitted  
16 for gubernatorial consideration shall be  
17 established, the governor shall within ninety  
18 calendar days approve or veto a bill submitted  
19 for consideration, and passage of the legislative  
20 budget shall be required not later than



1            forty-five days before the end of each fiscal  
 2            year; and  
 3            (f) Salaries of the members of the legislature shall  
 4            be established pursuant to recommendations  
 5            submitted to the legislature by the commission on  
 6            salaries during the 2028 regular session, unless  
 7            those recommendations are amended by law?"

8            SECTION 10. Constitutional material to be repealed is  
 9 bracketed and stricken. New constitutional material is  
 10 underscored.

11            SECTION 11. These amendments shall take effect upon  
 12 compliance with article XVII, section 3, of the Constitution of  
 13 the State of Hawaii during the 2026 general election; provided  
 14 that sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 8 shall take effect on January  
 15 1, 2029.

16

INTRODUCED BY: 



# S.B. NO. 733

**Report Title:**

Continuous Legislative Session; Constitutional Amendment;  
Constitutional Repeal

**Description:**

Establishes a continuous Legislature. Requires the Legislature to convene at least once each month. Repeals language regarding special sessions, adjournment, and recesses. Creates a 2-year deadline for a bill to be submitted for gubernatorial consideration. Standardizes the number of days that the Governor must approve or veto a bill submitted for consideration. Requires the passage of the legislative budget within 45 days before the end of each fiscal year. Prohibits members of the legislature from holding any position of employment in the private sector during their term. Authorizes members to serve in the United States military reserves, National Guard, or hold any lawful position of government employment, subject to certain current ethical limitations. Establishes salaries of the members of the Legislature pursuant to recommendations by the Commission on Salaries submitted during the 2028 regular session, unless those recommendations are amended by law.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*





**Measure Title:** PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO ESTABLISH A CONTINUOUS LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

**Report Title:** Continuous Legislative Session; Constitutional Amendment; Constitutional Repeal (ConAm)

**Description:** Establishes a continuous Legislature. Requires the Legislature to convene at least once each month. Repeals language regarding special sessions, adjournment, and recesses. Creates a 2-year deadline for a bill to be submitted for gubernatorial consideration. Standardizes the number of days that the Governor must approve or veto a bill submitted for consideration. Requires the passage of the legislative budget within 45 days before the end of each fiscal year. Prohibits members of the legislature from holding any position of employment in the private sector during their term. Authorizes members to serve in the United States military reserves, National Guard, or hold any lawful position of government employment, subject to certain current ethical limitations. Establishes salaries of the members of the Legislature pursuant to recommendations by the Commission on Salaries submitted during the 2028 regular session, unless those recommendations are amended by law.

**Companion:** [SB733](#)

**Package:** None

**Current Referral:** LMG, JHA, FIN

**Introducer(s):** BELATTI, AMATO, GRANDINETTI, HUSSEY, KAPELA, PERRUSO, REYES ODA, TAM

<a href="#">Sort by Date</a>		Status Text
1/21/2025	H	Referred to LMG, JHA, FIN, referral sheet 2
1/21/2025	H	Introduced and Pass First Reading.
1/17/2025	H	Pending introduction.

**S** = Senate | **H** = House | **D** = Data Systems | **\$** = Appropriation measure | **ConAm** = Constitutional Amendment

Some of the above items require Adobe Acrobat Reader. Please visit [Adobe's download page](#) for detailed instructions.

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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

PROPOSING AMENDMENTS TO THE HAWAII STATE CONSTITUTION TO  
ESTABLISH A CONTINUOUS LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii's state  
2 legislature is in session for only sixty session days per year,  
3 generally from the middle of January until early May. The  
4 legislature notes that the representatives and senators who  
5 comprise the state legislature are part-time employees of the  
6 State.

7           The legislature further finds that the efficiency,  
8 productivity, and orderliness of the state legislature could be  
9 improved by requiring that the legislature be in session during  
10 every month of the year. The legislature notes that doing so  
11 would make the representatives and senators who comprise the  
12 state legislature full-time employees of the State. The  
13 legislature also finds this change in the nature of legislators'  
14 employment status will warrant a reevaluation by the commission  
15 on salaries of legislative members' salaries.



# H.B. NO. 770

1           The purpose of this Act is to propose amendments to the  
2 Constitution of the State of Hawaii to establish a continuous  
3 legislative session, beginning in January 2029. Specifically,  
4 this Act:

- 5           (1) Requires the legislature to convene at least once each  
6           month;
- 7           (2) Removes constitutional language regarding special  
8           sessions, adjournment, and recesses;
- 9           (3) Creates a two-year deadline for a bill to be submitted  
10           for gubernatorial consideration;
- 11           (4) Standardizes the number of days that the governor must  
12           approve or veto a bill submitted for consideration;
- 13           (5) Requires the passage of the legislative budget not  
14           later than forty-five days before the end of each  
15           fiscal year;
- 16           (6) Prohibits members of the legislature from holding any  
17           position of employment in the private sector during  
18           their term;
- 19           (7) Authorizes members of the legislature to serve in the  
20           United States military reserves, National Guard, or



1 hold any lawful position of government employment,  
 2 subject to certain current ethical limitations; and  
 3 (8) Establishes salaries of the members of the legislature  
 4 pursuant to recommendations by the commission on  
 5 salaries submitted during the 2028 regular session,  
 6 unless those recommendations are amended by law.

7 SECTION 2. Article III, section 8, of the Constitution of  
 8 the State of Hawaii is amended to read as follows:

9 "DISQUALIFICATIONS OF MEMBERS

10 **Section 8.** No member of the legislature [~~shall hold any~~  
 11 ~~other public office under the State, nor shall the member~~],  
 12 during the term for which the member is elected or appointed,  
 13 shall hold any position of employment in the private sector.  
 14 The member may serve in the United States military reserves,  
 15 National Guard, or hold any lawful position of government  
 16 employment; provided that the member shall not be elected or  
 17 appointed to any public office or employment [~~which~~] that shall  
 18 have been created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been  
 19 increased, by legislative act during [~~such~~] the term. The term  
 20 "public offices," for the purposes of this section, shall not  
 21 include notaries public, reserve police officers or officers of



1 emergency organizations for civilian defense or disaster relief.  
2 The legislature may prescribe further disqualifications."

3 SECTION 3. Article III, section 10, of the Constitution of  
4 the State of Hawaii is amended to read as follows:

5 " ~~[SESSIONS]~~ MEETINGS

6 **Section 10.** The legislature shall convene annually [~~in~~  
7 ~~regular session~~] at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the third Wednesday in  
8 January. The legislature shall convene at least once each  
9 month.

10 [~~At the written request of two-thirds of the members to~~  
11 ~~which each house is entitled, the presiding officers of both~~  
12 ~~houses shall convene the legislature in special session. At the~~  
13 ~~written request of two-thirds of the members of the senate, the~~  
14 ~~president of the senate shall convene the senate in special~~  
15 ~~session for the purpose of carrying out its responsibility~~  
16 ~~established by Section 3 of Article VI. The governor may~~  
17 ~~convene both houses or the senate alone in special session.~~

18 ~~Regular sessions shall be limited to a period of sixty~~  
19 ~~days, and special sessions shall be limited to a period of~~  
20 ~~thirty days. Any session may be extended a total of not more~~  
21 ~~than fifteen days. Such extension shall be granted by the~~



1 ~~presiding officers of both houses at the written request of~~  
 2 ~~two-thirds of the members to which each house is entitled or may~~  
 3 ~~be granted by the governor.~~

4 ~~Each regular session shall be recessed for not less than~~  
 5 ~~five days at some period between the twentieth and fortieth days~~  
 6 ~~of the regular session. The legislature shall determine the~~  
 7 ~~dates of the mandatory recess by concurrent resolution. Any~~  
 8 ~~session may be recessed by concurrent resolution adopted by a~~  
 9 ~~majority of the members to which each house is entitled.~~  
 10 ~~Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, the days in mandatory recess and~~  
 11 ~~any days in recess pursuant to a concurrent resolution shall be~~  
 12 ~~excluded in computing the number of days of any session.]~~

13 All [~~sessions~~] meetings shall be held in the capital of the  
 14 State. In case the capital shall be unsafe, the governor may  
 15 direct that any [~~session~~] meeting be held at some other place."

16 SECTION 4. Article III, section 12, of the Constitution of  
 17 the State of Hawaii is amended to read as follows:

18 **"ORGANIZATION; DISCIPLINE; RULES; PROCEDURE**

19 **Section 12.** Each house shall be the judge of the  
 20 elections, returns and qualifications of its own members and  
 21 shall have, for misconduct, disorderly behavior or neglect of



1 duty of any member, power to punish [~~such~~] the member by censure  
 2 or, upon a two-thirds vote of all the members to which [~~such~~]  
 3 the house is entitled, by suspension or expulsion of [~~such~~] the  
 4 member. Each house shall choose its own officers, determine the  
 5 rules of its proceedings and keep a journal. The ayes and noes  
 6 of the members on any question shall, at the desire of one-fifth  
 7 of the members present, be entered upon the journal.

8 Twenty days after a bill has been referred to a committee  
 9 in either house, the bill may be recalled from [~~such~~] the  
 10 committee by the affirmative vote of one-third of the members to  
 11 which [~~such~~] the house is entitled.

12 Every meeting of a committee in either house or of a  
 13 committee comprised of a member or members from both houses held  
 14 for the purpose of making decision on matters referred to the  
 15 committee shall be open to the public.

16 ~~[By rule of its proceedings, applicable to both houses,~~  
 17 ~~each house shall provide for the date by which all bills to be~~  
 18 ~~considered in a regular session shall be introduced.]"~~

19 SECTION 5. Article III, section 15, of the Constitution of  
 20 the State of Hawaii is amended to read as follows:



## 1 "PASSAGE OF BILLS

2 **Section 15.** No bill shall become law unless it shall pass  
3 three readings in each house on separate days. No bill shall  
4 pass third or final reading in either house unless printed  
5 copies of the bill in the form to be passed shall have been made  
6 available to the members of that house for at least forty-eight  
7 hours.

8 Every bill when passed by the house in which it originated,  
9 or in which amendments thereto shall have originated, shall  
10 immediately be certified by the presiding officer and clerk and  
11 sent to the other house for consideration.

12 Any bill pending at the final adjournment of a regular  
13 session in an odd-numbered year shall carry over with the same  
14 status to the next regular session. Before the carried-over  
15 bill is enacted, it shall pass at least one reading in the house  
16 in which the bill originated. The general appropriations bill  
17 or the supplemental appropriations bill for the ensuing fiscal  
18 year, as the case may be, shall pass each house and be submitted  
19 for gubernatorial consideration not later than forty-five days  
20 before the end of the existing fiscal year. If the last day of  
21 the period within which the bill is required to be submitted for



1 gubernatorial consideration falls on a Saturday, Sunday or  
 2 holiday, the period shall extend to the next day that is not a  
 3 Saturday, Sunday or holiday."

4 SECTION 6. Article III, section 16, of the Constitution of  
 5 the State of Hawaii is amended to read as follows:

6 **"APPROVAL OR VETO**

7 **Section 16.** Every bill [~~which shall have~~] that has passed  
 8 the legislature shall be certified by the presiding officers and  
 9 clerks of both houses and shall thereupon be presented to the  
 10 governor. If the governor approves it, the governor shall sign  
 11 it and it shall become law. If the governor does not approve  
 12 [~~such~~] the bill, the governor may return it, with the governor's  
 13 objections to the legislature. Except for items appropriated to  
 14 be expended by the judicial and legislative branches, the  
 15 governor may veto any specific item or items in any bill [~~which~~]  
 16 that appropriates money for specific purposes by striking out or  
 17 reducing the same; but the governor shall veto other bills, if  
 18 at all, only as a whole.

19 The governor shall have [~~ten~~] ninety calendar days to  
 20 consider bills presented [~~to the governor ten or more days~~  
 21 ~~before the adjournment of the legislature sine die~~], and if any



1 [such] bill is neither signed nor returned by the governor  
2 within that time, it shall become law in like manner as if the  
3 governor had signed it. If the last day of the period within  
4 which the bill presented is required to be signed or returned  
5 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, the period shall extend  
6 to the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or holiday.

7 **RECONSIDERATION [AFTER ADJOURNMENT]**

8 ~~The governor shall have forty-five days, after the~~  
9 ~~adjournment of the legislature sine die, to consider bills~~  
10 ~~presented to the governor less than ten days before such~~  
11 ~~adjournment, or presented after adjournment, and any such bill~~  
12 ~~shall become law on the forty-fifth day unless the governor by~~  
13 ~~proclamation shall have given ten days' notice to the~~  
14 ~~legislature that the governor plans to return such bill with the~~  
15 ~~governor's objections on that day. The legislature may convene~~  
16 ~~at or before noon on the forty-fifth day in special session,~~  
17 ~~without call, for the sole purpose of acting upon any such bill~~  
18 ~~returned by the governor. In case the legislature shall fail to~~  
19 ~~so convene, such bill shall not become law.] Any [such] bill~~  
20 may be amended to meet the governor's objections and, if so  
21 amended and passed, only one reading being required in each



1 house for ~~[such]~~ passage, it shall be presented again to the  
 2 governor, but shall become law only if the governor shall sign  
 3 it within ten days after presentation. If the last day of the  
 4 period within which the amended bill is required to be signed by  
 5 the governor falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, the period  
 6 shall extend to the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or  
 7 holiday.

8 ~~[In computing the number of days designated in this~~  
 9 ~~section, the following days shall be excluded: Saturdays,~~  
 10 ~~Sundays, holidays and any days in which the legislature is in~~  
 11 ~~recess prior to its adjournment as provided in section 10 of~~  
 12 ~~this article.]"~~

13 SECTION 7. Article XVI, section 3.5, of the Constitution  
 14 of the State of Hawaii is amended to read as follows:

15 **"SALARY COMMISSION**

16 **Section [†]3.5[†].** There shall be a commission on salaries  
 17 as provided by law, which shall review and recommend salaries  
 18 for the justices and judges of all state courts, members of the  
 19 legislature, department heads or executive officers of the  
 20 executive departments and the deputies or assistants to  
 21 department heads of the executive departments as provided by



1 law, excluding the University of Hawaii and the department of  
2 education. The commission shall also review and make  
3 recommendations for the salary of the administrative director of  
4 the State or equivalent position and the salary of the governor  
5 and the lieutenant governor.

6 Any salary established pursuant to this section shall not  
7 be decreased during a term of office, unless by general law  
8 applying to all salaried officers of the State.

9 Not later than the fortieth legislative day of the 2007  
10 regular legislative session and every six years thereafter, the  
11 commission shall submit to the legislature its recommendations  
12 and then dissolve.

13 The recommended salaries submitted shall become effective  
14 as provided in the recommendation, unless the legislature  
15 disapproves the entire recommendation as a whole by adoption of  
16 a concurrent resolution prior to adjournment sine die of the  
17 legislative session in which the recommendation is submitted;  
18 provided that any change in salary which becomes effective shall  
19 not apply to the legislature to which the recommendation for the  
20 change in salary was submitted.





1 "Shall the legislature meet continuously throughout  
2 the year, beginning in January 2029, subject to the  
3 following:

4 (a) Members shall be prohibited from holding any  
5 position of employment in the private sector  
6 during their term;

7 (b) Members may serve in the United States military  
8 reserves, National Guard, or hold any lawful  
9 position of government employment, subject to  
10 certain current ethical limitations;

11 (c) The legislature shall be required to meet at  
12 least once each month;

13 (d) Procedures for convening special legislative  
14 sessions shall be repealed;

15 (e) A two-year deadline for a bill to be submitted  
16 for gubernatorial consideration shall be  
17 established, the governor shall within ninety  
18 calendar days approve or veto a bill submitted  
19 for consideration, and passage of the legislative  
20 budget shall be required not later than





# H.B. NO. 770

**Report Title:**

Continuous Legislative Session; Constitutional Amendment;  
Constitutional Repeal

**Description:**

Establishes a continuous Legislature. Requires the Legislature to convene at least once each month. Repeals language regarding special sessions, adjournment, and recesses. Creates a 2-year deadline for a bill to be submitted for gubernatorial consideration. Standardizes the number of days that the Governor must approve or veto a bill submitted for consideration. Requires the passage of the legislative budget within 45 days before the end of each fiscal year. Prohibits members of the legislature from holding any position of employment in the private sector during their term. Authorizes members to serve in the United States military reserves, National Guard, or hold any lawful position of government employment, subject to certain current ethical limitations. Establishes salaries of the members of the Legislature pursuant to recommendations by the Commission on Salaries submitted during the 2028 regular session, unless those recommendations are amended by law.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*



## Historical Use of Recess Days

Year	Start	End	Total Session Days	Total Recess Days	Total Calendar Days
1969	1/15	5/23	66	24	128
1970	1/21	5/12	70	7	111
1971	1/20	4/16	60	0	86
1972	1/19	4/14	60	0	86
1973	1/17	4/13	61	0	86
1974	1/16	4/11	60	0	85
1975	1/15	4/11	60	0	86
1976	1/21	4/20	62	0	90
1977	1/19	4/20	63	0	91
1978	1/18	4/14	60	0	86
1979	1/17	4/20	60	5	93
1980	1/16	4/28	66	5	103
1981	1/21	4/30	64	5	99
1982	1/20	4/28	60	5	98
1983	1/19	4/22	60	5	93
1984	1/18	4/19	60	5	92
1985	1/16	4/22	61	5	96
1986	1/15	4/23	63	5	98
1987	1/21	4/30	63	6	99
1988	1/20	4/27	62	6	98
1989	1/18	4/26	62	6	98
1990	1/17	5/4	63	12	107
1991	1/16	5/6	64	11	110
1992	1/15	4/30	63	10	106
1993	1/20	5/3	60	11	103
1994	1/19	5/2	60	11	103
1995	1/18	5/1	60	11	103
1996	1/17	4/29	60	11	103
1997	1/15	5/1	61	12	106
1998	1/21	5/14	65	14	113
1999	1/20	5/4	60	12	104
2000	1/19	5/2	60	12	104
2001	1/17	5/3	60	14	106
2002	1/16	5/2	60	13	106
2003	1/15	5/1	60	13	106
2004	1/14	5/6	60	14	113
2005	1/19	5/5	60	15	106
2006	1/18	5/4	60	14	106
2007	1/17	5/3	60	14	106
2008	1/16	5/1	60	13	106
2009	1/21	5/8	62	14	107
2010	1/20	4/29	60	9	99
2011	1/19	5/5	60	14	106

### APPENDIX 3-N

Year	Start	End	Total Session Days	Total Recess Days	Total Calendar Days
2012	1/18	5/3	60	14	106
2013	1/16	5/2	60	13	106
2014	1/15	5/1	60	13	106
2015	1/21	5/7	60	14	106
2016	1/20	5/5	60	15	106
2017	1/18	5/4	60	14	106
2018	1/17	5/3	60	14	106
2019	1/16	5/2	60	13	106
2020	1/15	7/10	53	63	177
2021	1/20	4/29	55	14	99
2022	1/19	5/5	60	14	106
2023	1/18	5/4	60	14	106
2024	1/17	5/3	60	15	107
2025	1/15	5/2	60	14	107

# 2020 LEGISLATIVE TIMETABLE

JANUARY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 NEW YEAR'S DAY			
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15 OPENING DAY	16	17 Non-Admin Bill Package Cutoff & Grants/Subsidies Cutoff	18
	19	20 DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY	21 State of the State Address & Admin Bill Package Cutoff	22 RECESS #1	23 Bill Intro Cutoff	24 RECESS #2	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	
			6	7	8	9	10

FEBRUARY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
							1
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18 PRESIDENTS' DAY	19	20 Mandatory 5-Day Recess Begins	21	22
	23	24	25	26 Last Day of Mandatory 5-Day Recess	27	28 First Decking (Bills)	29
			6	7	8	9	10

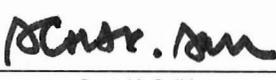
MARCH	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 RECESS #3	3	4 RECESS #4	5 First Crossover (Bills)	6 Substantive Reso Cutoff	7
	8	9 Budget Decking	10	11 Budget Crossover	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
	22	23	24	25	26 KUHIO DAY	27 RECESS #5	28
	29	30	31				
			6	7	8	9	10

APRIL	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 First Crossover (Concurrent Resos)	3 Second Decking (Bills)	4
	5	6 RECESS #6	7	8 RECESS #7	9 Second Crossover (Bills) & Disagree	10 GOOD FRIDAY	11
	12	13	14	15 RECESS #8	16	17	18
	19	20 Second Crossover (Concurrent Resos)	21	22 RECESS #9	23	24 Constitutional Amendments	25
	26	27	28 RECESS #10	29 Final Decking (Non-Fiscal Bills)	30 Final Decking (Fiscal Bills)		
			6	7	8	9	10

MAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 RECESS #11	2
	3	4 RECESS #12	5	6 RECESS #13	7 ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE		
			6	7	8	9	10

  
 Ronald D. Kouch  
 President of the Senate

11/20/19  
 Date

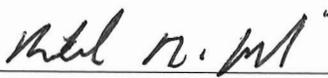
  
 Scott K. Saiki  
 Speaker of the House

11/20/19  
 Date

## APPENDIX 3-O

## 2020 LEGISLATIVE TIMETABLE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LEG. DAY</u>	<u>DEADLINE OR EVENT</u>
Jan. 15 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)	1 <sup>st</sup>	Opening Day.
Jan. 17 <sup>th</sup> (Fri)	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Last day to introduce all packages of bills except for the administration's (State Executive Branch). Last day for organizations to submit grant and subsidy requests to the Legislature.
Jan. 21 <sup>st</sup> (Tue)	4 <sup>th</sup>	State of the State Address. Last day to introduce the administration's package of bills (State Executive Branch).
Jan. 22 <sup>nd</sup> (Wed)		One-day recess.
Jan. 23 <sup>rd</sup> (Thur)	5 <sup>th</sup>	Last day for bill introductions.
Jan. 24 <sup>th</sup> (Fri)		One-day recess.
Feb. 20 <sup>th</sup> (Thur) through Feb. 26 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)		Mandatory 5-day recess.
Feb. 28 <sup>th</sup> (Fri)	24 <sup>th</sup>	Filing deadline for First Decking. Last day to deck non-budget bills for Third Reading in the originating body.
March 2 <sup>nd</sup> (Mon)		One-day recess.
March 4 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)		One-day recess.
March 5 <sup>th</sup> (Thur)	26 <sup>th</sup>	First Crossover for bills. Last day for Third Reading of bills in the originating body.
March 6 <sup>th</sup> (Fri)	27 <sup>th</sup>	Last day to introduce substantive resolutions.
March 9 <sup>th</sup> (Mon)	28 <sup>th</sup>	Filing deadline for budget bills.
March 11 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)	30 <sup>th</sup>	Budget Crossover. Last day for Third Reading of budget bills in the originating body.
March 27 <sup>th</sup> (Fri)		One-day recess.
April 2 <sup>nd</sup> (Thur)	44 <sup>th</sup>	First Crossover for concurrent resolutions. Last day to pass concurrent resolutions to the non-originating body.
April 3 <sup>rd</sup> (Fri)	45 <sup>th</sup>	Filing deadline for Second Decking. Last day to deck bills that were amended by the receiving (non-originating) body.
April 6 <sup>th</sup> (Mon)		One-day recess.
April 8 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)		One-day recess.
April 9 <sup>th</sup> (Thur)	47 <sup>th</sup>	Second Crossover for bills. Last day for Third Reading of bills that were amended by the receiving (non-originating) body. Disagree. Last day to disagree with the other body's drafts of bills.
April 15 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)		One-day recess.
April 20 <sup>th</sup> (Mon)	52 <sup>nd</sup>	Second Crossover for concurrent resolutions. Last day to pass concurrent resolutions that were amended by the receiving (non-originating) body.
April 22 <sup>nd</sup> (Wed)		One-day recess.
April 24 <sup>th</sup> (Fri)	55 <sup>th</sup>	Deadline for transmittal of final form of Constitutional Amendments to the Governor.
April 28 <sup>th</sup> (Tue)		One-day recess.
April 29 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)	57 <sup>th</sup>	Last day to file non-fiscal bills to deck for Final Reading.
April 30 <sup>th</sup> (Thur)	58 <sup>th</sup>	Last day to file fiscal bills to deck for Final Reading.
May 1 <sup>st</sup> (Fri)		One-day recess.
May 4 <sup>th</sup> (Mon)		One-day recess.
May 6 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)		One-day recess.
May 7 <sup>th</sup> (Thur)	60 <sup>th</sup>	Adjournment Sine Die.



Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate

11/20/19

Date



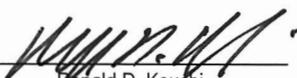
Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker of the House

11/20/19

Date

## 2020 LEGISLATIVE TIMETABLE

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
J U N E		1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11 King Kamehameha I Day	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22 Reconvene	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30 Constitutional Amendments	42	43	44	45
	47	48					
J U L Y	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2 Second Decking	3 Independence Day (Observed)	4
5	6	7 RECESS	8 Second Crossover (Bills)	9 RECESS	10 Adjournment Sine Die	11	
		51	52	53			

  
 Ronald D. Kouchi  
 President of the Senate

**5.9.20**  
 Date

  
 Scott K. Saiki  
 Speaker of the House

**6/9/20**  
 Date

## 2020 LEGISLATIVE TIMETABLE

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LEG. DAY</u>	<u>DEADLINE OR EVENT</u>
June 22 <sup>nd</sup> (Mon)	42 <sup>nd</sup>	Reconvene from recess.
June 30 <sup>th</sup> (Tue)	48 <sup>th</sup>	Deadline for transmittal of final form of Constitutional Amendments to the Governor.
July 2 <sup>nd</sup> (Thur)	50 <sup>th</sup>	Filing deadline for Second Decking. Last day to deck bills that were amended by the receiving (non-originating) body.
July 7 <sup>th</sup> (Tue)		One-day recess.
July 8 <sup>th</sup> (Wed)	52 <sup>nd</sup>	Second Crossover for bills. Last day for Third Reading of bills that were amended by the receiving (non-originating) body.
July 9 <sup>th</sup> (Thur)		One-day recess.
July 10 <sup>th</sup> (Fri)	53 <sup>rd</sup>	Adjournment Sine Die.



Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate

6.9.20

Date



Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker of the House

6/9/20

Date

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi  
Director

Shawn K. Nakama  
First Assistant

Research 808-587-0666  
Revisor 808-587-0670  
Fax 808-587-0681

  
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
State of Hawaii  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

June 13, 2024

Ms. Carol Taniguchi  
Chief Clerk of the Senate  
Hawaii State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 010  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chief Clerk Taniguchi:

Subject: Potential Effects of a Longer Legislative Session

I am a research attorney at the Legislative Reference Bureau, a nonpartisan legislative service agency of the Hawaii State Legislature. During this past legislative session, the Legislature adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 138, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, which requests that the Bureau conduct a study that examines extending the legislative session under various scenarios. For your convenience, a copy of the Concurrent Resolution is enclosed.

Currently, the Legislature's regular session consists of sixty constitutionally-mandated session days and nine to ten recess days (which includes five constitutionally mandated recess days), and typically ends in late April or early May. Committee hearings and caucus meetings typically, but not always, occur on recess days. Weekends and holidays are not counted as session days or recess days.

For the purpose of this study, we are seeking to obtain pertinent information concerning the operational and financial impact of extending the legislative session under these various scenarios might have on your agency. We respectfully submit the following questions to you:

- (1) For fiscal year 2023-2024, please specify, to the extent possible, the administrative, operational, and other expenses the Senate incurred.
- (2) For fiscal year 2024-2025, please estimate and specify the administrative, operational, and other expenses the Senate will incur.
- (3) For each of fiscal years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025, please estimate and specify the administrative, operational, and other expenses the Senate would incur or would have incurred under each of the following hypothetical scenarios:

## APPENDIX 4-A

- Scenario A: The Legislature meets year-round with a total of one hundred eighty session days, as well as twenty-seven recess days.
- Scenario B: The Legislature does not add additional session days, but spreads its current sixty regular session days over the course of one year by inserting additional recess days; and
- Scenario C: The Legislature does not meet year-round, but conducts a regular session of one hundred twenty session days, as well as eighteen recess days. The regular session ends in late August or early September of each year.
- (4) Any other cost information you believe to be relevant to the purpose of the concurrent resolution.
- (5) Please provide any other relevant information that you believe may help legislators better understand how the scenarios described in question (3) may impact the Senate.

We ask that you provide a written response to the foregoing questions, either in hard copy or by email, by August 15, 2024. Our email address is [lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov). If you require any clarification or have any other questions, please contact me by phone at 808-587-0666 or through the foregoing email address. Thank you for your time and assistance.

Very truly yours,



Paul Kanoho  
Research Attorney

ls  
Enc.

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi  
Director

Shawn K. Nakama  
First Assistant

Research 808-587-0666  
Revisor 808-587-0670  
Fax 808-587-0681



LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
State of Hawaii  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

June 13, 2024

Mr. Brian L. Takeshita  
Chief Clerk  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol, Room 027  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chief Clerk Takeshita:

Subject: Potential Effects of a Longer Legislative Session

I am a research attorney at the Legislative Reference Bureau, a nonpartisan legislative service agency of the Hawaii State Legislature. During this past legislative session, the Legislature adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 138, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, which requests that the Bureau conduct a study that examines extending the legislative session under various scenarios. For your convenience, a copy of the Concurrent Resolution is enclosed.

Currently, the Legislature's regular session consists of sixty constitutionally-mandated session days and nine to ten recess days (which includes five constitutionally mandated recess days), and typically ends in late April or early May. Committee hearings and caucus meetings typically, but not always, occur on recess days. Weekends and holidays are not counted as session days or recess days.

For the purpose of this study, we are seeking to obtain pertinent information concerning the operational and financial impact of extending the legislative session under these various scenarios might have on your agency. We respectfully submit the following questions to you:

- (1) For fiscal year 2023-2024, please specify, to the extent possible, the administrative, operational, and other expenses the House of Representatives incurred.
- (2) For fiscal year 2024-2025, please estimate and specify the administrative, operational, and other expenses the House of Representatives will incur.

## APPENDIX 4-B

- (3) For each of fiscal years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025, please estimate and specify the administrative, operational, and other expenses the House of Representatives would incur or would have incurred under each of the following hypothetical scenarios:
- Scenario A: The Legislature meets year-round with a total of one hundred eighty session days, as well as twenty-seven recess days.
- Scenario B: The Legislature does not add additional session days, but spreads its current sixty regular session days over the course of one year by inserting additional recess days; and
- Scenario C: The Legislature does not meet year-round, but conducts a regular session of one hundred twenty session days, as well as eighteen recess days. The regular session ends in late August or early September of each year.
- (4) Any other cost information you believe to be relevant to the purpose of the concurrent resolution.
- (5) Please provide any other relevant information that you believe may help legislators better understand how the scenarios described in question (3) may impact the House of Representatives.

We ask that you provide a written response to the foregoing questions, either in hard copy or by email, by August 15, 2024. Our email address is [lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov). If you require any clarification or have any other questions, please contact me by phone at 808-587-0666 or through the foregoing email address. Thank you for your time and assistance.

Very truly yours,



Paul Kanoho  
Research Attorney

ls  
Enc.

---

**RE: Potential Effects of a Longer Legislative Session**

---

**From** Brian Takeshita [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 8/14/2024 3:03 PM  
**To** Joseph Brown [REDACTED]  
**Cc** Johnny Brannon [REDACTED]; Paul Kanoho [REDACTED]

Thanks very much!

---

**From:** Joseph Brown [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 14, 2024 1:15 PM  
**To:** Brian Takeshita [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Johnny Brannon [REDACTED]; Paul Kanoho [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Potential Effects of a Longer Legislative Session

Hi Brian,

Sure, that's no problem. Thank you for keeping us informed and processing our request.

Mahalo,  
Joey

**Joseph (Joey) Brown** (He/Him)  
Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB)  
Research Division  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Ph: [REDACTED]  
<https://lrb.hawaii.gov/>

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This email is intended solely for the addressee(s) and may contain confidential information legally protected from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and immediately delete this message. Any unauthorized disclosure of this message & attachments is strictly prohibited.

---

**From:** Brian Takeshita [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 14, 2024 1:03 PM  
**To:** Joseph Brown [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Johnny Brannon [REDACTED]; Paul Kanoho [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Potential Effects of a Longer Legislative Session

Joey, our Accounting staff is still in the process of reconciling our expenses for FY 24, but they should be able to complete it by the end of this week. Once that's done, making the calculations to get you the requested information should be relatively quick, but I'm going to miss tomorrow's deadline. Will you please grant me a one-week extension to 8/22/24?

Thanks for the consideration.

Sincerely,

Brian

---

**From:** Brian Takeshita  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 13, 2024 6:38 PM  
**To:** Joseph Brown [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Johnny Brannon [REDACTED]; Paul Kanoho [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Potential Effects of a Longer Legislative Session

Thanks, Joey. I appreciate the guidance.

Sincerely,

Brian

Brian L. Takeshita  
Chief Clerk  
Hawaii State House of Representatives  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 027  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Phone: (808) 586-6400 Fax: (808) 586-6401  
E-Mail: [REDACTED]

---

**From:** Joseph Brown [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 13, 2024 4:25 PM  
**To:** Brian Takeshita [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Johnny Brannon [REDACTED]; Paul Kanoho [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Potential Effects of a Longer Legislative Session

Aloha Brian,

I understand you spoke briefly with Paul seeking clarification of definitions for “administrative expenses” and “operational expenses.” We respectfully defer to your judgment regarding any classifications of expenses and welcome you to share all expenses you can think of that may be impacted by a longer legislative session, whether classified as administrative or operational.

I hope this helps. Please let me know if we can provide further clarification.

Thank you,  
Joey

**Joseph (Joey) Brown** (He/Him)  
Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB)  
Research Division  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Ph: [REDACTED]  
<https://lrb.hawaii.gov/>

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This email is intended solely for the addressee(s) and may contain confidential information legally protected from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, please notify the sender and immediately delete this message. Any unauthorized disclosure of this message & attachments is strictly prohibited.

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi  
Director

Shawn K. Nakama  
First Assistant

Research 808-587-0666  
Revisor 808-587-0670  
Fax 808-587-0681



LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
State of Hawaii  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

August 29, 2024

Ms. Carol Taniguchi  
Chief Clerk of the Senate  
Hawaii State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 010  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chief Clerk Taniguchi:

Subject: Potential Effects of a Longer Legislative Session--Follow Up

This letter is a friendly reminder regarding a letter that the Bureau sent to you on June 13, 2024, that requested certain information relevant to a study that the Legislature requested the Bureau to perform via House Concurrent Resolution No. 138, H.D.1, S.D.1. For your convenience, a copy of the letter is enclosed.

In order to provide adequate time to properly incorporate into our report any response you may provide, we respectfully ask that you contact us no later than September 13, 2024, by telephone at 808-587-0666 or through email at [lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov). Thank you again for your time and assistance.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Kanoho". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Paul Kanoho  
Research Attorney

as  
Enc.

**APPENDIX 4-D**

HCR138 HD1 SD1

---

**From** Carol Taniguchi [REDACTED]

**Date** Mon 9/16/2024 7:02 AM

**To** Paul Kanoho [REDACTED]

Good morning,  
I apologize for the late follow-up. Brian and I have been discussing your request and are working to put our respective information together. I have a few questions regarding the request; are you available to discuss the study with me?

Thanks,  
Carol

***Carol Taniguchi***  
Senate Clerk's Office  
808 586 6656 (office)  
[REDACTED] (cell)

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi  
Director

Shawn K. Nakama  
First Assistant

Research 808-587-0666  
Revisor 808-587-0670  
Fax 808-587-0681



LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
State of Hawaii  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

June 13, 2024

Mr. Keith A. Regan  
Comptroller  
Department of Accounting and General Services  
1151 Punchbowl Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Comptroller Regan:

Subject: Potential Effects of a Longer Legislative Session

I am a research attorney at the Legislative Reference Bureau, a nonpartisan legislative service agency of the Hawaii State Legislature. During this past legislative session, the Legislature adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 138, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, which requests that the Bureau conduct a study that examines extending the legislative session under various scenarios. For your convenience, a copy of the Concurrent Resolution is enclosed.

Currently, the Legislature's regular session consists of sixty constitutionally-mandated session days and nine to ten recess days (which includes five constitutionally mandated recess days), and typically ends in late April or early May. Committee hearings and caucus meetings typically, but not always, occur on recess days. Weekends and holidays are not counted as session days or recess days.

For the purpose of this study, we are seeking to obtain pertinent information concerning the operational and financial impact of extending the legislative session under these various scenarios might have on your agency. We respectfully submit the following questions to you:

- (1) For fiscal year 2023-2024, please specify, to the extent possible, the operational and routine maintenance expenses your department incurred with respect to the state capitol building.<sup>1</sup>

---

<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this inquiry, "operational and routine maintenance expenses" does not include any planned or emergency expenses incurred for capital improvement projects.

- (2) For fiscal year 2024-2025, please estimate and specify the operational and routine maintenance expenses your department will incur with respect to the state capitol building.
- (3) For each of fiscal years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025, please estimate and specify the operational and routine maintenance expenses your department would incur or would have incurred with respect to the state capitol building, under each of the following hypothetical scenarios:
  - Scenario A: The Legislature meets year-round with a total of one hundred eighty session days, as well as twenty-seven recess days.
  - Scenario B: The Legislature does not add additional session days, but spreads its current sixty regular session days over the course of one year by inserting additional recess days; and
  - Scenario C: The Legislature does not meet year-round, but conducts a regular session of one hundred twenty session days, as well as eighteen recess days. The regular session ends in late August or early September of each year.
- (4) Any other cost information you believe to be relevant to the purpose of the concurrent resolution.
- (5) Please provide any other relevant information that you believe may help legislators better understand how the scenarios described in question (3) may impact your department.

We ask that you provide a written response to the foregoing questions, either in hard copy or by email, by August 15, 2024. Our email address is [lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov). If you require any clarification or have any other questions, please contact me by phone at 808-587-0666 or through the foregoing email address. Thank you for your time and assistance.

Very truly yours,



Paul Kanoho  
Research Attorney

ls  
Enc.

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi  
Director

Shawn K. Nakama  
First Assistant

Research 808-587-0666  
Revisor 808-587-0670  
Fax 808-587-0681



LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
State of Hawaii  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

June 13, 2024

Mr. Jordan Lowe  
Director  
Department of Law Enforcement  
715 South King Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Director Lowe:

Subject: Potential Effects of a Longer Legislative Session

I am a research attorney at the Legislative Reference Bureau, a nonpartisan legislative service agency of the Hawaii State Legislature. During this past legislative session, the Legislature adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 138, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, which requests that the Bureau conduct a study that examines extending the legislative session under various scenarios. For your convenience, a copy of the Concurrent Resolution is enclosed.

Currently, the Legislature's regular session consists of sixty constitutionally-mandated session days and nine to ten recess days (which includes five constitutionally mandated recess days), and typically ends in late April or early May. Committee hearings and caucus meetings typically, but not always, occur on recess days. Weekends and holidays are not counted as session days or recess days.

For the purpose of this study, we are seeking to obtain pertinent information concerning the operational and financial impact of extending the legislative session under these various scenarios might have on your agency. We respectfully submit the following questions to you:

- (1) For fiscal year 2023-2024, please specify, to the extent possible, the expenses your department incurred with respect to the state capitol building, including expenses relating to the assignment of deputy sheriffs at the building.
- (2) For fiscal year 2024-2025, please estimate and specify the expenses your department will incur with respect to the state capitol building, including expenses relating to the assignment of deputy sheriffs at the building.

## APPENDIX 4-G

- (3) For each of fiscal years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025, please estimate and specify the expenses your department would incur or would have incurred with respect to the state capitol building, including expenses relating to the assignment of deputy sheriffs at the building, under each of the following hypothetical scenarios:
- Scenario A: The Legislature meets year-round with a total of one hundred eighty session days, as well as twenty-seven recess days.
- Scenario B: The Legislature does not add additional session days, but spreads its current sixty regular session days over the course of one year by inserting additional recess days; and
- Scenario C: The Legislature does not meet year-round, but conducts a regular session of one hundred twenty session days, as well as eighteen recess days. The regular session ends in late August or early September of each year.
- (4) Any other cost information you believe to be relevant to the purpose of the concurrent resolution.
- (5) Please provide any other relevant information that you believe may help legislators better understand how the scenarios described in question (3) may impact your department.

We ask that you provide a written response to the foregoing questions, either in hard copy or by email, by August 15, 2024. Our email address is [lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov). If you require any clarification or have any other questions, please contact me by phone at 808-587-0666 or through the foregoing email address. Thank you for your time and assistance.

Very truly yours,



Paul Kanoho  
Research Attorney

Is  
Enc.

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi  
Director

Shawn K. Nakama  
First Assistant

Research 808-587-0666  
Revisor 808-587-0670  
Fax 808-587-0681



LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
State of Hawaii  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

September 19, 2024

Mr. Robin K. Matsunaga  
Ombudsman  
Office of the Ombudsman  
465 South King Street, 4th Floor  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Ombudsman Matsunaga:

Subject: Potential Effects of a Longer Legislative Session

I am a research attorney at the Legislative Reference Bureau, a nonpartisan legislative service agency of the Hawaii State Legislature. During this past legislative session, the Legislature adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 138, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, which requests that the Bureau conduct a study that examines extending the legislative session under various scenarios. For your convenience, a copy of the Concurrent Resolution is enclosed.

Currently, the Legislature's regular session consists of sixty constitutionally-mandated session days and nine to ten recess days (which includes five constitutionally mandated recess days), and typically ends in late April or early May. Committee hearings and caucus meetings may occur on recess days. Weekends and holidays are not counted as session days or recess days.

For the purpose of this study, we are seeking to obtain pertinent information concerning the operational and financial impact, if any, of extending the legislative session under these various scenarios might have on your agency, given its attachment to the Legislature. Accordingly, we respectfully submit the following questions to you:

- (1) For fiscal year 2023-2024, please specify, to the extent possible, the administrative, operational, and other expenses your agency incurred.
- (2) For fiscal year 2024-2025, please estimate and specify the administrative, operational, and other expenses your agency will incur.

## APPENDIX 4-H

- (3) For each of fiscal years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025, please estimate and specify the administrative, operational, and other expenses your agency would incur or would have incurred under each of the following hypothetical scenarios:
- Scenario A: The Legislature meets year-round with a total of one hundred eighty session days, as well as twenty-seven recess days.
- Scenario B: The Legislature does not add additional session days, but spreads its current sixty regular session days over the course of one year by inserting additional recess days; and
- Scenario C: The Legislature does not meet year-round, but conducts a regular session of one hundred twenty session days, as well as eighteen recess days. The regular session ends in late August or early September of each year.
- (4) Any other cost information or other operational impact you believe to be relevant to the purpose of the concurrent resolution.
- (5) Please provide any other relevant information that you believe may help legislators better understand how the scenarios described in question (3) may impact your agency.
- (6) Please indicate if you do not foresee any impact whatsoever on your agency by virtue of extending the legislative session under any of the foregoing scenarios.

We ask that you provide a written response to the foregoing questions, either in hard copy or by email, by October 31, 2024. Our email address is [lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov). If you require any clarification or have any other questions, please contact me by phone at 808-587-0666 or through the foregoing email address. Thank you for your time and assistance.

Very truly yours,



Paul Kanoho  
Research Attorney

ls  
Enc.

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi  
Director

Shawn K. Nakama  
First Assistant

Research 808-587-0666  
Revisor 808-587-0670  
Fax 808-587-0681



LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
State of Hawaii  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

September 19, 2024

Mr. Leslie H. Kondo  
Auditor  
Office of the Auditor  
465 South King Street, Room 500  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Auditor Kondo:

Subject: Potential Effects of a Longer Legislative Session

I am a research attorney at the Legislative Reference Bureau, a nonpartisan legislative service agency of the Hawaii State Legislature. During this past legislative session, the Legislature adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 138, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, which requests that the Bureau conduct a study that examines extending the legislative session under various scenarios. For your convenience, a copy of the Concurrent Resolution is enclosed.

Currently, the Legislature's regular session consists of sixty constitutionally-mandated session days and nine to ten recess days (which includes five constitutionally mandated recess days), and typically ends in late April or early May. Committee hearings and caucus meetings may occur on recess days. Weekends and holidays are not counted as session days or recess days.

For the purpose of this study, we are seeking to obtain pertinent information concerning the operational and financial impact, if any, of extending the legislative session under these various scenarios might have on your agency, given its attachment to the Legislature. Accordingly, we respectfully submit the following questions to you:

- (1) For fiscal year 2023-2024, please specify, to the extent possible, the administrative, operational, and other expenses your agency incurred.
- (2) For fiscal year 2024-2025, please estimate and specify the administrative, operational, and other expenses your agency will incur.

## APPENDIX 4-I

- (3) For each of fiscal years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025, please estimate and specify the administrative, operational, and other expenses your agency would incur or would have incurred under each of the following hypothetical scenarios:
- Scenario A: The Legislature meets year-round with a total of one hundred eighty session days, as well as twenty-seven recess days.
- Scenario B: The Legislature does not add additional session days, but spreads its current sixty regular session days over the course of one year by inserting additional recess days; and
- Scenario C: The Legislature does not meet year-round, but conducts a regular session of one hundred twenty session days, as well as eighteen recess days. The regular session ends in late August or early September of each year.
- (4) Any other cost information or other operational impact you believe to be relevant to the purpose of the concurrent resolution.
- (5) Please provide any other relevant information that you believe may help legislators better understand how the scenarios described in question (3) may impact your agency.
- (6) Please indicate if you do not foresee any impact whatsoever on your agency by virtue of extending the legislative session under any of the foregoing scenarios.

We ask that you provide a written response to the foregoing questions, either in hard copy or by email, by October 31, 2024. Our email address is [lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov). If you require any clarification or have any other questions, please contact me by phone at 808-587-0666 or through the foregoing email address. Thank you for your time and assistance.

Very truly yours,



Paul Kanoho  
Research Attorney

ls  
Enc.

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi  
Director

Shawn K. Nakama  
First Assistant

Research 808-587-0666  
Revisor 808-587-0670  
Fax 808-587-0681

  
LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
State of Hawaii  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

October 2, 2025

Mr. Wesley F. Fong  
Chairperson  
Hawaii State Ethics Commission  
1001 Bishop Street, Suite 970  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Fong:

Subject: Potential Effects of a Longer Legislative Session

I am a researcher at the Legislative Reference Bureau, a nonpartisan legislative service agency of the Hawaii State Legislature. During the 2024 legislative session, the Legislature adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 138, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, which requests that the Bureau conduct a study examining the extension of the legislative session under various scenarios. For your convenience, a copy of the Concurrent Resolution is enclosed.

Currently, the Legislature's regular session consists of sixty constitutionally authorized session days and nine to ten recess days (which include five constitutionally mandated recess days). The regular session typically ends in late April or early May. Committee hearings and caucus meetings may occur on days when the session is in recess. Weekends and holidays are not counted as session days or recess days.

For the purpose of this study, we aim to gather pertinent information regarding the potential operational and financial impact, if any, that extending the legislative session under these various scenarios may have on the Commission, given its inclusion in the Legislature's annual budget. Accordingly, we respectfully submit the following questions to you:

- (1) For fiscal years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025, please specify, to the extent possible, the administrative, operational, and other expenses your agency incurred.
- (2) For each of fiscal years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025, please estimate and specify the administrative, operational, and other expenses the Commission would

## APPENDIX 4-J

incur or would have incurred under each of the following hypothetical scenarios:

Scenario A: The Legislature meets year-round with a total of one hundred eighty session days, as well as twenty-seven recess days;

Scenario B: The Legislature does not add additional session days, but spreads its current sixty regular session days over the course of one year by inserting additional recess days; and

Scenario C: The Legislature does not meet year-round but conducts a regular session of one hundred twenty session days, as well as eighteen recess days. The regular session ends in late August or early September of each year.

- (3) Any other fiscal or operational impact you believe to be relevant to the purpose of the concurrent resolution.
- (4) Please provide any other relevant information that you believe may help legislators better understand how the scenarios described in question (2) may impact the Commission.
- (5) Please indicate if you do not foresee any impact whatsoever on the Commission by virtue of extending the legislative session under any of the foregoing scenarios.

We ask that you provide a written response to the foregoing questions, either in hard copy or by email, by October 31, 2025. Our email address is [lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov). If you require any clarification or have any other questions, please contact me by phone at 808-587-0666 or via the email address provided above. Thank you for your time and assistance.

Very truly yours,



Joseph Brown  
Researcher

db  
Enc.

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



KEITH A. REGAN  
COMPTROLLER  
KA LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ  
  
MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN  
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER  
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

**STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWE LAULĀ**  
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

August 7, 2024

TO: Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi, Director  
Legislative Reference Bureau

FROM: Keith A. Regan, Comptroller 

RE: Potential Effects of a Longer Legislative Session

In response to your memo dated June 13, 2024, requesting for information concerning the operational and financial impacts of extending the legislative session under various scenarios on the department.

Should you or your staff have any questions, please feel free to contact Miyoke Ng of our Administrative Services Office at (808)586-0699.

Attachment

c: Paul Kanoho, LRB Research Attorney

**APPENDIX 4-K**

LRB Study on Potential Effects of a Longer Legislative Session - State Capitol Building - DAGS

	Session Days	Recess Days	FY2023-2024 Expenditures Actual	FY2024-2025 Expenditures Estimated
(1) FY 2023-2024 Operational & Routine Maintenance	60	15		
CSD			\$ 2,343,215	
AMD			\$ 189,478	
Security			\$ 1,437,964	
<b>DAGS TOTAL</b>				
(2) FY 2024-2025 ESTIMATED Operational & Routine Maintenance	60	15		
CSD				\$ 2,450,030
AMD				\$ 204,680
Security				\$ 2,159,952
<b>DAGS TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 4,814,662</b>
(3) Hypothetical:				
Scenario A:				
Legislature meets year-round	180	27		
CSD				\$ 3,062,538
AMD				\$ 208,040
Security				\$ 2,159,952
<b>DAGS TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 5,430,530</b>
Scenario B:				
Legislature spreads out current regular session over one year by inserting <b>additional</b> recess days.	60	15+???		
CSD				\$ 2,450,030
AMD				\$ 204,680
Security				\$ 2,159,952
<b>DAGS TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 4,814,662</b>
Scenario C:				
Legislature spreads out current regular session over one year; Regular Session ends late August or early September of each year.	120	18		
CSD				\$ 2,940,036
AMD				\$ 206,360
Security				\$ 2,159,952
<b>DAGS TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ 5,306,348</b>
(4) Any other cost information relevant to the purpose of the concurrent resolution.				
CSD				\$ -
AMD				\$ -
Security				\$ -
<b>DAGS TOTAL</b>				<b>\$ -</b>
(5) Other relevant information to help legislators better understand how the scenarios in (3) impact the department.				
CSD			With the aging of the State Capitol, both emergency repairs and long term upgrade projects become more critical. The more use our elevators and A/C system takes on, increases in mechanical issues occur. For planned upgrade projects, these are usually done when session is out. A longer legislative session decreases the available time to complete these urgent projects. Our utility costs increase almost every year. Prices of crude oil continue to fluctuate due to geo political issues, which affect the cost of electricity needed to power our buildings. A longer session only increases our electricity, sewer, and water costs.	
AMD			There is no impact on AMD's expenditures for the State Capitol Building if the Legislative Session is extended. AMD expenditures (contracts and electricity) remain constant whether the Legislature is in session or not. Labor costs are based on Public Safety Officers (PSO) checking pay stations that average 80 minutes/day during session or 60 minutes/day when the Legislature is off-session. Labor costs were calculated based on the average hourly pay of a PSO x total number of hours worked during session.	
SECURITY			The security contract in place that is currently managed by DAGS covers services year round so costs remain constant for all scenarios. The current contract managed by DAGS is anticipated to end on December 31, 2024 with the Department of Law Enforcement anticipated to assume the contract January 1, 2025. The Memorandum of Understanding is in pending awaiting being finalized.	
<b>DAGS</b>			<b>Overall, these programs impacted by the State Capitol Building operations may need to submit budget requests for increase in utilities and operating costs should the Legislative Session be lengthened. While some costs would remain constant, other costs would fluctuate and align with other DAGS-managed buildings that are open year long during normal business hours.</b>	

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



JORDAN LOWE  
DIRECTOR

MICHAEL VINCENT  
Deputy Director  
Administration

SYLVIA LUKE  
LT GOVERNOR  
KE KE'ENA

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT**  
*Ka 'Oihana Ho'okō Kānāwai*  
715 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

JARED K. REDULLA  
Deputy Director  
Law Enforcement

No. 2024-0313

October 7, 2024

Mr. Paul Kanoho  
Research Attorney  
Legislative Reference Bureau  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mr. Kanoho:

This letter is in response to your letter dated June 13, 2024, requesting that the Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) describe the potential effects of a longer legislative session on its operations under various scenarios.

The DLE currently provides the full range of law enforcement services at the State Capitol Building 24-hours a day and seven days a week. Moreover, the DLE has traditionally provided those services at the State Capitol Building for several decades under its predecessor agency, the former Department of Public Safety (PSD).

In general, the DLE's provision of law enforcement services would not be affected by a longer legislative session because the DLE's provision of law enforcement services are not connected to the length of the legislative session. Instead, the common factors that affect the DLE's daily provision of law enforcement services are staffing shortages (e.g., retirements and vacancies), the number of calls for law enforcement services during the day, and employee leaves (such as vacations, sick, and industrial leave).

There are rare occasions defined by the traditional schedule and business of the Legislature where the DLE might also supplement the provision of law enforcement services by adding additional on-duty staff from other sections of the department. Those rare occasions might include: the opening day of the legislature, the State of the State Address, and for hearings or votes on contentious issues such as "same sex marriage" and "gun control". However, the staff used for those rare occasions are normally already "on duty". Consequently, the additional staff used for such rare occasions do not incur additional costs. Thus, the length of the legislative session, and rare legislative events would also not have any appreciable effect on the provision of DLE's law enforcement services at the State Capitol Building.

As well, the DLE does not attribute the Legislature's schedule as the reason for perceived or objective increase in the volume of calls for service or crimes reported. While the important work of the Legislature, the history of the State Capitol Building itself, and the larger numbers of people entering the building when the Legislature is in session all lend to a belief that

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**APPENDIX 4-L**

appreciably more police services for the Legislature are required, the DLE notes that there were 9000 calls for law enforcement services in all sectors (Transportation, Judiciary, State Capitol) and that the schedule of the Legislature is not thought to be a factor in the volume of crime reports generated.

The DLE is respectfully providing the following responses to the questions you posed in your letter:

- (1) For fiscal year 2023-2024, please specify, to the extent possible, the expenses your department incurred with respect to the state capitol building, including expenses relating to the assignment of deputy sheriffs at the building.**

For fiscal year 24, the DLE estimates, that its expenses related to the assignment of deputy sheriffs at the State Capitol Building was approximately eight million dollars (\$8,000,000).<sup>1</sup>

- (2) For fiscal year 2024-2025, please estimate and specify the expenses your department will incur with respect to the state capitol building, including expenses relating to the assignment of deputy sheriffs at the building.**

For fiscal year 25 (July-October 2024), the DLE estimates that its expenses at the State Capitol Building was approximately 2 million dollars (\$2,000,000)<sup>2</sup>.

- (3) For each of fiscal years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025, please estimate and specify the expenses your department would incur or would have incurred with respect to the state capitol building, including expenses relating to the assignment of deputy sheriffs at the building, under each of the following hypothetical scenarios:**

**Scenario A:** The Legislature meets year-round with a total of one hundred eighty session days, as well as twenty-seven recess days.

**Scenario B:** The Legislature does not add additional session days, but spreads its current sixty regular session days over the course of one year by inserting additional recess days; and

**Scenario C:** The Legislature does not meet year-round but conducts a regular session of one hundred twenty session days, as well as eighteen recess days. The regular session ends in late August or early September of each year.

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<sup>1</sup> Estimated fiscal year 2024 expenses for the second half of the fiscal year from January through June 2024 was approximately 3.8 (~4) million dollars. Therefore, estimated full year (July 2023-June 2024) expenses was about 8 million dollars.

<sup>2</sup> Estimated 3-month expenditures is based on a full year estimate of costs at 8 million dollars.

As explained earlier, none of the three scenarios presented here would have any appreciable effect on the provision of law enforcement services at the State Capitol Building because deputy sheriffs are assigned there 24 hours a day. Moreover, any changes to the Legislature's schedule are independent of the factors that affect DLE's ability to provide services such as staffing shortages, employee leaves, and the number of calls for services during the workday.

**(4) Any other cost information you believe to be relevant to the purpose of the concurrent resolution.**

Currently, the overall single biggest issue surrounding the provision of law enforcement services at the State Capitol Building is the number of vacancies within the DLE statewide. Presently, the DLE has approximately 70 vacancies in its deputy sheriff ranks statewide. Consequently, it is not the legislature's schedule that affects the services provided, but rather, among other equally important things, is the delays and shortcomings of providing services when the DLE does not have the staffing. Thus, if the DLE cannot attract recruits to fill its vacancies, then the DLE cannot provide services effectively in the State Capitol Building irrespective of the Legislature's schedule.

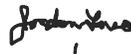
To remedy the current shortage of staffing, the DLE must improve its ability to recruit in the law enforcement industry. Currently, county police recruits earn approximately \$83,000 per year when they start. By contrast, DLE recruits make approximately \$55,000 per year. Consequently, the DLE is not competitive in the job marketplace, thereby affecting our ability to meet necessary staffing levels to provide optimum services.

**(5) Please provide any other relevant information that you believe may help legislators better understand how the scenarios described in question (3) may impact your department.**

Nothing further.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to your questions. Should you have any questions, please contact Deputy Director for Law Enforcement Jared Redulla at (808) 587-1187 or email [Jared.K.Redulla@hawaii.gov](mailto:Jared.K.Redulla@hawaii.gov).

Sincerely,



Jordan Lowe  
Director

cc: Jared Redulla



Robin K. Matsunaga  
Ombudsman

Yvonne M.F. Jinbo  
First Assistant

**OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN  
STATE OF HAWAII**

465 South King Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Tel: 808-587-0770 Fax: 808-587-0773 TTY: 808-587-0774  
complaints@ombudsman.hawaii.gov

October 16, 2024

Mr. Paul Kanoho  
Legislative Reference Bureau  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mr. Kanoho:

Re: Potential Effects of a Longer Legislative Session

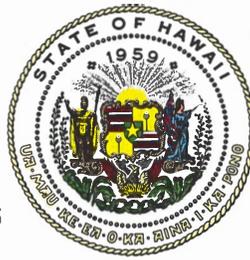
This is in response to your letter dated September 19, 2024, requesting information relating to the matter referenced above.

Please be informed that the Office of the Ombudsman did not incur any administrative, operational, or other expenses during fiscal year 2023-2024 that can be attributed to the legislative session. Unless the Legislature requires the Office of the Ombudsman to provide services during the legislative session, I do not anticipate that any administrative, operational, or other expenses attributable to the legislative session would be incurred during fiscal year 2024-2025.

I also do not anticipate that any administrative, operational, or other expenses attributable to the legislative session would be incurred under any of the scenarios described in item (3) of your letter. I cannot formulate with any reasonable amount of certainty the possible impacts the aforementioned scenarios would have on my office, nor can I state with any certainty that extending the legislative session under any of the aforementioned scenarios would not impact my office in any way.

Sincerely yours,

ROBIN K. MATSUNAGA  
Ombudsman



October 9, 2024

**VIA STATE MESSENGER**

Mr. Paul Kanoho, Research Attorney  
Legislative Reference Bureau  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

**Re: Potential Effects of a Longer Legislative Session**

Dear Mr. Kanoho:

Thank you for your letter dated September 19, 2024, requesting information about the financial and operational impacts to the Office of the Auditor of extending the legislative session.

For fiscal year 2023-2024, we incurred \$2,536,823 in costs, including personal services and operational expenses. For fiscal year 2024-2025, we estimate those costs to be no more than \$3,406,800.

We do not anticipate any material financial impact to the office if the legislative session is extended under any of the scenarios that you present. Depending on the procedural rules associated with an extended session, there may be slight administrative and operational impacts. For example, presumably, we will be required to track and testify on legislation beyond the period that we currently perform those activities.

If you have additional questions, please contact me.

Very truly yours,

Leslie H. Kondo  
State Auditor

**APPENDIX 4-N**



# HAWAI'I STATE ETHICS COMMISSION

*Komikina Ho'opono Kulekele o Hawai'i Moku'āina*

October 21, 2025

Mr. Joseph Brown  
Researcher  
Legislative Reference Bureau  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 446  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Mr. Brown:

In response to your letter dated October 2, 2025, the Hawai'i State Ethics Commission's ("Commission") provides the following summary of its administrative and operational expenses for the past two fiscal years:

	<b>FY 2023-2024</b>	<b>FY 2024-2025</b>
Staff Salaries	\$ 1,143,167.26	\$ 1,252,806.75
Office Expenses	\$ 22,082.08	\$ 8,340.13
Out-of-State Travel	\$ 8,930.58	\$ 10,270.24
Office Rent	\$ 137,267.98	\$ 118,055.28
Salesforce Enhancements	\$ 35,287.97	\$ 58,639.77
Upgrading SharePoint	\$ 32,482.00	\$ 23,400.00
Total Appropriated	\$ 1,541,514.00	\$ 1,584,678.00
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,469,284.46	\$ 1,562,968.20
Balance lapsed back	\$ 72,229.54	\$ 21,709.80
Percentage Expended	95.3%	98.6%

## Potential Cost Implications of Legislative Session Extensions

The Commission's responsibilities include administering lobbying laws and collecting and publishing financial and lobbying-related disclosures in accordance with Hawai'i law. If the length of the legislative session were to increase, statutory revisions may be required to adjust the timing and frequency of required disclosures. This would likely necessitate corresponding updates to the Commission's online database, forms, and training materials.

Based on past experience with similar system modifications, the Commission estimates a **one-time cost of approximately \$50,000** to implement these statutory and technological changes. This general estimate depends on the specific proposed modifications to the legislative session, but it would generally cover software development, testing, training updates, and related administrative work.

Mr. Joseph Brown

October 21, 2025

Page 2

Apart from these one-time implementation costs, the Commission does **not anticipate significant recurring annual cost increases** under any of the three proposed scenarios (A, B, or C) regarding changes to the length of the legislative session.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact our Executive Director & General Counsel, Robert D. Harris.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wesley Fong', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Wesley Fong

Chair

Hawai'i State Ethics Commission

**Figure 1 - Executive Salary Recommendations**  
(Copied from 2025 Commission on Salaries Report)

<b>Position</b>	<b>No. of Pos</b>	<b>7/1/2025</b>	<b>7/1/2026</b>	<b>7/1/2027</b>	<b>7/1/2028</b>	<b>7/1/2029</b>	<b>7/1/2030</b>
Governor	1	217,908	226,620	244,752	254,544	264,720	275,304
Lieutenant Governor	1	216,660	225,324	238,848	248,400	258,336	268,668
<b>Tier 1</b> Admin. Director of the State, Attorney General, Director of Budget and Finance	3	216,660	225,324	234,336	243,708	253,452	263,592
<b>Tier 2 Dept. Directors</b> DAGS, DBEDT, DCCA, DCR, DHHL, DHRD, DHS, DLE, DLIR, DLNR, DOA, DOH, DOT, TAX	14	206,352	214,608	223,188	232,116	241,404	251,064
<b>Tier 1 Deputy Dept. Directors</b> Attorney General, Budget and Finance	2	199,308	207,276	215,568	224,196	233,160	242,484
<b>Tier 2 Deputy Dept. Directors</b> DAGS, DBEDT, DCCA, DCR, DHHL, DHRD, DHS, DLE, DLIR, DLNR, DOA, DOH, DOT, TAX	26	189,804	197,400	205,296	213,504	222,048	230,928

**Figure 2 - Judicial Salary Recommendations**

(Copied from 2025 Commission on Salaries Report)

<b>Position</b>	<b>No. of Pos</b>	<b>7/1/2025</b>	<b>7/1/2026</b>	<b>7/1/2027</b>	<b>7/1/2028</b>	<b>7/1/2029</b>	<b>7/1/2030</b>
Chief Justice, Supreme	1	272,940	300,240	324,264	337,236	350,724	364,752
Associate Justice, Supreme	4	263,652	290,016	313,212	325,740	338,772	352,320
Chief Judge, Intermediate	1	254,400	279,840	302,232	314,316	326,892	339,972
Associate Judge, Intermediate	6	245,088	269,592	293,856	305,616	317,844	330,552
Circuit Court Judge	33	243,156	267,468	291,540	303,204	315,336	327,948
District/Family/Per Diem Court Judge	50	225,828	248,412	268,284	279,012	290,172	301,776

Table 1 - Executive Salaries and Costs

Position	No. of Empl.	Current Salary Effective 7/1/2018		Recommendation by the 2019 Commission on Salaries																		Total Salaries 7/1/2019 to 6/30/2025	Increase			
				7/1/2019		Increase	7/1/2020		Increase	7/1/2021		Increase	7/1/2022		Increase	7/1/2023		Increase	7/1/2024		Increase					
				Salary	Cost		Salary	Cost		Salary	Cost		Salary	Cost		Salary	Cost		Salary	Cost				Salary	Cost	
Governor	1	158,700	158,700	165,048	165,048	4.0%	171,648	171,648	4.0%	175,944	175,944	2.5%	180,348	180,348	2.5%	184,860	184,860	2.5%	189,480	189,480	2.5%	1,067,328	12.1%			
Lieutenant Governor	1	154,812	154,812	162,552	162,552	5.0%	170,676	170,676	5.0%	174,948	174,948	2.5%	179,316	179,316	2.5%	183,804	183,804	2.5%	188,400	188,400	2.5%	1,059,696	14.1%			
<b>Tier 1</b> Admin Director of the State; Attorney General; Dept Head, B&F	3	154,812	464,436	162,552	487,656	5.0%	170,676	512,028	5.0%	174,948	524,844	2.5%	179,316	537,948	2.5%	183,804	551,412	2.5%	188,400	565,200	2.5%	3,179,088	14.1%			
<b>Tier 2</b> Dept Heads DAGS, DBEDT, DCCA, DHHL, DHRD, DHS, DLIR, DLNR, DOA, DOH, DOT, PSD, TAX	13	147,444	1,916,772	154,812	2,012,556	5.0%	162,552	2,113,176	5.0%	166,620	2,166,060	2.5%	170,784	2,220,192	2.5%	175,056	2,275,728	2.5%	179,436	2,332,668	2.5%	13,120,380	14.1%			
<b>Tier 1</b> Deputy Dept Heads Attorney General, B&F	2	142,428	284,856	149,544	299,088	5.0%	157,020	314,040	5.0%	160,944	321,888	2.5%	164,964	329,928	2.5%	169,092	338,184	2.5%	173,316	346,632	2.5%	1,949,760	14.1%			
<b>Tier 2</b> Deputy Dept Heads DAGS, DBEDT, DCCA, DHHL, DHRD, DHS, DLIR, DLNR, DOA, DOH, DOT, PSD, TAX	24	135,636	3,255,264	142,416	3,417,984	5.0%	149,532	3,588,768	5.0%	153,276	3,678,624	2.5%	157,104	3,770,496	2.5%	161,028	3,864,672	2.5%	165,048	3,961,152	2.5%	22,281,696	14.1%			
Total	44		6,234,840		6,544,884			6,870,336			7,042,308			7,218,228			7,398,660			7,583,532			42,657,948	14.0%		
Cost for 6 years			37,409,040																					5,248,908		
Difference with Current Cost (7/1/2019 to 6/30/2025)																									1,348,692	
Difference with Previous Year					310,044	5.0%		325,452	5.0%		171,972	2.5%		175,920	2.5%		180,432	2.5%		184,872	2.5%				1,348,692	21.6%

(Copied from 2019 Commission on Salaries Report.)

APPENDIX 4-Q

Table 2 - Judicial Salaries and Costs

Position	No. of Empl.	Current Effective 7/1/2018		Recommendation by the 2019 Commission on Salaries																		Total Salaries 7/1/2019 to 6/30/2024	Increase
				7/1/2019		Increase	7/1/2020		Increase	7/1/2021		Increase	7/1/2022		Increase	7/1/2023		Increase	7/1/2024		Increase		
				Salary	Cost		Salary	Cost		Salary	Cost		Salary	Cost		Salary	Cost		Salary	Cost			
Chief Justice, Supreme	1	236,100	236,100	238,104	238,104	0.8%	240,108	240,108	0.8%	242,112	242,112	0.8%	244,116	244,116	0.8%	246,120	246,120	0.8%	248,124	248,124	0.8%	1,458,684	3.0%
Associate Justice, Supreme	4	227,664	910,656	229,668	918,672	0.9%	231,672	926,688	0.9%	233,676	934,704	0.9%	235,680	942,720	0.9%	237,684	950,736	0.9%	239,688	958,752	0.8%	5,632,272	3.1%
Chief Judge, Intermediate	1	219,252	219,252	221,256	221,256	0.9%	223,260	223,260	0.9%	225,264	225,264	0.9%	227,268	227,268	0.9%	229,272	229,272	0.9%	231,276	231,276	0.9%	1,357,596	3.2%
Associate Judge, Intermediate	5	210,780	1,053,900	212,784	1,063,920	1.0%	214,788	1,073,940	0.9%	216,792	1,083,960	0.9%	218,796	1,093,980	0.9%	220,800	1,104,000	0.9%	222,804	1,114,020	0.9%	6,533,820	3.3%
Circuit Court Judge	33	205,080	6,767,640	207,084	6,833,772	1.0%	209,088	6,899,904	1.0%	211,092	6,966,036	1.0%	213,096	7,032,168	0.9%	215,100	7,098,300	0.9%	217,104	7,164,432	0.9%	41,994,612	3.4%
District/Family/Per Diem Court Judge	48	193,272	9,277,056	195,276	9,373,248	1.0%	197,280	9,469,440	1.0%	199,284	9,565,632	1.0%	201,288	9,661,824	1.0%	203,292	9,758,016	1.0%	205,296	9,854,208	1.0%	57,682,368	3.6%
Total	92		18,464,604		18,648,972			18,833,340			19,017,708			19,202,076			19,386,444			19,570,812		114,659,352	3.5%
Cost for 6 years			110,787,624																				110,787,624
Difference with Current Cost (7/1/2019 to 6/30/2025)							184,368		184,368		184,368		184,368		184,368		184,368		184,368		184,368		1,106,208
Difference with Previous Year							1.0%		1.0%		1.0%		1.0%		1.0%		1.0%		1.0%		1.0%		6.0%

Table 3 - Legislative Salaries and Costs

Position	No. of Empl.	Current Effective 1/1/2018		Recommendation by the 2019 Commission on Salaries												Total Salaries 1/1/2021 to 12/31/2026	Increase		
				1/1/2021		Increase	1/1/2022		Increase	1/1/2023		Increase	1/1/2024		Increase				
				Salary	Cost		Salary	Cost		Salary	Cost		Salary	Cost					
House Speaker/ Senate President	2	70,104	140,208	77,112	154,224	10.0%	79,044	158,088	2.5%	81,024	162,048	2.5%	83,052	166,104	2.5%		972,672	15.6%	
Representative/Senator	74	62,604	4,632,696	68,868	5,096,232	10.0%	70,584	5,223,216	2.5%	72,348	5,353,752	2.5%	74,160	5,487,840	2.5%		32,136,720	15.6%	
Total	76		4,772,904		5,250,456			5,381,304			5,515,800			5,653,944					
Cost for 6 years			28,637,424															33,109,392	15.6%
Difference with Current Cost																			4,471,968
Difference with Previous Year							477,552		130,848		134,496		138,144		881,040				18.5%
							10%		2.5%		2.5%		2.5%						

**Assembly Staff Salaries - 05/31/25**

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Organization Name</b>	<b>Monthly Salary</b>	<b>Time Base</b>
Account Clerk I	Rules-Fiscal	5,000	100%
Account Clerk I	Rules-Fiscal	5,000	100%
Account Clerk II	Rules-Fiscal	5,519	100%
Account Clerk II	Rules-Fiscal	5,800	100%
Account Clerk III	Rules-Fiscal	9,496	100%
Account Clerk III	Rules-Fiscal	10,843	100%
Assistant Chief Clerk	Chief Clerk	16,712	100%
Assistant Clerk I	Chief Clerk	4,833	100%
Assistant Clerk I	Chief Clerk	4,833	100%
Assistant Clerk I	Chief Clerk	4,833	100%
Assistant Clerk I	Chief Clerk	4,875	100%
Assistant Clerk I	Chief Clerk	4,875	100%
Assistant Clerk I	Chief Clerk	4,954	100%
Assistant Clerk I	Chief Clerk	4,954	100%
Assistant Clerk I	Chief Clerk	4,954	100%
Assistant Clerk I	Chief Clerk	4,954	100%
Assistant Clerk I	Chief Clerk	4,954	100%
Assistant Clerk I	Chief Clerk	4,954	100%
Assistant Clerk I	Chief Clerk	5,078	100%
Assistant Clerk II	Chief Clerk	6,730	100%
Assistant Clerk II	Chief Clerk	6,730	100%
Assistant Clerk II	Chief Clerk	7,248	100%
Assistant Clerk II	Chief Clerk	7,429	100%
Assistant Clerk II	Chief Clerk	8,017	100%
Assistant Clerk II	Chief Clerk	8,200	100%
Assistant Fiscal Officer	Rules-Fiscal	14,842	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	5,417	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	5,417	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	5,417	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	5,417	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	5,417	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	5,417	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	5,417	100%
Associate Consultant	Republican Caucus	5,417	100%
Associate Consultant	Republican Caucus	5,417	100%
Associate Consultant	Republican Caucus	5,417	100%
Associate Consultant	Republican Caucus	5,417	100%
Associate Consultant	Republican Caucus	5,417	100%
Associate Consultant	Republican Caucus	5,417	100%

**APPENDIX 4-R**

Associate Consultant	Republican Caucus	5,437	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	5,500	100%
Associate Consultant	Republican Caucus	5,671	100%
Associate Consultant	Republican Caucus	5,691	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	5,742	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	5,830	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	5,833	100%
Associate Consultant	Republican Caucus	5,834	100%
Associate Consultant	Republican Caucus	5,852	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	5,917	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	5,989	100%
Associate Consultant	Republican Caucus	6,000	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	6,101	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	6,128	100%
Associate Consultant	Republican Caucus	6,328	100%
Associate Consultant	Republican Caucus	6,331	100%
Associate Consultant	Republican Caucus	6,375	100%
Associate Consultant	Rules-Administration	6,439	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	6,500	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	6,531	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	6,531	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	6,667	100%
Associate Consultant	Republican Caucus	6,848	100%
Associate Consultant	Republican Caucus	6,912	100%
Associate Consultant	Republican Caucus	7,200	100%
Associate Consultant	Ortega, L-Latino Caucus	7,500	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	7,597	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	7,904	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	8,000	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	8,113	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	8,415	100%
Associate Consultant	Schultz, N-Public Safety	8,667	100%
Associate Consultant	Schultz, N-Public Safety	8,667	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	9,336	100%
Associate Consultant	Democratic Caucus	9,756	100%
Asst Sgt-At-Arms I	Sergeant-at-Arms	6,400	100%
Asst Sgt-At-Arms I	Sergeant-at-Arms	6,724	100%
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	6,724	100%
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	7,064	100%

Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	7,241	100%
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	7,241	100%
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	7,422	100%
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	7,515	100%
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	7,608	100%
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	7,798	100%
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	9,269	100%
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	9,269	100%
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	9,269	100%
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	9,501	100%
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	\$40.00/hr	-
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	\$40.00/hr	-
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	\$40.00/hr	-
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	\$40.00/hr	-
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	\$40.00/hr	-
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	\$40.00/hr	-
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	\$40.00/hr	-
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	\$40.00/hr	-
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	\$40.00/hr	-
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	\$40.00/hr	-
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	\$40.00/hr	-
Asst Sgt-At-Arms II	Sergeant-at-Arms	\$40.00/hr	-
Chief Admin Officer	Rules-Administration	22,976	100%
Chief Clerk	Chief Clerk	22,098	100%
Chief Consultant	Schiavo, P-Military & Veterans Affairs	10,348	100%
Chief Consultant	Republican Caucus	10,839	100%
Chief Consultant	Republican Caucus	11,303	100%
Chief Consultant	Republican Caucus	11,493	100%
Chief Consultant	Republican Caucus	11,667	100%
Chief Consultant	Republican Caucus	11,836	100%
Chief Consultant	Boerner, T-Comm & Conveyance	11,964	100%
Chief Consultant	Valencia, A-Banking & Finance	12,258	100%
Chief Consultant	Republican Caucus	12,280	100%
Chief Consultant	Ward, C-Arts, Entmt, Spts, & Tourism	12,301	100%
Chief Consultant	Democratic Caucus	12,655	100%
Chief Consultant	Democratic Caucus	13,000	100%
Chief Consultant	Republican Caucus	13,150	100%
Chief Consultant	Republican Caucus	13,394	100%
Chief Consultant	Democratic Caucus	13,500	100%

Chief Consultant	Berman, M-Business & Professions	13,529	100%
Chief Consultant	Sharp-Collins, L-Asst. Majority Leader on Policy	13,728	100%
Chief Consultant	Solache, J-Econ. Dev., Growth & HH	13,913	100%
Chief Consultant	Republican Caucus	13,916	100%
Chief Consultant	Lee, A-Human Services	13,999	100%
Chief Consultant	Harabedian, J-Jt. Leg. Audit Committee	14,034	100%
Chief Consultant	Republican Caucus	14,254	100%
Chief Consultant	Papan, D-Water, Parks & Wildlife	14,934	100%
Chief Consultant	Bains,J-Aging & Long-Term Care	14,987	100%
Chief Consultant	Republican Caucus	15,193	100%
Chief Consultant	Schultz, N-Public Safety	15,300	100%
Chief Consultant	Republican Caucus	15,495	100%
Chief Consultant	Ransom, R-Emergency Management	15,742	100%
Chief Consultant	Soria, E-Agriculture	15,850	100%
Chief Consultant	Petrie-Norris, C-Utilities & Energy	16,236	100%
Chief Consultant	Stefani, C-Asm. Legislative Ethics	16,236	100%
Chief Consultant	Calderon, L-Insurance	16,320	100%
Chief Consultant	Carrillo, J-Local Gov't	16,500	100%
Chief Consultant	Democratic Caucus	16,500	100%
Chief Consultant	Democratic Caucus	16,500	100%
Chief Consultant	Connolly, D-Env. Safety & Toxic Materials	16,597	100%
Chief Consultant	Ortega, L-Labor & Employment	16,679	100%
Chief Consultant	Rubio, B-Governmental Organization	16,957	100%
Chief Consultant	Gipson, M-Revenue & Tax	17,005	100%
Chief Consultant	Republican Caucus	17,050	100%
Chief Consultant	Democratic Caucus	17,083	100%
Chief Consultant	Democratic Caucus	17,267	100%
Chief Consultant	Bonta, M-Health	17,300	100%
Chief Consultant	Fong, M-Higher Education	17,319	100%
Chief Consultant	Bauer-Kahan, R-Privacy & Consumer Protection	17,484	100%
Chief Consultant	Muratsuchi, A-Education	17,484	100%
Chief Consultant	Democratic Caucus	17,667	100%
Chief Consultant	Democratic Caucus	18,310	100%
Chief Consultant	Pellerin, G-Elections	18,650	100%
Chief Consultant	Democratic Caucus	18,750	100%
Chief Consultant	Haney, M-Housing & Community Dev.	18,767	100%
Chief Consultant	McKinnor, T-PERS	18,838	100%
Chief Consultant	Wilson, L-Transportation	18,838	100%
Chief Consultant	Bryan, I-Natural Resources	19,434	100%

Chief Consultant	Kalra, A-Judiciary	20,326	100%
Chief Consultant	Democratic Caucus	20,834	100%
Chief Consultant	Wicks, B-Appropriations	21,303	100%
Chief Consultant	Democratic Caucus	23,090	100%
Chief Consultant	Gabriel, J-Budget	23,090	100%
Chief Info Systems Officer	Rules-Information Technology	22,277	100%
Chief Of Staff	DeMaio, C-District Office	8,750	100%
Chief Of Staff	Gonzalez, J-District Office	8,750	100%
Chief Of Staff	Quirk-Silva, S-Capitol Office	9,658	100%
Chief Of Staff	Bonta, M-Capitol Office	10,150	100%
Chief Of Staff	Hadwick, H-Capitol Office	10,150	100%
Chief Of Staff	Harabedian, J-Capitol Office	10,150	100%
Chief Of Staff	Lackey, T-Capitol Office	10,150	100%
Chief Of Staff	Rubio, B-Capitol Office	10,150	100%
Chief Of Staff	Schiavo, P-Capitol Office	10,150	100%
Chief Of Staff	Tangipa, D-Capitol Office	10,205	100%
Chief Of Staff	Addis, D-Capitol Office	10,834	100%
Chief Of Staff	Elhawary, S-Capitol Office	10,834	100%
Chief Of Staff	Jackson, C-Capitol Office	10,834	100%
Chief Of Staff	Lowenthal, J-Capitol Office	10,834	100%
Chief Of Staff	Papan, D-Capitol Office	10,834	100%
Chief Of Staff	Patel, D-Capitol Office	10,834	100%
Chief Of Staff	Patterson, Joe-District Office	10,834	100%
Chief Of Staff	Ransom, R-Capitol Office	10,834	100%
Chief Of Staff	Rogers, C-Capitol Office	10,834	100%
Chief Of Staff	Stefani, C-Capitol Office	10,834	100%
Chief Of Staff	Alanis, J-Capitol Office	11,000	100%
Chief Of Staff	Calderon, L-Capitol Office	11,000	100%
Chief Of Staff	Connolly, D-Capitol Office	11,000	100%
Chief Of Staff	Davies, L-District Office	11,000	100%
Chief Of Staff	Dixon, D-Capitol Office	11,000	100%
Chief Of Staff	Ortega, L-Capitol Office	11,000	100%
Chief Of Staff	Gipson, M-Capitol Office	11,130	100%
Chief Of Staff	Sanchez, K-District Office	11,262	100%
Chief Of Staff	Ta, T-District Office	11,262	100%
Chief Of Staff	Ahrens, P-Capitol Office	11,362	100%
Chief Of Staff	Carrillo, J-Capitol Office	11,408	100%
Chief Of Staff	Democratic Caucus	11,748	100%
Chief Of Staff	Solache, J-Capitol Office	11,925	100%

Chief Of Staff	Wilson, L-Capitol Office	12,159	100%
Chief Of Staff	Bryan, I-Capitol Office	12,186	100%
Chief Of Staff	Valencia, A-Capitol Office	12,190	100%
Chief Of Staff	Hoover, J-Capitol Office	12,250	100%
Chief Of Staff	Wallis, G-Capitol Office	12,250	100%
Chief Of Staff	Chen, P-District Office	12,355	100%
Chief Of Staff	Flora, H-Capitol Office	12,355	100%
Chief Of Staff	Petrie-Norris, C-Capitol Office	12,355	100%
Chief Of Staff	Gabriel, J-Capitol Office	12,500	100%
Chief Of Staff	Zbur, R-Capitol Office	12,500	100%
Chief Of Staff	Muratsuchi, A-Capitol Office	12,750	100%
Chief Of Staff	Caloza, J-Capitol Office	13,073	100%
Chief Of Staff	Kalra, A-Capitol Office	13,256	100%
Chief Of Staff	Ellis, S-Capitol Office	13,306	100%
Chief Of Staff	Macedo, A-Capitol Office	13,306	100%
Chief Of Staff	Boerner, T-Capitol Office	13,333	100%
Chief Of Staff	Soria, E-Capitol Office	13,426	100%
Chief Of Staff	Lee, A-Capitol Office	13,610	100%
Chief Of Staff	Avila Farias, A-Capitol Office	13,811	100%
Chief Of Staff	Gallagher, J-District Office	14,101	90%
Chief Of Staff	Gonzalez, M-Capitol Office	14,150	100%
Chief Of Staff	Sharp-Collins, L-Capitol Office	14,244	100%
Chief Of Staff	Irwin, J-Capitol Office	14,480	100%
Chief Of Staff	Haney, M-District Office	14,625	100%
Chief Of Staff	Bains, J-Capitol Office	14,718	100%
Chief Of Staff	Ward, C-Capitol Office	14,718	100%
Chief Of Staff	Pacheco, B-Capitol Office	14,840	100%
Chief Of Staff	Bennett, S-Capitol Office	14,910	100%
Chief Of Staff	Pellerin, G-Capitol Office	15,086	100%
Chief Of Staff	Alvarez, D-Capitol Office	15,168	100%
Chief Of Staff	Garcia, R-Capitol Office	15,968	100%
Chief Of Staff	Krell, M-Capitol Office	16,246	100%
Chief Of Staff	Wicks, B-Capitol Office	16,515	100%
Chief Of Staff	McKinnor, T-Capitol Office	16,653	100%
Chief Of Staff	Schultz, N-Capitol Office	16,653	100%
Chief Of Staff	Arambula, J-Capitol Office	16,679	100%
Chief Of Staff	Bauer-Kahan, R-Capitol Office	17,250	100%
Chief Of Staff	Ramos, J-Capitol Office	17,496	100%
Chief Of Staff	Fong, M-Capitol Office	17,899	100%

Chief Of Staff	Berman, M-Capitol Office	17,933	100%
Chief Of Staff	Rodriguez, M-Capitol Office	18,028	100%
Chief Of Staff	Aguiar-Curry, C-Capitol Office	20,221	100%
Chief Of Staff-Minority Leader	Republican Caucus	17,050	100%
Chief Of Staff-Speaker	Democratic Caucus	24,167	100%
Chief Sergeant-At-Arms	Sergeant-at-Arms	16,250	100%
Committee Secretary I	Kalra, A-Judiciary	4,834	100%
Committee Secretary I	Gabriel, J-Budget	4,954	100%
Committee Secretary I	Schiavo, P-Military & Veterans Affairs	5,100	100%
Committee Secretary I	Schultz, N-Public Safety	5,100	100%
Committee Secretary I	Berman, M-Business & Professions	5,800	100%
Committee Secretary I	Bonta, M-Health	5,800	100%
Committee Secretary I	Fong, M-Higher Education	6,185	100%
Committee Secretary I	Solache, J-Econ. Dev., Growth & HH	6,275	100%
Committee Secretary I	Harabedian, J-Jt. Leg. Audit Committee	6,321	100%
Committee Secretary I	Calderon, L-Insurance	6,400	100%
Committee Secretary I	Wicks, B-Appropriations	6,621	100%
Committee Secretary II	Connolly, D-Env. Safety & Toxic Materials	5,000	100%
Committee Secretary II	Bauer-Kahan, R-Privacy & Consumer Protection	6,765	100%
Committee Secretary II	Bonta, M-Health	6,800	100%
Committee Secretary II	Wilson, L-Transportation	7,208	100%
Committee Secretary II	Ransom, R-Emergency Management	7,882	100%
Committee Secretary II	Boerner, T-Comm & Conveyance	7,919	100%
Committee Secretary II	Gabriel, J-Budget	7,945	100%
Committee Secretary II	McKinnor, T-PERS	7,974	100%
Committee Secretary II	Haney, M-Housing & Community Dev.	8,100	100%
Committee Secretary II	Ward, C-Arts, Entmt, Spts, & Tourism	8,213	100%
Committee Secretary II	Papan, D-Water, Parks & Wildlife	8,448	100%
Committee Secretary II	Rubio, B-Governmental Organization	8,667	100%
Committee Secretary II	Bryan, I-Natural Resources	8,875	100%
Committee Secretary II	Muratsuchi, A-Education	9,008	100%
Committee Secretary II	Soria, E-Agriculture	9,209	100%
Committee Secretary II	Pellerin, G-Elections	9,558	100%
Committee Secretary II	Schultz, N-Public Safety	9,671	100%
Committee Secretary II	Carrillo, J-Local Gov't	9,797	100%
Committee Secretary II	Gipson, M-Revenue & Tax	9,797	100%
Committee Secretary II	Lee, A-Human Services	9,797	100%
Committee Secretary II	Valencia, A-Banking & Finance	9,797	100%
Committee Secretary II	Petrie-Norris, C-Utilities & Energy	9,900	100%

Committee Secretary II	Kalra, A-Judiciary	10,078	100%
Committee Secretary II	Gabriel, J-Budget	10,264	100%
Committee Secretary II	Wicks, B-Appropriations	10,292	100%
Deputy Admin Officer	Rules-Administration	20,521	100%
Deputy Chief Consultant	Democratic Caucus	10,253	100%
Deputy Chief Consultant	Democratic Caucus	10,465	100%
Deputy Chief Consultant	Democratic Caucus	13,000	100%
Deputy Chief Consultant	Kalra, A-Judiciary	13,868	100%
Deputy Chief Consultant	Democratic Caucus	14,265	100%
Deputy Chief Consultant	Democratic Caucus	15,403	100%
Deputy Chief Consultant	Wicks, B-Appropriations	15,503	100%
Deputy Chief Consultant	Schultz, N-Public Safety	16,000	100%
Deputy Chief Consultant	Democratic Caucus	16,500	100%
Deputy Chief Consultant	Gabriel, J-Budget	18,472	100%
Deputy Director	Democratic Caucus	13,295	100%
Deputy Director	Democratic Caucus	13,674	100%
Deputy Director	Democratic Caucus	14,624	100%
Deputy Director	Democratic Caucus	14,833	100%
Director of Human Resources	Rules-Human Resources	16,067	100%
District Coordinator	Ahrens, P-District Office	6,917	100%
District Coordinator	Elhawary, S-District Office	6,917	100%
District Coordinator	Stefani, C-District Office	6,917	100%
District Coordinator	Vacant District 63-District Office	6,917	100%
District Coordinator	Wallis, G-District Office	6,917	100%
District Coordinator	Bryan, I-District Office	6,946	100%
District Coordinator	Harabedian, J-District Office	7,090	100%
District Coordinator	Tangipa, D-District Office	7,150	100%
District Coordinator	Wilson, L-District Office	7,218	100%
District Coordinator	Carrillo, J-District Office	7,250	100%
District Coordinator	Garcia, R-District Office	7,267	100%
District Coordinator	Haney, M-District Office	7,267	100%
District Coordinator	Schultz, N-District Office	7,267	100%
District Coordinator	Solache, J-District Office	7,267	100%
District Coordinator	Ellis, S-District Office	7,448	100%
District Coordinator	Rodriguez, M-District Office	7,448	100%
District Coordinator	Ward, C-District Office	7,448	100%
District Coordinator	Irwin, J-District Office	7,500	100%
District Coordinator	Patel, D-District Office	7,635	100%
District Coordinator	Chen, P-District Office	7,700	100%

District Coordinator	Ortega, L-District Office	7,700	100%
District Coordinator	Rodriguez, C-District Office	7,715	100%
District Coordinator	Sharp-Collins, L-District Office	7,746	100%
District Coordinator	Schiavo, P-District Office	7,791	100%
District Coordinator	Macedo, A-District Office	7,826	100%
District Coordinator	Ransom, R-District Office	8,021	100%
District Coordinator	Sanchez, K-District Office	8,021	100%
District Coordinator	Gonzalez, M-District Office	8,110	100%
District Coordinator	Bonta, M-District Office	8,150	100%
District Coordinator	Calderon, L-District Office	8,222	100%
District Coordinator	Hart, G-District Office	8,222	100%
District Coordinator	Rubio, B-District Office	8,222	100%
District Coordinator	Bains, J-District Office	8,260	100%
District Coordinator	Lackey, T-District Office	8,309	100%
District Coordinator	Krell, M-District Office	8,333	100%
District Coordinator	Addis, D-District Office	8,347	100%
District Coordinator	Kalra, A-District Office	8,361	100%
District Coordinator	Avila Farias, A-District Office	8,400	100%
District Coordinator	Hoover, J-District Office	8,480	100%
District Coordinator	Flora, H-District Office	8,500	100%
District Coordinator	Gabriel, J-District Office	8,500	100%
District Coordinator	Ramos, J-District Office	8,547	100%
District Coordinator	Rivas, R-District Office	8,600	100%
District Coordinator	Soria, E-District Office	8,745	100%
District Coordinator	Zbur, R-District Office	8,750	100%
District Coordinator	Gipson, M-District Office	8,765	100%
District Coordinator	Quirk-Silva, S-District Office	8,854	100%
District Coordinator	Jackson, C-District Office	8,885	100%
District Coordinator	Fong, M-District Office	8,897	100%
District Coordinator	Nguyen, S-District Office	8,900	100%
District Coordinator	Rogers, C-District Office	8,910	100%
District Coordinator	Lee, A-District Office	8,961	100%
District Coordinator	Gallagher, J-District Office	9,139	100%
District Coordinator	Bennett, S-District Office	9,535	100%
District Coordinator	McKinnor, T-District Office	9,535	100%
District Coordinator	Pacheco, B-District Office	9,600	100%
District Coordinator	Aguiar-Curry, C-District Office	9,643	100%
District Coordinator	Arambula, J-District Office	9,873	100%
District Coordinator	Boerner, T-District Office	9,892	100%

District Coordinator	Pellerin, G-District Office	10,017	100%
District Coordinator	Caloza, J-District Office	10,022	100%
District Coordinator	Muratsuchi, A-District Office	10,100	100%
District Coordinator	Valencia, A-District Office	10,184	100%
District Coordinator	Wicks, B-District Office	10,238	100%
District Coordinator	Berman, M-District Office	10,416	100%
District Coordinator	Bauer-Kahan, R-District Office	10,422	100%
District Coordinator	Connolly, D-District Office	10,493	100%
District Coordinator	Lowenthal, J-District Office	10,910	100%
District Coordinator	Alvarez, D-District Office	11,396	100%
District Coordinator	Petrie-Norris, C-District Office	11,965	100%
District Coordinator	Papan, D-District Office	15,458	100%
Executive Secretary	Democratic Caucus	5,417	100%
Executive Secretary	Democratic Caucus	5,600	100%
Executive Secretary	Democratic Caucus	6,000	100%
Executive Secretary	Rules-Administration	7,107	100%
Executive Secretary	Rules-Facilities Management and Procurement	7,292	100%
Executive Secretary	Democratic Caucus	7,500	100%
Fac Procrmt Supp Officer	Rules-Facilities Management and Procurement	12,292	100%
Fac Procrmt Supp Officer	Rules-Facilities Management and Procurement	15,264	100%
Fac Procrmt Supp Specialist	Rules-Facilities Management and Procurement	5,417	100%
Fac Procrmt Supp Specialist	Rules-Warehouse	9,955	100%
Fac Procrmt Supp Specialist	Rules-Facilities Management and Procurement	10,001	100%
Fac Procrmt Supp Specialist	Rules-Facilities Management and Procurement	10,661	100%
Fac Procrmt Supp Specialist	Rules-Administration	\$63.00/hr	-
Field Representative	Patel, D-District Office	2,167	40%
Field Representative	Flora, H-District Office	2,709	50%
Field Representative	Jackson, C-District Office	2,709	50%
Field Representative	Lowenthal, J-District Office	2,709	50%
Field Representative	Sanchez, K-District Office	2,709	50%
Field Representative	Ta, T-District Office	2,709	50%
Field Representative	DeMaio, C-District Office	3,251	60%
Field Representative	Davies, L-District Office	3,405	63%
Field Representative	Wallis, G-District Office	3,525	50%
Field Representative	Irwin, J-District Office	4,334	80%
Field Representative	Gipson, M-District Office	4,489	83%
Field Representative	Garcia, R-District Office	4,710	71%
Field Representative	Ward, C-District Office	4,876	90%
Field Representative	Ahrens, P-District Office	5,417	100%

Field Representative	Ahrens, P-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Alanis, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Alanis, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Alvarez, D-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Alvarez, D-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Avila Farias, A-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Bains, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Bains, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Bains, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Bauer-Kahan, R-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Bennett, S-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Berman, M-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Boerner, T-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Boerner, T-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Boerner, T-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Boerner, T-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Bonta, M-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Bryan, I-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Caloza, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Carrillo, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Carrillo, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Castillo, L-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Castillo, L-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Castillo, L-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Castillo, L-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Chen, P-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Chen, P-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Connolly, D-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Connolly, D-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Davies, L-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Davies, L-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Davies, L-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	DeMaio, C-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Dixon, D-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Dixon, D-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Elhawary, S-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Elhawary, S-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Ellis, S-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Fong, M-District Office	5,417	100%

Field Representative	Fong, M-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Gabriel, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Gabriel, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Gabriel, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Gabriel, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Gallagher, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Garcia, R-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Garcia, R-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Gipson, M-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Gipson, M-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Gonzalez, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Gonzalez, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Gonzalez, M-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Gonzalez, M-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Hadwick, H-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Haney, M-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Haney, M-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Harabedian, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Harabedian, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Harabedian, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Hoover, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Hoover, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Hoover, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Irwin, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Irwin, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Jackson, C-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Jackson, C-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Krell, M-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Lackey, T-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Lackey, T-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Lee, A-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Macedo, A-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Muratsuchi, A-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Nguyen, S-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Nguyen, S-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Nguyen, S-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Pacheco, B-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Pacheco, B-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Pacheco, B-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Papan, D-District Office	5,417	100%

Field Representative	Patterson, Joe-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Pellerin, G-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Pellerin, G-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Quirk-Silva, S-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Quirk-Silva, S-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Ramos, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Ramos, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Ramos, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Ransom, R-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Ransom, R-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Rivas, R-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Rivas, R-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Rodriguez, C-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Rodriguez, C-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Rodriguez, M-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Rodriguez, M-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Rogers, C-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Rogers, C-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Rubio, B-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Rubio, B-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Rubio, B-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Sanchez, K-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Schiavo, P-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Schiavo, P-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Schiavo, P-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Schultz, N-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Sharp-Collins, L-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Sharp-Collins, L-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Solache, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Solache, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Soria, E-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Soria, E-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Soria, E-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Soria, E-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Stefani, C-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Stefani, C-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Tangipa, D-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Tangipa, D-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Valencia, A-District Office	5,417	100%

Field Representative	Wallis, G-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Wallis, G-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Ward, C-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Wicks, B-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Wilson, L-District Office	5,417	100%
Field Representative	Gallagher, J-District Office	5,428	100%
Field Representative	Tangipa, D-District Office	5,428	100%
Field Representative	Wilson, L-District Office	5,548	100%
Field Representative	Kalra, A-District Office	5,551	100%
Field Representative	Kalra, A-District Office	5,551	100%
Field Representative	Pellerin, G-District Office	5,552	100%
Field Representative	Solache, J-District Office	5,580	100%
Field Representative	Schultz, N-District Office	5,609	100%
Field Representative	Ortega, L-District Office	5,610	100%
Field Representative	Zbur, R-District Office	5,610	100%
Field Representative	Addis, D-District Office	5,622	100%
Field Representative	Calderon, L-District Office	5,622	100%
Field Representative	Patel, D-District Office	5,622	100%
Field Representative	Schultz, N-District Office	5,622	100%
Field Representative	Zbur, R-District Office	5,622	100%
Field Representative	Bonta, M-District Office	5,633	100%
Field Representative	Ward, C-District Office	5,654	100%
Field Representative	Gipson, M-District Office	5,676	100%
Field Representative	Hart, G-District Office	5,678	100%
Field Representative	DeMaio, C-District Office	5,691	100%
Field Representative	Macedo, A-District Office	5,691	100%
Field Representative	Ortega, L-District Office	5,691	100%
Field Representative	Fong, M-District Office	5,699	100%
Field Representative	Hart, G-District Office	5,700	100%
Field Representative	Aguiar-Curry, C-District Office	5,703	100%
Field Representative	Ta, T-District Office	5,715	100%
Field Representative	McKinnor, T-District Office	5,738	100%
Field Representative	Pellerin, G-District Office	5,762	100%
Field Representative	Wicks, B-District Office	5,774	100%
Field Representative	Garcia, R-District Office	5,782	100%
Field Representative	Kalra, A-District Office	5,798	100%
Field Representative	Petrie-Norris, C-District Office	5,830	100%
Field Representative	Bauer-Kahan, R-District Office	5,833	100%
Field Representative	Carrillo, J-District Office	5,833	100%

Field Representative	Flora, H-District Office	5,833	100%
Field Representative	Gonzalez, M-District Office	5,833	100%
Field Representative	Hart, G-District Office	5,833	100%
Field Representative	Lowenthal, J-District Office	5,833	100%
Field Representative	Patel, D-District Office	5,833	100%
Field Representative	Patterson, Joe-District Office	5,833	100%
Field Representative	Schiavo, P-District Office	5,833	100%
Field Representative	Aguiar-Curry, C-District Office	5,843	100%
Field Representative	Muratsuchi, A-District Office	5,858	100%
Field Representative	Carrillo, J-District Office	5,943	100%
Field Representative	Wilson, L-District Office	6,016	100%
Field Representative	Arambula, J-District Office	6,060	100%
Field Representative	Bennett, S-District Office	6,091	100%
Field Representative	Caloza, J-District Office	6,128	100%
Field Representative	Arambula, J-District Office	6,154	100%
Field Representative	Bauer-Kahan, R-District Office	6,250	100%
Field Representative	Jackson, C-District Office	6,282	100%
Field Representative	Ward, C-District Office	6,284	100%
Field Representative	Lee, A-District Office	6,506	100%
Field Representative	Wilson, L-District Office	6,533	100%
Field Representative	Lee, A-District Office	7,376	100%
Field Representative	Arambula, J-District Office	7,845	100%
Field Representative	McKinnor, T-District Office	7,845	100%
Field Representative	Hadwick, H-District Office	\$35.72/hr	-
Fiscal Officer	Rules-Fiscal	15,584	100%
Graphics Artist	Reprographics	5,605	100%
Graphics Artist	Reprographics	6,200	100%
Human Resources Consultant	Rules-Human Resources	11,768	100%
Human Resources Consultant	Rules-Human Resources	12,062	100%
Human Resources Consultant	Rules-Human Resources	12,062	100%
Human Resources Specialist I	Rules-Human Resources	5,000	100%
Human Resources Specialist II	Rules-Human Resources	5,798	100%
Human Resources Specialist II	Rules-Human Resources	5,800	100%
Human Resources Specialist II	Rules-Human Resources	6,092	100%
Human Resources Specialist II	Rules-Human Resources	6,724	100%
Human Resources Specialist III	Rules-Human Resources	8,393	100%
Human Resources Specialist III	Rules-Human Resources	10,324	100%
Human Resources Specialist III	Rules-Human Resources	11,288	100%
Information Systems Consultant	Rules-Information Technology	10,877	100%

Information Systems Consultant	Rules-Information Technology	15,957	100%
Legislative Assistant	Wallis, G-Capitol Office	2,709	50%
Legislative Assistant	Addis, D-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Aguiar-Curry, C-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Alanis, J-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Alvarez, D-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Arambula, J-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Bauer-Kahan, R-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Bauer-Kahan, R-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Boerner, T-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Boerner, T-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Bonta, M-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Calderon, L-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Calderon, L-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Carrillo, J-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Connolly, D-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Connolly, D-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Davies, L-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	DeMaio, C-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Elhawary, S-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Gipson, M-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Gonzalez, J-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Gonzalez, M-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Hadwick, H-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Haney, M-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Harabedian, J-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Hart, G-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Hoover, J-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Jackson, C-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Krell, M-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Krell, M-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Lee, A-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Macedo, A-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	McKinnor, T-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Muratsuchi, A-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Nguyen, S-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Nguyen, S-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Pacheco, B-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Papan, D-Capitol Office	5,417	100%

Legislative Assistant	Papan, D-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Patel, D-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Patterson, Joe-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Quirk-Silva, S-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Rodriguez, C-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Rodriguez, M-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Rodriguez, M-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Rogers, C-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Rubio, B-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Rubio, B-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Rubio, B-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Sharp-Collins, L-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Solache, J-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Soria, E-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Stefani, C-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Ward, C-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Wicks, B-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Wilson, L-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Wilson, L-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Legislative Assistant	Gabriel, J-Capitol Office	5,500	100%
Legislative Assistant	Berman, M-Capitol Office	5,501	100%
Legislative Assistant	Fong, M-Capitol Office	5,501	100%
Legislative Assistant	McKinnor, T-Capitol Office	5,501	100%
Legislative Assistant	Zbur, R-Capitol Office	5,501	100%
Legislative Assistant	Avila Farias, A-Capitol Office	5,552	100%
Legislative Assistant	Bauer-Kahan, R-Capitol Office	5,552	100%
Legislative Assistant	Hadwick, H-Capitol Office	5,552	100%
Legislative Assistant	Ransom, R-Capitol Office	5,552	100%
Legislative Assistant	Sanchez, K-Capitol Office	5,552	100%
Legislative Assistant	Irwin, J-Capitol Office	5,575	100%
Legislative Assistant	Bennett, S-Capitol Office	5,597	100%
Legislative Assistant	Ortega, L-Capitol Office	5,597	100%
Legislative Assistant	Lowenthal, J-Capitol Office	5,598	100%
Legislative Assistant	Schultz, N-Capitol Office	5,600	100%
Legislative Assistant	Bryan, I-Capitol Office	5,610	100%
Legislative Assistant	Ramos, J-Capitol Office	5,618	100%
Legislative Assistant	Haney, M-Capitol Office	5,645	100%
Legislative Assistant	Addis, D-Capitol Office	5,703	100%
Legislative Assistant	Flora, H-Capitol Office	5,714	100%

Legislative Assistant	Avila Farias, A-Capitol Office	5,715	100%
Legislative Assistant	Garcia, R-Capitol Office	5,715	100%
Legislative Assistant	Haney, M-Capitol Office	5,762	100%
Legislative Assistant	Ward, C-Capitol Office	5,798	100%
Legislative Assistant	Bonta, M-Capitol Office	5,833	100%
Legislative Assistant	Castillo, L-Capitol Office	5,833	100%
Legislative Assistant	Jackson, C-Capitol Office	5,833	100%
Legislative Assistant	Zbur, R-Capitol Office	5,833	100%
Legislative Assistant	Stefani, C-Capitol Office	5,834	100%
Legislative Assistant	Muratsuchi, A-Capitol Office	5,942	100%
Legislative Assistant	Caloza, J-Capitol Office	6,004	100%
Legislative Assistant	Kalra, A-Capitol Office	6,128	100%
Legislative Assistant	Caloza, J-Capitol Office	6,151	100%
Legislative Assistant	Irwin, J-Capitol Office	6,179	100%
Legislative Assistant	Schiavo, P-Capitol Office	6,179	100%
Legislative Assistant	Valencia, A-Capitol Office	6,250	100%
Legislative Assistant	Valencia, A-Capitol Office	6,268	100%
Legislative Assistant	Boerner, T-Capitol Office	6,380	100%
Legislative Assistant	Aguiar-Curry, C-Capitol Office	6,455	100%
Legislative Assistant	Pacheco, B-Capitol Office	6,533	100%
Legislative Assistant	Schiavo, P-Capitol Office	6,572	100%
Legislative Assistant	Lee, A-Capitol Office	6,600	100%
Legislative Assistant	Quirk-Silva, S-Capitol Office	6,614	100%
Legislative Assistant	Aguiar-Curry, C-Capitol Office	6,667	100%
Legislative Assistant	Soria, E-Capitol Office	6,667	100%
Legislative Assistant	Kalra, A-Capitol Office	6,991	100%
Legislative Assistant	Petrie-Norris, C-Capitol Office	7,845	100%
Legislative Director I	Alvarez, D-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Flora, H-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Gallagher, J-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Garcia, R-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Gonzalez, J-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Haney, M-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Harabedian, J-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Jackson, C-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Lackey, T-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Muratsuchi, A-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Nguyen, S-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Patel, D-Capitol Office	7,334	100%

Legislative Director I	Ramos, J-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Ransom, R-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Rodriguez, C-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Rodriguez, M-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Rogers, C-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Schiavo, P-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Sharp-Collins, L-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Ta, T-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Tangipa, D-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Wallis, G-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Ward, C-Capitol Office	7,334	100%
Legislative Director I	Alanis, J-Capitol Office	7,421	100%
Legislative Director I	Dixon, D-Capitol Office	7,569	100%
Legislative Director I	Ahrens, P-Capitol Office	7,621	100%
Legislative Director I	Avila Farias, A-Capitol Office	7,621	100%
Legislative Director I	Bonta, M-Capitol Office	7,621	100%
Legislative Director I	Bryan, I-Capitol Office	7,621	100%
Legislative Director I	Gonzalez, M-Capitol Office	7,621	100%
Legislative Director I	Papan, D-Capitol Office	7,621	100%
Legislative Director I	Patterson, Joe-Capitol Office	7,621	100%
Legislative Director I	Lowenthal, J-Capitol Office	7,750	100%
Legislative Director I	Gipson, M-Capitol Office	7,859	100%
Legislative Director I	Bauer-Kahan, R-Capitol Office	8,000	100%
Legislative Director I	Carrillo, J-Capitol Office	8,000	100%
Legislative Director I	Connolly, D-Capitol Office	8,000	100%
Legislative Director I	Elhawary, S-Capitol Office	8,000	100%
Legislative Director I	Fong, M-Capitol Office	8,000	100%
Legislative Director I	Hart, G-Capitol Office	8,000	100%
Legislative Director I	Kalra, A-Capitol Office	8,000	100%
Legislative Director I	Ortega, L-Capitol Office	8,000	100%
Legislative Director I	Pellerin, G-Capitol Office	8,000	100%
Legislative Director I	Rubio, B-Capitol Office	8,000	100%
Legislative Director I	Bennett, S-Capitol Office	8,300	100%
Legislative Director I	Calderon, L-Capitol Office	8,300	100%
Legislative Director I	Krell, M-Capitol Office	8,300	100%
Legislative Director I	Stefani, C-Capitol Office	8,300	100%
Legislative Director I	Valencia, A-Capitol Office	8,300	100%
Legislative Director I	Solache, J-Capitol Office	8,392	100%
Legislative Director I	Aguiar-Curry, C-Capitol Office	8,500	100%

Legislative Director I	Addis, D-Capitol Office	8,552	100%
Legislative Director I	DeMaio, C-Capitol Office	8,827	100%
Legislative Director I	Petrie-Norris, C-Capitol Office	9,170	100%
Legislative Director I	Zbur, R-Capitol Office	9,584	100%
Legislative Director II	Gabriel, J-Capitol Office	9,850	100%
Legislative Director II	Wicks, B-Capitol Office	10,293	100%
Legislative Director II	Quirk-Silva, S-Capitol Office	10,441	100%
Legislative Director II	Wilson, L-Capitol Office	10,551	100%
Legislative Director II	Bains, J-Capitol Office	10,569	100%
Legislative Director II	Irwin, J-Capitol Office	10,581	100%
Legislative Director II	Berman, M-Capitol Office	10,700	100%
Legislative Director II	Soria, E-Capitol Office	11,354	100%
Legislative Director II	Pacheco, B-Capitol Office	11,362	100%
Legislative Director II	Lee, A-Capitol Office	12,236	100%
Legislative Director II	Schultz, N-Capitol Office	12,236	100%
Mail Clerk II	Mail Room/Shuttle	5,186	100%
Mail Clerk II	Mail Room/Shuttle	5,563	100%
Mail Clerk II	Mail Room/Shuttle	6,318	100%
Mail Clerk II	Mail Room/Shuttle	8,187	100%
Office Assistant	Alanis, J-District Office	2,292	50%
Office Assistant	Flora, H-District Office	2,620	57%
Office Assistant	Bennett, S-District Office	4,584	100%
Office Assistant	Chief Clerk	4,584	100%
Office Assistant	DeMaio, C-District Office	4,584	100%
Office Assistant	Patterson, Joe-District Office	4,584	100%
Office Assistant	Petrie-Norris, C-District Office	4,584	100%
Office Assistant	Ta, T-District Office	4,584	100%
Office Assistant	Valencia, A-Capitol Office	4,584	100%
Office Assistant	Rubio, B-District Office	4,854	100%
Press Secretary	Democratic Caucus	11,667	100%
Principal Assistant	Gonzalez, J-Capitol Office	6,917	100%
Principal Assistant	Sanchez, K-Capitol Office	7,757	100%
Principal Assistant	Davies, L-Capitol Office	8,173	100%
Principal Assistant	Ta, T-Capitol Office	8,222	100%
Principal Assistant	Wicks, B-Capitol Office	8,500	100%
Principal Assistant	Gallagher, J-Capitol Office	9,302	100%
Principal Assistant	Hart, G-Capitol Office	10,814	100%
Principal Assistant	Wicks, B-Capitol Office	12,500	100%
Principal Assistant	Democratic Caucus	12,680	100%

Principal Assistant	Rules-Human Resources	12,771	100%
Principal Assistant	Rules-Administration	13,074	100%
Principal Clerk I	Chief Clerk	6,956	100%
Principal Clerk I	Chief Clerk	7,879	100%
Principal Clerk I	Chief Clerk	9,138	100%
Principal Clerk I	Chief Clerk	9,366	100%
Principal Clerk II	Chief Clerk	8,542	100%
Principal Clerk II	Chief Clerk	10,338	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	8,392	100%
Principal Consultant	Republican Caucus	8,839	100%
Principal Consultant	Muratsuchi, A-Education	8,944	60%
Principal Consultant	Republican Caucus	9,000	100%
Principal Consultant	Republican Caucus	9,100	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	9,110	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	9,220	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	9,922	100%
Principal Consultant	Republican Caucus	9,988	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	10,053	100%
Principal Consultant	Republican Caucus	10,270	100%
Principal Consultant	Republican Caucus	10,419	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	10,513	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	10,648	100%
Principal Consultant	Sharp-Collins, L-Asst. Majority Leader on Policy	10,698	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	10,702	100%
Principal Consultant	Calderon, L-Insurance	10,825	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	11,099	100%
Principal Consultant	Republican Caucus	11,140	100%
Principal Consultant	Wilson, L-Transportation	11,162	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	11,433	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	11,545	100%
Principal Consultant	Bonta, M-Health	11,742	100%
Principal Consultant	Berman, M-Business & Professions	11,900	100%
Principal Consultant	Gabriel, J-Budget	11,950	100%
Principal Consultant	Carrillo, J-Local Gov't	12,116	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	12,254	100%
Principal Consultant	Wicks, B-Appropriations	12,402	100%
Principal Consultant	Harabedian, J-Jt. Leg. Audit Committee	12,453	100%
Principal Consultant	Republican Caucus	12,463	90%
Principal Consultant	Wicks, B-Appropriations	12,489	100%

Principal Consultant	Bonta, M-Health	12,500	100%
Principal Consultant	Ortega, L-Labor & Employment	12,500	100%
Principal Consultant	Lee, A-Human Services	12,521	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	12,680	100%
Principal Consultant	Sharp-Collins, L-Asst. Majority Leader on Policy	12,717	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	12,764	100%
Principal Consultant	Wicks, B-Appropriations	12,840	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	13,000	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	13,121	100%
Principal Consultant	Fong, M-Higher Education	13,249	100%
Principal Consultant	Pellerin, G-Elections	13,411	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	13,435	100%
Principal Consultant	Muratsuchi, A-Education	14,200	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	14,411	100%
Principal Consultant	Rules-Administration	14,483	100%
Principal Consultant	Gabriel, J-Budget	14,500	100%
Principal Consultant	Gabriel, J-Budget	14,559	100%
Principal Consultant	Republican Caucus	14,746	100%
Principal Consultant	Gabriel, J-Budget	14,845	100%
Principal Consultant	Wicks, B-Appropriations	14,845	100%
Principal Consultant	Schultz, N-Public Safety	14,885	100%
Principal Consultant	Kalra, A-Judiciary	15,000	100%
Principal Consultant	Bryan, I-Natural Resources	15,187	100%
Principal Consultant	Gabriel, J-Budget	15,216	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	15,279	100%
Principal Consultant	Gabriel, J-Budget	15,500	100%
Principal Consultant	Muratsuchi, A-Education	15,597	100%
Principal Consultant	Gabriel, J-Budget	15,845	100%
Principal Consultant	Bauer-Kahan, R-Privacy & Consumer Protection	15,987	100%
Principal Consultant	Bonta, M-Health	15,987	100%
Principal Consultant	Wicks, B-Appropriations	15,987	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	16,000	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	16,000	100%
Principal Consultant	Democratic Caucus	16,500	100%
Principal Consultant	Bonta, M-Health	\$100.00/hr	-
Principal Consultant	Petrie-Norris, C-Utilities & Energy	\$100.00/hr	-
Principal Field Representative	Alanis, J-District Office	6,010	100%
Printing Trades Specialist I	Reprographics	4,698	100%
Printing Trades Specialist II	Reprographics	5,186	100%

Printing Trades Specialist II	Reprographics	5,630	100%
Printing Trades Specialist II	Reprographics	5,724	100%
Printing Trades Specialist II	Reprographics	6,164	100%
Printing Trades Specialist II	Reprographics	6,476	100%
Printing Trades Specialist II	Reprographics	6,904	100%
Printing Trades Specialist III	Reprographics	7,700	100%
Printing Trades Specialist III	Reprographics	8,290	100%
Printing Trades Technician	Reprographics	10,011	100%
Property Controller	Sergeant-at-Arms	6,361	100%
Reprographics Manager	Reprographics	12,197	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Ahrens, P-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Alanis, J-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Avila Farias, A-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Chen, P-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	DeMaio, C-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Dixon, D-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Garcia, R-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Gipson, M-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Gonzalez, J-District Office	5,417	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Hoover, J-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Kalra, A-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Lackey, T-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Macedo, A-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	McKinnor, T-District Office	5,417	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Nguyen, S-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Petrie-Norris, C-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Sanchez, K-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Soria, E-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Ta, T-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Zbur, R-Capitol Office	5,417	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Boerner, T-Capitol Office	5,552	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Stefani, C-Capitol Office	5,552	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Ramos, J-Capitol Office	5,598	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Berman, M-Capitol Office	5,606	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Castillo, L-Capitol Office	5,610	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Tangipa, D-Capitol Office	5,610	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Carrillo, J-Capitol Office	5,645	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Haney, M-Capitol Office	5,645	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Valencia, A-Capitol Office	5,691	100%

Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Wicks, B-Capitol Office	5,691	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Caloza, J-Capitol Office	5,774	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Addis, D-Capitol Office	5,833	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Bonta, M-Capitol Office	5,833	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Hadwick, H-Capitol Office	5,833	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Ransom, R-Capitol Office	5,833	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Wallis, G-Capitol Office	5,833	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Pellerin, G-Capitol Office	5,834	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Gipson, M-District Office	5,870	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Elhawary, S-Capitol Office	5,979	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Ellis, S-Capitol Office	5,979	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Alvarez, D-Capitol Office	6,148	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Gallagher, J-Capitol Office	6,154	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Rogers, C-Capitol Office	6,200	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Connolly, D-Capitol Office	6,201	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Rodriguez, C-Capitol Office	6,347	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Patterson, Joe-Capitol Office	6,493	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Davies, L-Capitol Office	6,564	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Gonzalez, M-Capitol Office	6,828	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Ward, C-Capitol Office	6,942	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Irwin, J-Capitol Office	7,845	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Jackson, C-District Office	7,845	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Lowenthal, J-Capitol Office	7,924	100%
Scheduler/LegislativeAssistant	Muratsuchi, A-Capitol Office	8,541	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Flora, H-Capitol Office	7,166	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Papan, D-Capitol Office	7,607	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Fong, M-Capitol Office	7,675	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Democratic Caucus	7,917	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Pacheco, B-Capitol Office	7,917	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Patel, D-Capitol Office	7,950	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Arambula, J-Capitol Office	8,025	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Lee, A-Capitol Office	8,122	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Schiavo, P-Capitol Office	8,125	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Solache, J-Capitol Office	8,125	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Bauer-Kahan, R-Capitol Office	8,627	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Rubio, B-Capitol Office	8,643	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Bains, J-Capitol Office	8,750	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Aguiar-Curry, C-Capitol Office	8,804	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Ortega, L-Capitol Office	8,812	100%

Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Gabriel, J-Capitol Office	9,039	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Quirk-Silva, S-Capitol Office	9,098	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Bennett, S-Capitol Office	9,506	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Schultz, N-Capitol Office	9,607	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Rodriguez, M-Capitol Office	9,633	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Bryan, I-Capitol Office	9,955	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Wilson, L-Capitol Office	9,967	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Sharp-Collins, L-Capitol Office	11,062	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Democratic Caucus	11,362	100%
Scheduler/Senior Assistant	Harabedian, J-Capitol Office	11,362	100%
Secretary	Bryan, I-District Office	3,000	60%
Secretary	Democratic Caucus	4,834	100%
Secretary	Democratic Caucus	4,834	100%
Secretary	Democratic Caucus	4,834	100%
Secretary	Democratic Caucus	4,834	100%
Secretary	Democratic Caucus	4,834	100%
Secretary	Democratic Caucus	4,834	100%
Secretary	Democratic Caucus	4,834	100%
Secretary	Democratic Caucus	4,834	100%
Secretary	McKinnor, T-Capitol Office	4,954	100%
Secretary	Bains, J-District Office	5,205	100%
Secretary	Rules-Facilities Management and Procurement	5,284	100%
Secretary	Bonta, M-District Office	5,417	100%
Secretary	Democratic Caucus	6,099	100%
Secretary	Calderon, L-District Office	7,000	100%
Security Supervisor	Sergeant-at-Arms	8,821	100%
Senior Assistant	Muratsuchi, A-District Office	6,001	69%
Senior Assistant	Ellis, S-Capitol Office	6,375	100%
Senior Assistant	Gabriel, J-Capitol Office	6,500	100%
Senior Assistant	Arambula, J-Capitol Office	6,534	100%
Senior Assistant	Bonta, M-Capitol Office	6,534	100%
Senior Assistant	Chen, P-Capitol Office	6,534	100%
Senior Assistant	Pellerin, G-Capitol Office	6,534	100%
Senior Assistant	Zbur, R-Capitol Office	6,534	100%
Senior Assistant	Ahrens, P-Capitol Office	6,666	80%
Senior Assistant	Aguiar-Curry, C-Capitol Office	7,083	100%
Senior Assistant	Kalra, A-Capitol Office	7,213	100%
Senior Assistant	Wilson, L-Capitol Office	7,300	100%
Senior Assistant	Ortega, L-Capitol Office	7,689	100%
Senior Assistant	Solache, J-Capitol Office	7,767	100%

Senior Assistant	Pacheco, B-Capitol Office	7,962	100%
Senior Assistant	Democratic Caucus	8,167	100%
Senior Assistant	Ramos, J-Capitol Office	8,324	100%
Senior Assistant	Rules-Capitol Institute	8,500	100%
Senior Assistant	Bains, J-Capitol Office	8,584	100%
Senior Assistant	Sergeant-at-Arms	9,864	100%
Senior Assistant	Rules-Administration	10,667	100%
Senior Consultant	Connolly, D-Env. Safety & Toxic Materials	5,507	50%
Senior Consultant	Connolly, D-Env. Safety & Toxic Materials	6,069	50%
Senior Consultant	Republican Caucus	6,231	100%
Senior Consultant	Democratic Caucus	6,645	100%
Senior Consultant	Democratic Caucus	6,922	100%
Senior Consultant	Democratic Caucus	6,923	100%
Senior Consultant	Democratic Caucus	7,167	100%
Senior Consultant	Democratic Caucus	7,246	100%
Senior Consultant	Gabriel, J-Jewish Caucus	7,500	100%
Senior Consultant	Democratic Caucus	7,569	100%
Senior Consultant	Ward, C-LGBTQ Caucus	7,579	100%
Senior Consultant	Democratic Caucus	7,624	100%
Senior Consultant	Republican Caucus	7,635	100%
Senior Consultant	Bonta, M-Health	7,708	100%
Senior Consultant	Gipson, M-Revenue & Tax	7,708	100%
Senior Consultant	Lee, A-Human Services	7,708	100%
Senior Consultant	Democratic Caucus	7,759	100%
Senior Consultant	Republican Caucus	7,838	100%
Senior Consultant	Ramos, J-Capitol Office	7,880	100%
Senior Consultant	Irwin, J-Jt. Leg. on Climate Change Policies	7,901	100%
Senior Consultant	Papan, D-Water, Parks & Wildlife	7,901	100%
Senior Consultant	Fong, M-API Caucus	7,999	100%
Senior Consultant	Gabriel, J-Budget	8,000	100%
Senior Consultant	Republican Caucus	8,308	100%
Senior Consultant	Republican Caucus	8,350	100%
Senior Consultant	Republican Caucus	8,375	100%
Senior Consultant	Berman, M-Business & Professions	8,400	100%
Senior Consultant	Carrillo, J-Local Gov't	8,500	100%
Senior Consultant	Democratic Caucus	8,509	100%
Senior Consultant	Gipson, M-Revenue & Tax	8,509	100%
Senior Consultant	Petrie-Norris, C-Utilities & Energy	8,509	100%
Senior Consultant	Wilson, L-Transportation	8,800	100%

Senior Consultant	Bryan, I-Black Caucus	8,819	100%
Senior Consultant	Ransom, R-Emergency Management	8,834	100%
Senior Consultant	Democratic Caucus	8,939	100%
Senior Consultant	Wilson, L-Transportation	8,939	100%
Senior Consultant	Carrillo, J-Latino Caucus	9,000	100%
Senior Consultant	Democratic Caucus	9,097	100%
Senior Consultant	Democratic Caucus	9,160	100%
Senior Consultant	Fong, M-Higher Education	9,163	100%
Senior Consultant	Berman, M-Business & Professions	9,392	100%
Senior Consultant	Republican Caucus	9,466	100%
Senior Consultant	Haney, M-Housing & Community Dev.	9,545	100%
Senior Consultant	Democratic Caucus	9,600	100%
Senior Consultant	Kalra, A-Judiciary	9,782	100%
Senior Consultant	Aguiar-Curry, C-Womens Caucus	9,900	100%
Senior Consultant	Haney, M-Housing & Community Dev.	10,000	100%
Senior Consultant	Gabriel, J-Budget	10,114	100%
Senior Consultant	Democratic Caucus	10,186	100%
Senior Consultant	Bryan, I-Natural Resources	10,500	100%
Senior Consultant	Republican Caucus	11,667	100%
Senior Consultant	Democratic Caucus	11,884	100%
Senior Consultant	Kalra, A-Judiciary	11,925	100%
Senior Consultant	Democratic Caucus	12,291	100%
Senior Field Representative	Ta, T-District Office	3,278	50%
Senior Field Representative	Soria, E-District Office	4,464	71%
Senior Field Representative	Bryan, I-District Office	6,375	100%
Senior Field Representative	McKinnor, T-District Office	6,375	100%
Senior Field Representative	Rivas, R-District Office	6,375	100%
Senior Field Representative	Gallagher, J-District Office	6,439	100%
Senior Field Representative	Calderon, L-District Office	6,519	100%
Senior Field Representative	Valencia, A-District Office	6,519	100%
Senior Field Representative	Valencia, A-District Office	6,519	100%
Senior Field Representative	Zbur, R-District Office	6,540	100%
Senior Field Representative	Elhawary, S-District Office	6,560	100%
Senior Field Representative	Papan, D-District Office	6,667	100%
Senior Field Representative	Bryan, I-District Office	6,698	100%
Senior Field Representative	Davies, L-District Office	6,699	100%
Senior Field Representative	Quirk-Silva, S-District Office	6,900	100%
Senior Field Representative	Ortega, L-District Office	7,037	100%
Senior Field Representative	Alvarez, D-District Office	7,213	100%

Senior Field Representative	Bennett, S-District Office	7,213	100%
Senior Field Representative	Muratsuchi, A-District Office	7,258	100%
Senior Field Representative	Haney, M-District Office	7,311	100%
Senior Field Representative	Quirk-Silva, S-District Office	7,385	100%
Senior Field Representative	Addis, D-District Office	7,420	100%
Senior Field Representative	Addis, D-District Office	7,420	100%
Senior Field Representative	Calderon, L-District Office	7,578	100%
Senior Field Representative	Petrie-Norris, C-District Office	7,578	100%
Senior Field Representative	Rivas, R-District Office	8,000	100%
Senior Field Representative	Avila Farias, A-District Office	8,200	100%
Senior Field Representative	Hadwick, H-District Office	8,334	100%
Senior Field Representative	Arambula, J-District Office	8,365	100%
Senior Field Representative	Irwin, J-District Office	8,394	100%
Senior Field Representative	Aguiar-Curry, C-District Office	8,600	100%
Senior Field Representative	Berman, M-District Office	8,876	100%
Senior Field Representative	Wicks, B-District Office	9,238	100%
Sgt Chief Deputy	Sergeant-at-Arms	14,000	100%
Speaker's Legal Counsel	Democratic Caucus	20,000	100%
Speaker's Policy Director	Democratic Caucus	20,207	100%
Special Service Supervisor	Sergeant-at-Arms	7,015	100%
Special Service Supervisor	Sergeant-at-Arms	7,895	100%
Special Services II	Sergeant-at-Arms	5,000	100%
Special Services II	Sergeant-at-Arms	5,000	100%
Special Services II	Sergeant-at-Arms	6,367	100%
Special Services II	Sergeant-at-Arms	\$32.96/hr	-
Special Services III	Sergeant-at-Arms	5,000	100%
Special Services III	Sergeant-at-Arms	5,253	100%
Special Services III	Sergeant-at-Arms	5,253	100%
Special Services III	Sergeant-at-Arms	5,253	100%
Special Services III	Sergeant-at-Arms	5,253	100%
Special Services III	Sergeant-at-Arms	5,253	100%
Special Services III	Sergeant-at-Arms	5,253	100%
Special Services III	Sergeant-at-Arms	5,253	100%
Special Services III	Sergeant-at-Arms	5,253	100%
Special Services III	Sergeant-at-Arms	5,253	100%
Special Services III	Sergeant-at-Arms	5,519	100%
Special Services III	Sergeant-at-Arms	5,657	100%
Special Services III	Sergeant-at-Arms	6,182	100%
Student Intern	Chief Clerk	3,500	100%
Student Intern	Chief Clerk	3,500	100%

Student Intern	Chief Clerk	3,500	100%
Student Intern	Chief Clerk	3,500	100%
Student Intern	Alanis, J-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Alvarez, D-District Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Arambula, J-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Avila Farias, A-District Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Bains, J-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Bonta, M-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Caloza, J-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Caloza, J-District Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Carrillo, J-District Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Chen, P-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Democratic Caucus	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Elhawary, S-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Elhawary, S-District Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Elhawary, S-District Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Flora, H-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Flora, H-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Gabriel, J-District Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Gabriel, J-District Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Gallagher, J-District Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Garcia, R-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Harabedian, J-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Harabedian, J-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Harabedian, J-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Hart, G-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Hart, G-District Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Hart, G-District Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Krell, M-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Lee, A-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Lee, A-District Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Ortega, L-District Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Papan, D-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Patterson, Joe-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Rogers, C-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Sanchez, K-District Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Schiavo, P-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Sharp-Collins, L-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Sharp-Collins, L-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-

Student Intern	Stefani, C-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Valencia, A-Capitol Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Student Intern	Ward, C-District Office	\$20.00/hr	-
Television Specialist	Rules-Television Broadcasting	6,647	100%
Television Specialist	Rules-Television Broadcasting	7,148	100%
Travel Coordinator	Rules-Travel	5,833	100%
Travel Coordinator	Rules-Travel	8,722	100%
Vehicle Maint Technician	Rules-Vehicle Maint	6,804	100%
Warehouse Assistant	Rules-Warehouse	4,698	100%
Warehouse Assistant	Rules-Warehouse	4,815	100%
Warehouse Assistant	Rules-Warehouse	6,100	100%
Warehouse Assistant	Rules-Warehouse	6,318	100%
Warehouse Assistant	Rules-Warehouse	6,920	100%

**House of Representatives  
Member and Employee Salaries  
as of August 1, 2025**

<b>Job Title</b>	<b>Annual Salary</b>
Accounting Assistant	\$52,500
Administrative Assistant	\$61,000
Administrative Assistant	\$72,575
Administrative Assistant	\$75,800
Administrative Assistant II	\$58,659
Administrative Assistant III	\$59,067
Administrative Coordinator	\$65,100
Administrative Director	\$85,500
Applications Dev. Specialist I	\$81,900
Applications Dev. Specialist I	\$88,452
Applications Dev. Specialist I	\$88,452
Applications Dev. Specialist I	\$88,452
Applications Dev. Specialist II	\$112,039
Applications Dev. Specialist II	\$117,936
Applications Dev. Specialist II	\$117,936
Assistant Clerk of the House	\$151,600
Assistant Sergeant At Arms	\$60,000
Assistant Sergeant At Arms	\$61,113
Assistant Sergeant At Arms	\$61,113
Assistant Sergeant At Arms	\$62,500
Assistant Sergeant At Arms	\$62,855
Assistant Sergeant At Arms	\$64,018
Assistant Sergeant At Arms	\$65,734
Assistant Sergeant At Arms	\$68,124
Assistant Sergeant At Arms	\$68,254
Associate Director	\$123,200
Associate Director	\$132,000
Associate Director	\$132,000
Associate Director	\$144,900
Associate Legal Counsel	\$89,000
Associate Legal Counsel	\$89,000
Bldg Automation Spec II/Maintenance Mechanic	\$102,902
Bldg Automation Specialist 1 / Electrician	\$89,631
Budget Assistant	\$66,100
Budget Director	\$77,000
Budget Director	\$90,000
Budget Director	\$140,000

**APPENDIX 4-S**

## House of Representatives Member and Employee Salaries as of August 1, 2025

Job Title	Annual Salary
Business Analyst I	\$60,000
Business Analyst II	\$90,153
Buyer/Finance Specialist	\$96,302
Carpenter I	\$49,533
Carpenter II	\$68,141
Carpenter II	\$75,422
Carpenter II	\$78,742
Caucus Engagement Director	\$85,000
Central Staff Administrator	\$66,500
CFO/Business Director	\$165,004
Chief Communications Strategist	\$90,000
Chief Sergeant at Arms	\$114,173
Clerk of the House	\$158,340
Committee Clerk Director	\$84,914
Committee Clerk I	\$44,100
Committee Clerk I	\$44,100
Committee Clerk I	\$51,400
Committee Clerk I	\$53,119
Committee Clerk I	\$55,775
Committee Clerk I	\$60,060
Committee Clerk I	\$61,916
Committee Clerk II	\$72,270
Communications Advisor	\$58,000
Communications Advisor	\$58,000
Communications Advisor	\$58,000
Communications Advisor	\$62,000
Communications Advisor	\$62,000
Communications Advisor	\$65,000
Communications Advisor	\$65,000
Communications Advisor	\$66,500
Communications Advisor	\$67,500
Communications Advisor	\$70,000
Communications Advisor	\$75,000
Communications Director	\$145,000
Communications Manager	\$72,000
Constituent Services Director	\$70,000
Constituent Services Director	\$75,000
Creative Director & Print Coordinator	\$90,000
Cyber Analyst	\$53,500
Deputy Administrative Director	\$60,000
Deputy Chief of Staff	\$130,000
Deputy Chief of Staff	\$130,000

## House of Representatives Member and Employee Salaries as of August 1, 2025

Job Title	Annual Salary
Deputy Communications Director	\$78,000
Deputy Communications Director	\$80,000
Deputy Constituent Services Director	\$60,000
Deputy Director	\$123,900
Deputy Director	\$132,822
Deputy Director	\$135,408
Deputy District Director	\$65,000
Deputy Legal Counsel	\$108,000
Deputy Legislative Director	\$75,000
Deputy Policy Director	\$78,000
Deputy Policy Director	\$125,000
Deputy Sergeant at Arms	\$94,588
Digital Advisor	\$58,000
Digital Advisor	\$58,000
Digital Advisor	\$58,000
Digital Advisor	\$63,495
Digital Strategist	\$52,500
Digital Strategist	\$58,000
Director	\$130,161
Director	\$132,503
Director	\$136,500
Director	\$136,500
Director	\$162,200
Director of Communications	\$115,000
Director of External Affairs	\$40,000
Director of Scheduling	\$70,000
Director of Strategy	\$90,000
District Director	\$70,000
District Manager	\$41,000
Document Management Clerk	\$94,689
Duplicating Center Supervisor	\$87,360
Duplicating Center Technician II	\$65,520
Duplicating Center Technician II	\$67,704
Duplicating Center Technician II	\$74,441
Duplicating Center Technician III	\$75,984
Electrician/Maintenance Mechanic	\$91,563
Employee Engagement Coordinator	\$69,274
External Affairs Director	\$93,000
Facilities Housekeeping	\$41,670
Facilities Housekeeping	\$46,301
Facilities Technician I	\$45,864
Facilities Technician I	\$62,433

## House of Representatives Member and Employee Salaries as of August 1, 2025

Job Title	Annual Salary
Facilities Technician II	\$65,915
Facilities Technician II	\$70,980
Fiscal Analyst	\$58,000
Fiscal Analyst	\$60,000
Fiscal Analyst	\$60,000
Fiscal Analyst	\$67,000
Fiscal Analyst	\$71,400
Fiscal Analyst	\$80,300
Fiscal Analyst	\$80,300
Fiscal Analyst	\$80,300
Fiscal Analyst	\$84,000
General Counsel	\$175,000
Graphic Artist	\$58,000
Graphic Designer	\$60,000
Human Resources Coordinator	\$104,855
Human Resources Specialist	\$83,638
Human Resources Specialist II	\$97,227
Human Resources Specialist II	\$97,227
Lead Carpenter	\$100,144
Legislative Aide	\$45,000
Legislative Aide	\$45,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$35,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$39,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$40,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$42,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$42,500
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$43,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$43,500
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$43,500
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$44,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$45,000



## House of Representatives Member and Employee Salaries as of August 1, 2025

Job Title	Annual Salary
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$52,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$52,500
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$53,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$54,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$54,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$54,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$54,500
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$55,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$56,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$56,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$56,500
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$57,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$57,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$58,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$58,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$58,500
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$60,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$63,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$63,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$63,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$63,050
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$65,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$67,000
Legislative Aide/Constituent Services	\$72,000
Legislative Aide/Policy Services	\$45,000
Legislative Aide/Policy Services	\$45,000





## House of Representatives Member and Employee Salaries as of August 1, 2025

Job Title	Annual Salary
Legislative Aide/Policy Services	\$74,000
Legislative Aide/Policy Services	\$75,000
Legislative Aide/Policy Services	\$76,750
Legislative Aide/Policy Services	\$77,000
Legislative Aide/Policy Services	\$77,000
Legislative Aide/Policy Services	\$78,000
Legislative Aide/Policy Services	\$79,000
Legislative Aide/Policy Services	\$80,000
Legislative Aide/Scheduler	\$48,000
Legislative Analyst	\$71,100
Legislative Analyst	\$76,700
Legislative Analyst	\$79,800
Legislative Assistant	\$19,240
Legislative Assistant	\$19,240
Legislative Assistant	\$45,000
Legislative Assistant	\$60,000
Legislative Clerk I	\$51,000
Legislative Clerk I	\$53,071
Legislative Clerk I	\$57,161
Legislative Clerk II	\$72,270
Legislative Clerk II	\$82,735
Legislative Clerk II	\$82,735
Legislative Clerk II	\$84,967
Legislative Director	\$60,000
Legislative Director	\$85,000
Legislative Director	\$165,000
Legislative Intern	\$7,020
Legislative Intern	\$7,800
Legislative Intern	\$9,360
Legislative Intern	\$9,360
Legislative Intern	\$9,360



## House of Representatives Member and Employee Salaries as of August 1, 2025

Job Title	Annual Salary
Legislative Intern	\$15,600
Legislative Intern	\$15,600
Legislative Intern	\$15,600
Majority Chief of Staff	\$180,000
Majority Floor Operations Manager	\$115,000
Manager	\$66,000
Manager of Network Services	\$101,420
Media Production Specialist	\$57,308
Media Production Specialist	\$66,570
Media Production Specialist	\$74,441
Media Production Specialist	\$76,674
Media Relations Specialist	\$75,000
Member Services Advisor	\$55,000
Member Services Advisor	\$60,000
Member Services Advisor	\$65,000
Member Services Advisor	\$67,000
Member Services Advisor	\$67,500
Member Services Advisor	\$72,000
Member Services Advisor	\$75,000
Member Services Advisor	\$80,000
Member Services Deputy Director	\$100,000
Member Services Director	\$125,000
Minority Chief of Staff	\$105,000
Minority Floor Operations Manager	\$90,000
Minority Legal Counsel	\$115,000
Network Analyst I	\$62,330
Network Analyst I	\$66,276
Network Analyst II	\$76,462
Network Analyst II	\$79,000
Night Shift Supervisor	\$90,731
Office Operations Manager	\$74,002
Outreach Director	\$86,000
Page	\$8,320

## House of Representatives Member and Employee Salaries as of August 1, 2025

Job Title	Annual Salary
Page	\$8,320
Paid Intern	\$3,120
Paid Intern	\$9,360
Paid Intern	\$14,430
Paid Intern	\$15,600
Paid Intern	\$16,640
Paid Intern	\$19,240
Paid Intern	\$20,800
Paid Intern	\$20,800
Paid Intern	\$20,800
Part-time Employee	\$13,728
Part-time Employee	\$19,136
Part-time Employee	\$20,010
Part-time Employee	\$21,879
Part-time Employee	\$24,960
Part-time Employee	\$28,005
Part-time Employee	\$29,952
Part-time Employee	\$32,006
Photographer	\$60,000
Policy Advisor	\$48,000
Policy Advisor	\$65,000
Policy Advisor	\$70,000
Policy Advisor	\$70,000

## House of Representatives Member and Employee Salaries as of August 1, 2025

Job Title	Annual Salary
Policy Advisor	\$70,000
Policy Advisor	\$72,000
Policy Advisor	\$82,000
Policy Director	\$115,000
Policy Director	\$140,000
Post Office Technician I	\$39,667
Post Office Technician I	\$39,667
Post Office Technician I	\$42,071
Production Coordinator I	\$98,236
Production Coordinator II	\$112,442
Project Coordinator	\$63,000
Research & Data Analyst	\$60,000
Senior Advisor	\$75,000
Senior Advisor	\$140,000
Senior Advisor	\$155,000
Senior Advisor/Director of Operations	\$95,000
Senior Business Analyst	\$123,833
Senior Creative Lead / Print Coordinator	\$78,000
Senior Fiscal Analyst	\$87,100
Senior Fiscal Analyst	\$87,100
Senior Fiscal Analyst	\$100,000
Senior Policy Advisor	\$82,500
Sergeant At Arms Captain	\$78,734
Sergeant At Arms Lieutenant	\$69,410
Staff Accountant	\$84,000
Strategic Advisor	\$65,000
Technical Services Supervisor	\$85,176
User Support Hardware Specialist	\$80,324
User Support Specialist I	\$55,000
User Support Specialist I	\$57,330
User Support Specialist I	\$58,685
User Support Specialist II	\$76,300
Video Content Producer	\$58,000
Video Content Producer	\$68,000
Video Content Producer	\$72,000
Video Content Producer	\$82,000
Salaries Determined by the State Officers Compensation Commission Representatives	\$71,685

**House of Representatives  
Member and Employee Salaries  
as of August 1, 2025**

<b>Job Title</b>	<b>Annual Salary</b>
Representative - Speaker Pro Tempore	\$76,647
Representative - Appropriations Committee Chair	\$77,985
Representative - Minority Floor Leader	\$80,685
Representative - Majority Floor Leader	\$82,485
Representative - Minority Leader	\$91,485
Representative - Speaker of the House	\$95,985

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi  
Director

Shawn K. Nakama  
First Assistant

Research 808-587-0666  
Revisor 808-587-0670  
Fax 808-587-0681



LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
State of Hawaii  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

October 3, 2024

Mr. Tommy Waters  
Chair  
Honolulu City Council  
530 South King Street, Room 202  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chair Waters:

Subject: Information Relevant to a Longer, Including Year-Round, Legislative Session

I am a research attorney at the Legislative Reference Bureau, a nonpartisan legislative service agency of the Hawaii State Legislature. During this past legislative session, the Legislature adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 138, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, which requests that the Bureau conduct a study that examines potential options for extending the legislative session beyond the current sixty constitutionally mandated session days. For your convenience, a copy of the Concurrent Resolution is enclosed.

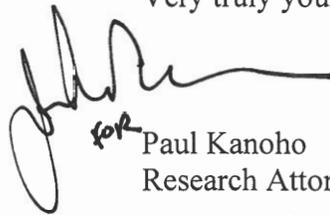
For the purpose of this study, we are seeking pertinent information concerning the Honolulu City Council's administration, operations, and calendar. To that end, we respectfully request responses to the following:

- (1) Ordinance 24-8 makes appropriations for the City Council and its attached offices--specifically the Office of Council Services, the City Clerk, and the City Auditor. The ordinance includes aggregate salary information regarding the number of employee positions funded, and the total moneys appropriated for those salaries. If possible, we would like to obtain a listing of all positions funded, for each office, with the title and salary of each position. We do not need names of employees.
- (2) Approximately how many hours do Council members and employees typically work per week, including staff in the Council's attached offices? Does this vary significantly during certain times of the year? If so, can you please explain when the busiest periods for council members and staff occur, and the impact upon their work hours?

**APPENDIX 4-T**

We ask that you provide a written response to the foregoing questions, either in hard copy or by email, by November 1, 2024. Our email address is [lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov). If you require any clarification or have any other questions, please contact me by phone at 808-587-0666 or through the foregoing email address. Thank you for your time and assistance.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Paul Kanoho', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right. The signature is written over the typed name and title.

for Paul Kanoho  
Research Attorney

as  
Enc.

---

**FW: ATTN: Allison (Longer Legislative Session)**

---

**From** Paul Kanoho [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 4/9/2025 2:48 PM  
**To** tommy.waters@honolulu.gov <tommy.waters@honolulu.gov>  
**Cc** Shawn Nakama [REDACTED]

 1 attachment (162 KB)  
10032024-LRBLtr.pdf;

Dear Allison:

I'm following up on the voicemail message that I left a few moments ago. Did you have a chance to look into who might be responding to our attached letter?

Sincerely,  
Paul Kanoho, Research Attorney  
Legislative Reference Bureau  
Research Division  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 446  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Direct: [REDACTED]  
Office: 808-587-0666  
Fax: 808-587-0681

---

**From:** Paul Kanoho  
**Sent:** Friday, March 14, 2025 3:54 PM  
**To:** tommy.waters@honolulu.gov  
**Cc:** Shawn Nakama [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** ATTN: Allison (Longer Legislative Session)

Dear Allison:

Enclosed is a copy of the letter that the Legislative Reference Bureau sent to Chair Tommy Waters.

Sincerely,  
Paul Kanoho, Research Attorney

**APPENDIX 4-U**  
279

Legislative Reference Bureau  
Research Division  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 446  
Honolulu, HI 96813  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Direct: [REDACTED]  
Office: 808-587-0666  
Fax: 808-587-0681

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi  
Director

Shawn K. Nakama  
First Assistant

Research 808-587-0666  
Revisor 808-587-0670  
Fax 808-587-0681



LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
State of Hawaii  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

November 25, 2024

Mr. Holeka Goro Inaba  
Incoming Chair  
Hawaii County Council  
25 Aupuni Street, Suite 1402  
Hilo, HI 96720

Dear Incoming Chair Inaba:

Subject: Information Relevant to a Longer, Including Year-Round, Legislative Session

I am a research attorney at the Legislative Reference Bureau, a nonpartisan legislative service agency of the Hawaii State Legislature. During this past legislative session, the Legislature adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 138, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, which requests that the Bureau conduct a study that examines potential options for extending the legislative session beyond the current sixty constitutionally mandated session days. For your convenience, a copy of the Concurrent Resolution is enclosed.

For the purpose of this study, we are seeking pertinent information concerning the Hawaii County Council's administration, operations, and calendar. To that end, we respectfully request responses to the following:

- (1) If possible, we would like to obtain a listing of all positions funded within the County Council, including its staff and the staff of the Office of Council Services, the County Clerk, the County Auditor, and other attached offices. Please also include the title and salary of each position and to which office the position is attached. We do not need names of employees.
- (2) Approximately how many hours do Council members and employees typically work per week, including staff in the Council's attached offices? Does this vary significantly during certain times of the year? If so, can you please explain when the busiest periods for council members and staff occur, and the impact upon their work hours?

## APPENDIX 4-V

We ask that you provide a written response to the foregoing questions, either in hard copy or by email, by December 23, 2024. Our email address is [lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov). If you require any clarification or have any other questions, please contact me by phone at 808-587-0666 or through the foregoing email address. Thank you for your time and assistance.

Very truly yours,

Paul Kanoho  
Research Attorney

as  
Enc.

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi  
Director

Shawn K. Nakama  
First Assistant

Research 808-587-0666  
Revisor 808-587-0670  
Fax 808-587-0681



LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
State of Hawaii  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

November 25, 2024

Ms. Alice L. Lee  
Chair  
Maui County Council  
200 South High St., 8th Floor  
Wailuku, HI 96793

Dear Chair Lee:

Subject: Information Relevant to a Longer, Including Year-Round, Legislative Session

I am a research attorney at the Legislative Reference Bureau, a nonpartisan legislative service agency of the Hawaii State Legislature. During this past legislative session, the Legislature adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 138, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, which requests that the Bureau conduct a study that examines potential options for extending the legislative session beyond the current sixty constitutionally mandated session days. For your convenience, a copy of the Concurrent Resolution is enclosed.

For the purpose of this study, we are seeking pertinent information concerning the Maui County Council's administration, operations, and calendar. To that end, we respectfully request responses to the following:

- (1) If possible, we would like to obtain a listing of all positions funded within the County Council, including its staff and the staff of the Office of Council Services, the County Clerk, the County Auditor, and other attached offices. Please also include the title and salary of each position and to which office the position is attached. We do not need names of employees.
- (2) Approximately how many hours do Council members and employees typically work per week, including staff in the Council's attached offices? Does this vary significantly during certain times of the year? If so, can you please explain when the busiest periods for council members and staff occur, and the impact upon their work hours?

## APPENDIX 4-W

We ask that you provide a written response to the foregoing questions, either in hard copy or by email, by December 23, 2024. Our email address is [lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov). If you require any clarification or have any other questions, please contact me by phone at 808-587-0666 or through the foregoing email address. Thank you for your time and assistance.

Very truly yours,

Paul Kanoho  
Research Attorney

as  
Enc.

Charlotte A. Carter-Yamauchi  
Director

Shawn K. Nakama  
First Assistant

Research 808-587-0666  
Revisor 808-587-0670  
Fax 808-587-0681



LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU  
State of Hawaii  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

November 25, 2024

Mr. Mel Rapozo  
Chair  
Kauai County Council  
4396 Rice Street, Suite 209  
Lihue, HI 96766

Dear Chair Rapozo:

Subject: Information Relevant to a Longer, Including Year-Round, Legislative Session

I am a research attorney at the Legislative Reference Bureau, a nonpartisan legislative service agency of the Hawaii State Legislature. During this past legislative session, the Legislature adopted House Concurrent Resolution No. 138, H.D. 1, S.D. 1, which requests that the Bureau conduct a study that examines potential options for extending the legislative session beyond the current sixty constitutionally mandated session days. For your convenience, a copy of the Concurrent Resolution is enclosed.

For the purpose of this study, we are seeking pertinent information concerning the Kauai County Council's administration, operations, and calendar. To that end, we respectfully request responses to the following:

- (1) If possible, we would like to obtain a listing of all positions funded within the County Council, including its staff and the staff of the Council Services Division, the County Clerk, the County Auditor, and other attached offices. Please also include the title and salary of each position and to which office the position is attached. We do not need names of employees.
- (2) Approximately how many hours do Council members and employees typically work per week, including staff in the Council's attached offices? Does this vary significantly during certain times of the year? If so, can you please explain when the busiest periods for council members and staff occur, and the impact upon their work hours?

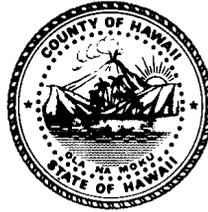
## APPENDIX 4-X

We ask that you provide a written response to the foregoing questions, either in hard copy or by email, by December 23, 2024. Our email address is [lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov). If you require any clarification or have any other questions, please contact me by phone at 808-587-0666 or through the foregoing email address. Thank you for your time and assistance.

Very truly yours,

Paul Kanoho  
Research Attorney

as  
Enc.



## HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Hawai'i  
West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A  
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.  
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740

December 23, 2024

Paul Kanoho, Esq., Research Attorney      Via Email: pa.kanoho@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Legislative Reference Bureau  
State of Hawai'i, Room 446  
415 S. Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re:      Response to request for information regarding the Council administration, operations and calendar for a study by the Legislative Reference Bureau to examine potential options to extend sessions for the Hawai'i State Legislature.

Aloha Paul,

In response to your request to Council Chair Inaba, we provide the below information and attachments to aid your study as directed by HCR 138 for potential options to extend the legislative sessions for the Hawai'i State Legislature. For ease of reference, your letter to Chair Inaba is attached. Also attached is our Council Calendar for 2025, showing our Committee and Council meeting days.

### **Council Chair, Council Members and Council District Staff**

<u>Positions</u>	<u>Number of Positions</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Average Hours Per Week</u>
Council Chair	1	\$99,000	50 to 60
Council Members	8	\$90,000	40 to 60
Legislative Assistants	9	\$47,720 to \$66,354	40 or more
Council Aides	9	\$30,024 to \$51,372	40 or more

### **Council Chair Support Staff:**

<u>Positions</u>	<u>Number of Positions</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Average Hours Per Week</u>
Executive Assistant	1	\$40,692 to \$63,138	40 or more
Deputy Executive Assistant	1	\$36,900 to \$54,558	40 or more
Special Assistant	2	\$45,768 to \$55,620	40 or more
Council Aide to the Chair	1	\$30,024 to \$51,372	40 or more

*Hawai'i County Is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer*

## **APPENDIX 4-Y**

**Videoconferencing Services**

<u>Positions</u>	<u>Number of Positions</u>	<u>Hourly</u>	<u>Average Hours Per Week</u>
Videoconferencing Director	1	\$80	Varied per meeting days
Videoconferencing Technician	1	\$55	Varied per meeting days
Pāhoa Videoconferencing Site Coordinator	1	\$20	Varied per meeting days
Ocean View Courtesy Site Coordinator	1	\$15	Varied per meeting days
Waimea Courtesy Site Coordinator	1	\$15	Varied per meeting days

**Clerk and Administrative Services**

<u>Positions</u>	<u>Number of Positions</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Average Hours Per Week</u>
County Clerk	1	\$162,540	40 or more
Deputy County Clerk	1	\$146,292	40 or more
Private Secretary	1	\$66,876	40 or more
Human Resources Tech	1	\$52,908 to \$78,312	40 or more
Accountant	1	\$52,060 to \$74,124	40 or more

**Legislative Research Branch**

<u>Positions</u>	<u>Number of Positions</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Average Hours Per Week</u>
Legislative Specialist	2	\$57,696 to \$81,180	40 to 50
Legislative Analyst	1	\$56,304 to \$83,376	40 to 50

**Council Services**

<u>Positions</u>	<u>Number of Positions</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Average Hours Per Week</u>
Council Admin Svcs Spvsr	1	\$56,304 to \$83,376	40 or more
Council Services Assistant	5	\$41,196 to \$74,136	40 or more
Council Services Coord.	1	\$48,144 to \$71,268	40 or more

**Support Services and Machine Room**

<u>Positions</u>	<u>Number of Positions</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Average Hours Per Week</u>
Support Services Supervisor	1	\$39,612 to \$50,064	40 or more
Support Services Clerk	3	\$36,072 to \$58,932	40 or more

**Elections Division**

<u>Positions</u>	<u>Number of Positions</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Average Hours Per Week</u>
Program Administrator	1	\$76,788 to \$109,308	40
Program Specialist	1	\$53,940 to \$76,788	40
Election Warehouse Worker	1	\$57,984	40
Elections Assistant	1	\$47,928 to \$60,660	40
Election Clerk	3	\$40,248 to \$59,508	40
Election Info & Svcs Tech	1	\$47,004 to \$69,600	40

**County Auditor** (Comments that their office does not have a “busy season” that substantially affects workflow.)

<u>Positions</u>	<u>Number of Positions</u>	<u>Salary</u>	<u>Average Hours Per Week</u>
County Auditor	1	\$162,540	55

Audit Analyst	1	\$99,690	40
Audit Analyst	1	\$94,944	40
Audit Analyst	1	\$82,014	40
Admin Assistant	1	\$63,408	40 vacant

**County Clerk comments:** Elections Division sees a spike in working hours just before the ballot packet envelopes are mailed to each active registered voter, and then throughout the election period, which includes roughly 10 days after the Primary and General election days.

Council Services Division works hours beyond the standard regular work hours on committee and council meeting days when we have either a high volume of agenda items or agenda items of significant importance to the County and community, or both.

The Hawai'i County Council meets twice per month, with meetings scheduled over four days, at times requiring an additional day for committee meetings, resulting in the Council meeting five or six days in each month. The Council convenes additional meetings in April, May, and June to conduct departmental reviews and adopt an operating and capital budget.

Our Legislative Research Branch sees an increase in workload in working hours during the aforementioned budget season. Similar to Council Services, the LRB increases its workload and time at work when the Council takes up measures of significant importance.

Our Support Services Division is generally able to complete its assigned tasks within regular work hours. The Support Services Division is assigned with providing outgoing and interdepartmental mail and delivery services for all departments and agencies of the County, and printing and copying services for all County departments and agencies. Support teams experience an increase in workload and potentially work hours when the Charter Commission and Redistricting Commission are convened every ten years.

Certain measures the Council undertakes requires additional support and effort, including proposals to establish improvement districts, change tax rates for RPT and fuel, and adopt the General Plan and community development plans. These actions include additional notice requirements, public hearings, and other atypical interactions with the community. The inauguration of elected officials every two years adds to workload and working hours.

Thank you for reaching out to this office, and should there be further inquiry, please do not hesitate to contact my Legislative Assistant Wendy Baez, or myself.

Sincerely,




---

DR. HOLEKA GORO INABA, Council Member  
District 8, North Kona

HGI.wpb

Council Chair  
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair  
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore  
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers  
Tom Cook  
Gabe Johnson  
Tamara Paltin  
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez  
Shane M. Sinenci  
Nohelani U'u-Hodgins



Director of Council Services  
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services  
Richelle K. Kawasaki, Esq.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.MauiCounty.us](http://www.MauiCounty.us)

December 26, 2024

Mr. Paul Kanoho, Research Attorney  
Legislative Reference Bureau  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

*Via Email: [lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:lrbresearch@capitol.hawaii.gov)*

Dear Mr. Kanoho:

**SUBJECT: POSSIBLY EXTENDING OR TRANSITIONING TO A  
YEAR-ROUND LEGISLATIVE SESSION (PAF 24-280)**

Thank you for your November 25, 2024, correspondence requesting information on possibly extending or transitioning to a year-round legislative session. Below is a summary of relevant information from the Maui County Council's administration, operations, and calendar.

**Position and salary information**

Salary ranges for Office of Council Services' staff are provided in Ordinance 5669, effective July 1, 2024 (Attachment "A"). OCS staff position titles are noted in Attachment "B."

Office of the County Clerk positions are listed in Attachment "C," with the County Clerk and Deputy County Clerk salaries noted. It should also be noted that the Office of the County Clerk's permanent, full-time staff is part of a collective bargaining unit and not appointed like OCS staff.

Salaries for the Council Chair and Council Members are set by the Salary Commission and noted in Attachment "D." Each Council Member also hires and determines the salaries of their executive assistants based on the amount allocated per Council Members' office in the fiscal year's budget.

**APPENDIX 4-Z**

Mr. Paul Kanoho  
December 26, 2024  
Page 2

### **Hours worked by Council Members and OCS staff**

The Department of the Corporation Counsel has opined that Council Members are not considered part-time or full-time employees under existing law. The Corporation Counsel opinion further clarifies that recording of specific work hours does not, by itself, establish full-time status. The full text of the opinion is Attachment “E.”

Under the Revised Charter of the County of Maui (1983), as amended, the Council is required to meet monthly at least twice, typically on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday. Council committees typically meet every other week, from Monday to Thursday, with meetings at 9 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

A copy of the 2024 Maui County Council Calendar is Attachment “F.” In 2024, per agendas posted on the Council’s website, there were 25 regular Council meetings, 5 special Council meetings, 7 public hearings, and 215 Committee meetings.

OCS staff generally work 40-hour weeks, with additional hours during high-demand periods, such as during the annual budget session from the end of March to early June, and for special projects throughout the year.

### **Overtime and workload trends**

Overtime data illustrates significant increases during the budget preparation period of March to April. A detailed breakdown of overtime hours by pay period is included in Attachment “G.”

I hope this information is helpful. Should you require any further information or clarification, please contact me or Legislative Analyst Keone Hurdle at 808-270-7659.

Sincerely,



ALICE L. LEE, Chair  
Maui County Council

paf:kjh:24-280a

Attachments:

1. Attachment A: Ordinance 5669 (2024)
2. Attachment B: OCS Staff Position Titles
3. Attachment C: Office of the County Clerk Salary Details and Position Titles
4. Attachment D: Council Chair and Council Members’ Salaries
5. Attachment E: Department of the Corporation Counsel Opinion
6. Attachment F: 2024 Maui County Council Calendar
7. Attachment G: Overtime Totals by Pay Period

ORDINANCE NO. 5669

BILL NO. 65 (2024)

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2.08.060, MAUI COUNTY CODE, TO REVISE THE PAY PLAN AND RANGES IN THE OFFICE OF COUNCIL SERVICES

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI:

SECTION 1. Section 2.08.060, Maui County Code, is amended by amending Subsection (B) to read as follows:

"B. The following pay ranges are established.

1. The annual salary for the director of council services and deputy director may be set by the council by resolution.

2. The salaries or other compensation of council executive assistants may be set by the council member directly supervising the position, subject to availability of funding.

3. The salaries or other compensation of council services assistants may be set by the director of council services, with approval of the council chair, but may not exceed 150 percent of the minimum wage.

4. During the term of appointment of any employee in the office of council services, the director of council services may adjust the salary of the position within the pay range step established by the council. The pay schedule for [all other] positions in the office of council services is as follows:

Pay Ranges

Annual Rates in Dollars

[Effective July 1, 2023

Levels	CR-0	CR-1	CR-2	CR-3	CR-4	CR-5	CR-6	CR-7	CR-8	CR-9
A	50,855	55,981	55,032	50,388	59,539	68,106	74,990	88,966	64,379	73,662
B	52,892	58,221	57,219	52,381	61,872	70,830	83,017	93,638	66,954	76,610
C	55,032	60,549	59,539	54,478	64,356	73,662	90,743	98,309	69,632	79,674
D	57,219	62,972	61,872	56,684	66,929	76,610	99,075	102,982	72,417	82,861
E	59,539	65,490	64,356	58,936	69,606	79,674	107,104	107,652	75,314	86,138
F	61,872	68,093	66,929	61,326	72,416	82,861	115,149	112,324	78,308	89,628
G	64,356	70,836	69,606	63,729	75,272	86,138	123,178	116,996	81,462	93,228
H	66,929	73,654	72,416	66,287	78,318	89,628	131,206	121,667	84,702	96,949
I	69,606	76,610	75,272	68,936	80,447	93,228	138,527	126,339	88,101	100,809
J	72,416	79,674	78,318	71,695	83,665	96,949	147,265	131,010	91,624	104,842
K	75,272	82,861	80,447	74,589	87,011	100,809		137,311	95,289	109,036
L	78,318	86,175	83,665	77,530	88,751	104,841		140,058	99,102	113,397

M	79,884	87,899	85,338	79,080	90,527	106,937		142,859	101,084	115,665
N	81,482	89,657	87,045	80,661	92,336	109,076		145,716	103,105	117,978

Levels	CR-10	CR-11
A	40,956	60,459
B	42,593	62,878
C	44,297	65,393
D	46,034	68,009
E	47,939	70,729
F	49,844	73,540
G	51,827	76,503
H	53,862	79,546
I	56,026	82,739
J	58,294	86,048

K	60,614	89,490
L	63,089	93,069
M	64,351	94,930
N	65,638	96,830

J

Effective July 1, 2024

Levels	CR-6
A	78,740
B	87,168
C	95,280
D	104,029
E	112,459
F	120,906
G	129,337
H	137,766
I	145,453
J	154,628

Levels	CR-0	CR-1	CR-2	CR-3	CR-4	CR-5	CR-7	CR-8	CR-9
A	<u>52,889</u>	<u>58,220</u>	<u>57,233</u>	<u>52,404</u>	<u>61,921</u>	<u>70,830</u>	<u>92,525</u>	<u>66,954</u>	<u>76,608</u>
B	<u>55,008</u>	<u>60,550</u>	<u>59,508</u>	<u>54,476</u>	<u>64,347</u>	<u>73,663</u>	<u>97,384</u>	<u>69,632</u>	<u>79,674</u>
C	<u>57,233</u>	<u>62,971</u>	<u>61,921</u>	<u>56,657</u>	<u>66,930</u>	<u>76,608</u>	<u>102,241</u>	<u>72,417</u>	<u>82,861</u>
D	<u>59,508</u>	<u>65,491</u>	<u>64,347</u>	<u>58,951</u>	<u>69,606</u>	<u>79,674</u>	<u>107,101</u>	<u>75,314</u>	<u>86,175</u>
E	<u>61,921</u>	<u>68,110</u>	<u>66,930</u>	<u>61,293</u>	<u>72,390</u>	<u>82,861</u>	<u>111,958</u>	<u>78,327</u>	<u>89,584</u>
F	<u>64,347</u>	<u>70,817</u>	<u>69,606</u>	<u>63,779</u>	<u>75,313</u>	<u>86,175</u>	<u>116,817</u>	<u>81,440</u>	<u>93,213</u>
G	<u>66,930</u>	<u>73,670</u>	<u>72,390</u>	<u>66,278</u>	<u>78,283</u>	<u>89,583</u>	<u>121,676</u>	<u>84,721</u>	<u>96,957</u>
H	<u>69,606</u>	<u>76,600</u>	<u>75,313</u>	<u>68,938</u>	<u>81,451</u>	<u>93,213</u>	<u>126,534</u>	<u>88,090</u>	<u>100,827</u>
I	<u>72,390</u>	<u>79,674</u>	<u>78,283</u>	<u>71,693</u>	<u>83,665</u>	<u>96,957</u>	<u>131,393</u>	<u>91,625</u>	<u>104,841</u>
J	<u>75,313</u>	<u>82,861</u>	<u>81,451</u>	<u>74,563</u>	<u>87,012</u>	<u>100,827</u>	<u>136,250</u>	<u>95,289</u>	<u>109,036</u>
K	<u>78,283</u>	<u>86,175</u>	<u>83,665</u>	<u>77,573</u>	<u>90,491</u>	<u>104,841</u>	<u>142,803</u>	<u>99,101</u>	<u>113,397</u>
L	<u>81,451</u>	<u>89,622</u>	<u>87,012</u>	<u>80,631</u>	<u>92,301</u>	<u>109,035</u>	<u>145,660</u>	<u>103,066</u>	<u>117,933</u>

M	<u>83,079</u>	<u>91,415</u>	<u>88,752</u>	<u>82,243</u>	<u>94,148</u>	<u>111,214</u>	<u>148,573</u>	<u>105,127</u>	<u>120,292</u>
N	<u>84,741</u>	<u>93,243</u>	<u>90,527</u>	<u>83,887</u>	<u>96,029</u>	<u>113,439</u>	<u>151,545</u>	<u>107,229</u>	<u>122,697</u>

Levels	CR-10	CR-11
A	<u>42,594</u>	<u>62,877</u>
B	<u>44,297</u>	<u>65,393</u>
C	<u>46,069</u>	<u>68,009</u>
D	<u>47,875</u>	<u>70,729</u>
E	<u>49,857</u>	<u>73,558</u>
F	<u>51,838</u>	<u>76,482</u>
G	<u>53,900</u>	<u>79,563</u>
H	<u>56,016</u>	<u>82,728</u>
I	<u>58,267</u>	<u>86,049</u>
J	<u>60,626</u>	<u>89,490</u>
K	<u>63,039</u>	<u>93,070</u>
L	<u>65,613</u>	<u>96,792</u>
M	<u>66,925</u>	<u>98,727</u>
N	<u>68,264</u>	<u>100,703</u>

The director of council services may place any employee on administrative leave, with or without pay, as a result of disciplinary action or subject to an investigation or at the employee's request."

SECTION 3. Material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored. In printing this bill, the County Clerk need not include the brackets, bracketed material, or underscoring.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance takes effect on July 1, 2024.

chr:misc:240309b

INTRODUCED BY:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alice L. Lee".

---

ALICE L. LEE

WE HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing BILL NO. 65, CD1 (2024)

1. Passed FINAL READING at the meeting of the Council of the County of Maui, State of Hawaii, held on the 5th day of June, 2024, by the following vote:

Alice L. LEE Chair	Yuki Lei K. SUGIMURA Vice-Chair	Tom COOK	Gabriel JOHNSON	Natalie A. KAMA	Tamara A. M. PALTIN	Keani N. W. RAWLINS-FERNANDEZ	Shane M. SINENCI	Nohelani U'U-HODGINS
Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye	Aye

2. Was transmitted to the Mayor of the County of Maui, State of Hawaii, on the 7th day of June, 2024.

DATED AT WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII, this 7th day of June, 2024.

RECEIVED

'24 JUN -7 P1:58

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

ALICE L. LEE, CHAIR  
Council of the County of Maui

MOANA M. LUTEY, COUNTY CLERK  
County of Maui

THE FOREGOING BILL IS HEREBY APPROVED THIS 13th DAY OF JUNE, 2024.

RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR. MAYOR  
County of Maui

I HEREBY CERTIFY that upon approval of the foregoing BILL by the Mayor of the County of Maui, the said BILL was designated as ORDINANCE NO. 5669 of the County of Maui, State of Hawaii.

MOANA M. LUTEY, COUNTY CLERK  
County of Maui

Passed First Reading on May 21, 2024  
Effective date of Ordinance July 1, 2024

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Ordinance No. 5669, the original of which is on file in the Office of the County Clerk, County of Maui, State of Hawaii.

Dated at Wailuku, Hawaii, on

County Clerk, County of Maui

RECEIVED

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OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK

**Attachment “B”**

**OCS Staff Positions  
Fiscal Year 2025 Budget**

TOTAL POSITIONS: 35

Director (1)  
Deputy Director (1)

RESEARCH SECTION

Legislative analyst (6)  
Senior legislative analyst (2)  
Supervising legislative analyst (1)  
Legislative attorney (3)  
Communications specialist (1)  
Hawaiian language communications specialist (1)  
Project assignment specialist (1)

SECRETARIAL SECTION

Council services assistant (2)  
Committee secretary (4)  
Senior committee secretary (2)  
Supervising committee secretary (1)

SUPPORT SECTION

Accounts payable specialist (1)  
Council services assistant (part-time) (1)  
Council ambassador (1)  
Personnel specialist (1)  
Procurement specialist (1)  
Senior accountant (1)  
Senior council services technician (2)  
Support supervisor (1)

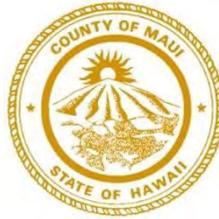
**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK  
COUNTY OF MAUI**

<b>Position</b>		<b>Salary</b>
County Clerk		\$156,982
Deputy County Clerk		\$149,132
Elections Administrator	)	
Clerk to the Council	)	
Assistant Clerk to the Council	)	
Council Information & Reference Technician	)	
Senior Elections Clerk	)	\$483,060
Senior Elections Clerk	)	
Election Clerk II	)	
Election Clerk II	)	
Office Operations Assistant II	)	

**MICHAEL P. VICTORINO**  
Mayor

**DAVID J. UNDERWOOD**  
Director

**Cynthia Razo-Porter**  
Deputy Director



**DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL SERVICES**

COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
PHONE (808) 270-7850 \* FAX (808) 270-7969  
Website: [www.mauicounty.gov/departments/Personnel](http://www.mauicounty.gov/departments/Personnel) • Email: [personnel.services@mauicounty.gov](mailto:personnel.services@mauicounty.gov)

March 2, 2023

Scott Parker, Chair  
and Members of the Salary Commission  
County of Maui  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, HI 96793

Dear Chair Parker and Members of the Salary Commission:

**SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

In preparation for the Commission's discussion and deliberation of salary adjustments for the upcoming year, we would like to provide an update on data provided for the previous round of discussions.

In general, we would note that the internal and external factors and conditions that the Commission considered in its last round of deliberations have seen little change. Externally, inflation is still running at a fairly high pace, and the salaries of most comparison positions in other counties around the state have not either not changed or have kept pace with their Maui counterparts. Internally, the economic condition of the County continues to be strong, the rate of salary inversions remains low, and the anticipated increases afforded to rank and file employees are fixed by contract for the next two fiscal years.

Please see below for detailed data on each of these factors. We hope this will be of use to the commission in its deliberations.

**Current and Upcoming Salaries**

The current and upcoming salaries for the mayor, councilmembers, County Auditor, appointed department heads, and appointed deputy department heads are as follows:

Chair Parker and Members of the Salary Commission

March 2, 2023

Page 2

<b>Position</b>	<b>Current Salary</b>	<b>Salary 7/1/2023</b>
Mayor	\$159,578	\$159,578
Council Chair	\$86,336	\$86,336
Councilmember	\$80,299	\$80,299
Managing Director	\$156,149	\$163,956
Deputy Managing Director	\$140,534	\$147,561
Agriculture Director	\$114,000	\$114,000
Agriculture Deputy Director	\$102,600	\$102,600
Corporation Counsel	\$156,982	\$164,831
First Deputy Corporation Counsel	\$149,132	\$156,589
County Auditor	\$144,553	\$151,781
Environmental Management Director	\$153,590	\$161,270
Environmental Management Deputy Director	\$138,232	\$145,144
Finance Director	\$144,640	\$151,872
Finance Deputy Director	\$130,175	\$136,684
Fire Chief	\$166,793	\$175,133
Fire Deputy Chief	\$158,453	\$166,376
Housing & Human Concerns Director	\$140,945	\$147,992
Housing & Human Concerns Deputy Director	\$126,851	\$133,194
Liquor Director	\$146,089	\$153,393
Liquor Deputy Director	\$131,479	\$138,053
Parks Director	\$141,798	\$148,888
Parks Deputy Director	\$127,619	\$134,000
Personnel Services Director	\$140,662	\$147,695
Personnel Services Deputy Director	\$126,595	\$132,925
Planning Director	\$144,214	\$151,425
Planning Deputy Director	\$129,793	\$136,283
Police Chief	\$166,793	\$175,133
Police Deputy Chief	\$158,453	\$166,376
Prosecuting Attorney	\$156,982	\$164,831
First Deputy Prosecuting Attorney	\$149,132	\$156,589
Public Works Director	\$153,590	\$161,270
Public Works Deputy Director	\$138,232	\$145,144
Transportation Director	\$132,705	\$139,340
Transportation Deputy Director	\$119,434	\$125,406
Water Director	\$149,898	\$157,393
Water Deputy Director	\$133,797	\$140,487

There are no increases projected for the Mayor, Council Chair, Councilmembers, Agriculture Director, or Agriculture Deputy Director for July 2023, as no determination has been made for those positions as yet.

**Comparison with Other Jurisdictions**

The salary commissions in the City & County of Honolulu and the County of Hawaii have not recommended any increases since the last round of deliberations. The salary commission of the County of Kauai adopted increases similar to those adopted for Maui: 5% increases effective January 1, 2023, July 1, 2023, and July 1 2024. This is similar to Maui’s increases of 5% on July 1, 2022, July 1, 2023, and July 1, 2024. The notable exceptions are: 1) Kauai’s increases cover all positions in each year, including the mayor and councilmembers, and 2) the salary of the water director in Hawaii County was increased. (The salary for this position in that jurisdiction is set by the Water Board, not the Salary Commission.) Please find attached a detailed breakdown of the salaries of the various positions.

**Changes in Cost of Living**

Per the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, as of January 2023 (the most recent data available) the Consumer Price Index has increased 5.2 percent over the previous 12 months. This is slightly lower than this time last year, but still considerably higher than in most recent years.

**Salary Increases of Rank and File Employees**

The salaries of the vast majority of the County’s workforce are determined through collective bargaining with our eight bargaining units. All eight bargaining units have contracts in place for the period of July 1, 2021 though June 30, 2025. All of these contracts provide for increases in fiscal year (FY) 22, FY 23, and FY 2024. These increases take various forms, but average approximately 5% per year overall.

**Salary Inversions within Departments**

Salary inversions in base pay are present in some departments, but are not widespread. No department has an inversion at the director level (i.e., no employees have base pay higher than the director.) Four departments have inversions at the deputy director level: Environmental Management (two employees), Planning (two employees), Police (one employee) and Public Works (two employees.)

Thank you very much for the opportunity to assist the Commission, and we hope you will find the information useful.

Sincerely,



DAVID J. UNDERWOOD  
Director of Personnel Services

DU  
Attachment

### Executive Salary Jurisdiction Comparisons

POSITIONS	STATE <sup>1</sup>	C&C HONOLULU	HAWAII	MAUI	KAUA'I <sup>2</sup>
EFFECTIVE DATES: (EXCEPT AS NOTED)	1/1/23	7/1/22	7/1/22	7/1/22	1/1/23
GOVERNOR	\$180,348				
LT. GOVERNOR	\$179,316				
ADMIN DIRECTOR of the STATE	\$179,316				
MAYOR		\$186,432	\$162,582	\$159,578	\$149,165
M.D./ ADMIN. ASS'T./ DIR.		\$178,320	\$153,612	\$156,149	\$143,873
DEPUTY M.D.		\$169,056	\$132,744	\$140,534	
PROS ATTY		\$176,688	\$153,228	\$156,982	\$143,873
1ST DEPUTY PA		\$168,000	\$145,968	\$149,132	\$129,484
DEPUTIES: PA, Corp Counsel		\$59,112 - \$164,016 (PA) \$75,144 - \$166,560 (CC)	\$79,656 - \$137,904 (PA) \$85,812 - \$137,904 (CC)	\$133,573 - \$136,073 <sup>7</sup> \$133,573 (CC)	\$123,808
DEPT. HEADS					
DAGS, DBEDT, DCCA, DHHL, DHS, DLIR, DLNR, DOA, DOH, DOT, PSD, TAX	\$170,784				
BUDGET & FINANCE	\$179,316	\$166,560	\$132,726	\$144,640 <sup>3</sup>	\$134,883
ATTORNEY GENERAL/CORP COUNSEL	\$179,316	\$171,336	\$153,228	\$156,982	\$143,873
HUMAN RESOURCES	\$170,784	\$166,560	\$128,628	\$140,662	\$129,484
INFO TECH		\$166,560	\$126,420		
POLICE		\$205,800	\$153,270	\$166,793	\$143,873
FIRE		\$199,272	\$151,200 <sup>4</sup>	\$166,793	\$143,873 <sup>4</sup>
MEDICAL EXAMINER		\$310,200			
EMERGENCY SERVICES		\$166,560			
PLANNING		\$166,560	\$132,744	\$144,214	\$134,883
PUBLIC WORKS			\$132,582	\$153,590	\$143,873 <sup>5</sup>
DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION		\$166,560			
FACILITIES MAINTENANCE		\$166,560			
ENVIRONMENTAL SVCS/MGT		\$166,560	\$132,744	\$153,590	
LIQUOR		^	\$126,420	\$146,089	\$123,808
WATER		\$199,517.76 <sup>6</sup> (7/1/20)	\$159,600 <sup>6</sup> (1/1/21)	\$149,898	\$143,873
CUSTOMER SERVICES		\$166,560			
ENTERPRISE SERVICES		\$166,560			
HOUSING			\$126,420	\$140,945 (&HC)	\$129,484
COMMUNITY SERVICES		\$166,560			
LAND MANAGEMENT		\$166,560			
PARKS		\$166,560	\$128,760	\$141,798	\$134,883
RESEARCH & DEV./ECONOMIC DEV.			\$126,420		\$123,808
ROYAL HAWAIIAN BAND		\$146,952			
TRANSPORTATION		\$166,560		\$132,705	
AGRICULTURE				\$90,000	
DEPUTIES					
DAGS, DBEDT, DCCA, DHHL, DHS, DLIR, DLNR, DOA, DOH, DOT, PSD, TAX	\$148,572 - \$157,104				
BUDGET & FINANCE	\$156,000 - \$164,964	\$158,040	\$126,402	\$130,175 <sup>3</sup>	\$129,484
1ST DEPUTY AG/CORP COUNSEL	\$156,000 - \$164,964	\$158,040	\$145,968	\$149,132	\$129,484

POSITIONS	STATE <sup>1</sup>	C&C HONOLULU	HAWAII	MAUI	KAUA'I <sup>2</sup>
<b>EFFECTIVE DATES: (EXCEPT AS NOTED)</b>	<b>1/1/23</b>	<b>7/1/22</b>	<b>7/1/22</b>	<b>7/1/22</b>	<b>1/1/23</b>
HUMAN RESOURCES	\$148,572 - \$157,104	^^	\$122,628	\$126,595	
INFO TECH		\$158,040			
POLICE		\$196,296	\$145,968	\$158,453	\$129,484
FIRE		\$190,032	\$143,640 <sup>4</sup>	\$158,453	\$129,484 <sup>4</sup>
MEDICAL EXAMINER		\$273,024			
EMERGENCY SERVICES		\$158,040			
PLANNING		\$158,040	\$126,420	\$129,793	\$123,808
PUBLIC WORKS			\$126,264	\$138,232	\$129,484 <sup>5</sup>
DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION		\$158,040			
FACILITIES MAINTENANCE		\$158,040			
ENVIRONMENTAL SVCS/MGT		\$158,040	\$126,420	\$138,232	
LIQUOR				\$131,479	
WATER		\$190,448.76 <sup>6</sup> (7/1/20)	\$151,620 <sup>6</sup> (1/1/21)	\$133,797	\$129,484
CUSTOMER SERVICES		\$158,040			
ENTERPRISE SERVICES		\$158,040			
HOUSING				\$126,851 (&HC)	
COMMUNITY SERVICES		\$158,040			
LAND MANAGEMENT		\$158,040			
PARKS		\$158,040	\$122,628	\$127,619	\$129,484
RESEARCH & DEV/ ECONOMIC DEV.			\$113,778		
TRANSPORTATION		\$158,040		\$119,434	
AGRICULTURE				\$70,000	
<b>LEGISLATIVE BRANCH</b>					
	<b>1/1/23</b>	<b>7/1/22</b>	<b>7/1/22</b>	<b>7/1/22</b>	<b>1/1/23</b>
SPEAKERS/PRES	\$81,024				
MEMBERS HSE/SEN	\$72,348				
COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON		\$76,968	\$77,016	\$86,337	\$80,390
COUNCIL MEMBERS		\$68,904	\$70,008	\$80,299	\$71,354
COUNTY CLERK		\$166,560	\$126,420	\$110,250	\$134,883
DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK			\$113,778	\$98,700	\$129,484
COUNTY AUDITOR		\$166,560	\$126,420	\$144,553	\$134,883

<sup>1</sup> State departments have statewide responsibility for all islands.

<sup>2</sup> Salaries for the County of Kaua'i reflects the maximum salary each position may be compensated at. The respective appointing authority may set the salary of any new or existing non-elected appointee at a figure lower than the maximum salary.

<sup>3</sup> Maui's Budget & Finance does not include Budget.

<sup>4</sup> Hawaii's Fire includes Emergency Medical Services and Ocean Safety; Kauai Fire includes Ocean Safety

<sup>5</sup> Kauai's Public Works includes Environmental

<sup>6</sup> Salary set by Water Board

<sup>7</sup> For Maui's Prosecuting Attorney and Corporation Counsel deputies, appointing authority can set the salary 20% higher or lower than the salary range, provided that the salary does not exceed that of the 1st Deputy.

<sup>^</sup> City's Liquor Commission is headed by a civil service employee and is administratively assigned to the Department of Budget and Fiscal Services.

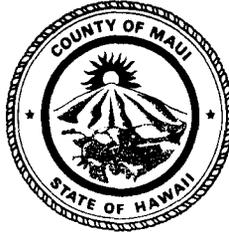
<sup>^^</sup> City's HR Deputy is a Civil Service position

Last Updated 1/12/2023

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2019 APR -8 PM 2: 20

OFFICE OF THE  
COUNTY COUNCIL



MICHAEL P. VICTORINO  
Mayor

PATRICK K. WONG  
Acting Corporation  
Counsel

EDWARD S. KUSHI, JR.  
First Deputy

LYDIA A. TODA  
Risk Management Officer

DEPARTMENT OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET, 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793-2155  
TELEPHONE: (808) 270-7740  
FACSIMILE: (808) 270-7152

MEMO TO: Keani Rawlins-Fernandez  
Vice-Chair, Maui County Council

FROM: Gary Y. Murai   
Deputy Corporation Counsel

DATE: April 8, 2019

SUBJECT: **EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF COUNCILMEMBERS** (PAF 19-132)

We respond to your memorandum dated March 21, 2019, requesting a Corporation Counsel opinion on the seven questions presented below, regarding the employment status of council members and related matters.

I. QUESTIONS PRESENTED

Specifically, you ask:

1. Are there any laws which classify elected Maui County officials as either part-time or full-time employees? If so, please identify the laws.
2. Is the mayor considered a full-time employee? What is this determination based on?
3. Are the council members considered part-time employees? What is this determination based on?
4. How could council members be established as full-time employees? What laws would need to be revised?

5. Council member time sheets in ADP are currently blank. If Councilmembers started inputting accurate full-time work schedules to reflect actual hours worked, for example 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except County holidays, would that make them full-time employees?
6. Should the Maui County Salary Commission determine the compensation of elected officials based on the part-time or full-time status of elected officials? If so, what is the employment status of elected officials based on? If not, how does the Salary Commission determine the compensation of elected officials?
7. The December 27, 2001 opinion from the Department of the Corporation Counsel to the Director of Council Services states that council members are not entitled to paid vacation, but are entitled to sick leave, retirement, deferred compensation, flex spending, and health insurance. This opinion cites Chapter 79 and Section 78-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS"). However, Chapters 78 and 79, HRS, were repealed in 2000. What are the employment benefits for elected officials and how are the benefits currently determined?

## II. BRIEF ANSWER

Elected officials<sup>1</sup> are neither full-time or part-time employees. The benefits accorded to elected officials, such as pensions and medical insurance, are those that are authorized by statute.

The Maui County Charter charges the Salary Commission with determining the compensation for elected officials. No further guidance is provided.

## III. ANALYSIS

We address your questions in the order they are presented.

1. Elected officials in the County of Maui Elected officials are neither full-time employees or part-time employees.

Hawaii law, including the Hawaii Revised Statutes, Hawaii Administrative Rules, Maui County Charter and Maui County Code, is silent as to whether

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<sup>1</sup> Unless otherwise specified, reference to "elected officials" shall mean the Mayor of the County of Maui and members of the Maui County Council.

elected officials are part-time or full-time. Indeed, with limited exceptions, no employees in Hawaii, public or private, are classified by law as full-time or part-time.<sup>2,3,4</sup> Moreover, even when an employee may be referred to as full-time, no definition is provided.<sup>5</sup> Employers have the discretion to designate their employees as part-time or full-time, but that designation does not necessarily create additional legal rights.

Rather than being based on a full-time or part-time designation, employment-related rights and benefits for workers in Hawaii are generally based on hours worked. For example, Hawaii wage and hour law requires employers to pay overtime compensation for hours worked in excess of forty hours per workweek,<sup>6</sup> and to provide prepaid health care plans for employees working at least twenty hours per week.<sup>7</sup>

Elected officials are a unique class of public servant. Under federal law, elected officials in state and county government are not considered employees. For example, the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, which establishes a minimum wage and eligibility for overtime pay for private sector and government employees specifically excludes from the definition of “employee” any individual who is not subject to civil service laws and holds a public elective office of that State, political subdivision or agency.<sup>8</sup> Similarly, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA) exclude from the definition of employee, persons who are elected to public office in any state or political subdivision by the qualified voters.<sup>9</sup>

Unlike most employees, elected officials are not “hired” and are not subject to discipline, other than by censure or recall and may not be subject to Hawaii wage and hour law.<sup>10</sup> Where elected officials in Hawaii are included within the definition of “employee,” it is by statute and for specific purposes. For example, elected officials are considered employees for membership in

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<sup>2</sup>Employees who work in State Enterprise Zones may be classified as a full-time employee if they are “any employee, including a leased employee, and an employee under a joint employment arrangement, for whom the employer is legally required to provide employee fringe benefits.” §209E-2, H.R.S. State Enterprise Zones

<sup>3</sup> For purposes of eligibility for membership in the Hawaii Employee-Union Trust Fund, a “Part-time, temporary or seasonal employee” means a person employed for fewer than three months or whose employment is less than one-half of a full-time equivalent position. §87A-1, H.R.S.; §14-56-2, H.A.R.

<sup>4</sup> For convenience, employees of the County of Maui who work less than a forty-hour week may be informally referred to as “half-time” or “three quarter-time” employees, depending on the number of hours worked per week.

<sup>5</sup> §209E-2, H.R.S.

<sup>6</sup> §387-3, H.R.S.

<sup>7</sup> §393-3, H.R.S.

<sup>8</sup> 29 U.S. Code §203(e)(2)(C)

<sup>9</sup> 42 U.S. Code §2000(e)(f) and 29 U.S. Code §630(f)

<sup>10</sup> §387-1, H.R.S.

pension and retirement systems,<sup>11</sup> for being subject to the Hawaii Public Procurement Code,<sup>12</sup> and for withholding of taxes from wages.<sup>13</sup>

2. The mayor is not considered a full-time employee.

Based on our analysis in No. 1 above, we conclude that the office of mayor is not considered a full-time position.

3. Council members are not considered part-time employees

Based on our analysis in No. 1 above, we conclude that the office of council member is not considered a part-time position.

4. Designation of council members as full-time employees may be accomplished by amendment of the Maui County Charter, by ordinance, or by adoption of Rules of the Council to that effect.

Article 3 of the Maui County Charter authorizes the establishment of a county council and establishes the council's composition, terms of office, qualifications and powers, among other things. We note that to the extent that council members have work requirements, they are found in Article 3 and the Rules of Council. Article 3 requires the council, and presumably members of the council, to attend an organization meeting and twice-monthly meetings. Rule 7(a) of the current Rules of the Council requires attendance at standing committee meetings. However, aside from the requirement that council members attend certain meetings, Article 3 and the Rules of the Council do not designate council members as full-time employees or establish hours of work.

5. Recording hours worked from 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. would not, by itself create full-time employment.

As discussed in No. 1 and No. 4 above, employees in Hawaii are not generally classified by law as full-time or part-time. Therefore, even if council members are deemed to be employees, recording forty or more hours worked per week on a timesheet would not, by itself create full-time employment.

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<sup>11</sup> "Employee" includes "members of the legislature and other elective officers" §88-21, H.R.S.

<sup>12</sup>"Employee" includes "an individual drawing a salary from a governmental body, whether elected or not." §103D-104, H.R.S.

<sup>13</sup>"Employee" includes "an officer or elected official." §235-61, H.R.S

6. We decline to opine on whether the Maui County Salary Commission should consider part-time or full-time status when determining compensation for elected officials, as that is a matter of policy rather than law.

The Salary Commission is authorized by Section 8-17.1 of the Maui County Charter. However, the only charge for the Salary Commission is to establish the compensation for the mayor, council members, the auditor and appointed directors and their deputies.<sup>14</sup> No other substantive guidance is provided.<sup>15</sup>

7. The employment benefits for elected officials are those which are established by statute, or by ordinance, to the extent such ordinance is permitted by statute.

Some of the significant benefits extended to elected officials by statute include membership in the employees' retirement system,<sup>16</sup> workers' compensation,<sup>17</sup> participation in the deferred compensation plan,<sup>18</sup> and health benefits.<sup>19</sup>

Chapters 79-1 and 78-6, H.R.S. which were cited in the December 27, 2001 Corporation Counsel opinion you referred to were repealed effective July 1, 2002 as part of a comprehensive overhaul of civil service law in Hawaii.<sup>20</sup> Vacation, sick leave and other leave benefits for civil service employees are now provided for in §78-23, H.R.S.

Elected officials are exempt from the civil service system and excluded from collective bargaining.<sup>21</sup> Pursuant to §89C, H.R.S., benefits awarded to civil

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<sup>14</sup> While we decline to opine as to whether the Salary Commission should consider part-time or full-time employment status, review of the agendas and minutes of past Salary Commission meetings shows that compensation decisions for elected officials have been based on their duties and responsibilities, the cost of living in Maui County, comparison with the salaries of other elected officials in Hawaii, and testimony from the mayor, council chair, and members of the public.

<sup>15</sup> The only other guidance provided to the Salary Commission is not relevant here. The Salary Commission is required to consult with the commissions that appoint their director, including the Fire and Public Safety Commission, which appoints the Fire Chief, the Civil Service Commission, which appoints the Director of Personnel Services, the Police Commission, which appoints the Police Chief, and the Liquor Commission, which appoints the Director of Liquor Control.

<sup>16</sup> §88-42.6, H.R.S.

<sup>17</sup> §386-1, H.R.S.

<sup>18</sup> §88E-1, H.R.S.

<sup>19</sup> §87A-1, H.R.S.

<sup>20</sup> Hawaii civil service law was substantially amended by Act 253 of the 2000 Legislative Session

<sup>21</sup> §§76-77(2) and 89-6(f)(1), H.R.S.

Keani Rawlins-Fernandez, Vice-Chair  
Maui County Council  
April 8, 2019  
Page 6

servants via collective bargaining may be extended to public officers who are excluded from collective bargaining by an “appropriate authority,” who may make adjustments to wages, hours, benefits and other terms and conditions of employment.<sup>22</sup> However, §89C, H.R.S. does not specifically include elected officials as those whose benefits and working conditions may be adjusted, and does not identify an appropriate authority to make adjustments for council members.<sup>23</sup>

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Elected officials are a unique class of public servant who are neither full-time or part-time. While the county council may designate its members as full-time, the benefits accorded to elected officials are not based on that designation. The benefits available to elected officials are established by statute.

We make no opinion whether the Salary Commission should consider the full-time or part-time status of elected officials.

Please contact us if you have any questions.

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL:

  
for EDWARD S. KUSHI, JR  
First Deputy Corporation Counsel

LF 2019-0553  
PAF 19-132 2019-04-08 Memo Employment Status of Councilmembers

<sup>22</sup> However, compensation may not be adjusted under §89C, H.R.S. for county officers whose salary is fixed by a salary commission.

<sup>23</sup> “Appropriate authority” includes the governor, mayor, chief justice and board of education, among others. §89C-1.5, H.R.S.



<p><b>Alice L. Lee</b> <i>Council Chair</i> Wailuku-Waihe'e-Waikapu Residency Area alice.lee@mauicounty.us (808) 270-7760</p>	<p><b>Yuki Lei K. Sugimura</b> <i>Council Vice-Chair</i> Upcountry Residency Area Chair, Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee yukilei.sugimura@mauicounty.us (808) 270-7939</p>	<p><b>Tasha Kama</b> <i>Residing Officer</i> <i>Pro Tempore</i> Kahului Residency Area Chair, Housing and Land Use Committee tasha.kama@mauicounty.us (808) 270-5501</p>
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<p><b>Tom Cook</b> <i>Councilmember</i> South Maui Residency Area Chair, Agriculture, Parks, and Infrastructure Committee thomas.cook@mauicounty.us (808) 793-0017</p>	<p><b>Gabe Johnson</b> <i>Councilmember</i> Lana'i Residency Area Chair, Agriculture, Parks, and Infrastructure Committee Public Transportation Committee gabe.johnson@mauicounty.us (808) 543-7094</p>	<p><b>Tamara Paltin</b> <i>Councilmember</i> West Maui Residency Area Chair, Disaster, Resilience, International Affairs, and Planning Committee tamara.paltin@mauicounty.us (808) 856-0123</p>
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<p><i>Councilmember</i> Shauna Stenberg Water Authority, Social Services, and Parks Committee shauna.stenberg@mauicounty.us (808) 270-7939</p>	<p><i>Councilmember</i> Shauna Stenberg Water Authority, Social Services, and Parks Committee shauna.stenberg@mauicounty.us (808) 270-7939</p>	<p><i>Councilmember</i> Shauna Stenberg Water Authority, Social Services, and Parks Committee shauna.stenberg@mauicounty.us (808) 270-7939</p>
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**Committee Meetings**

Meeting dates are subject to change or cancellation. Go to [MauiCounty.us/agendas](http://MauiCounty.us/agendas) for meeting updates.

*Monday*

**9:00 a.m.**  
Water Authority, Social Services, and Parks  
Committee (WASSP)

**1:30 p.m.**  
Efficiency Solutions and Circular Systems Committee  
(ESCS)

*Tuesday*

**9:00 a.m.**  
Budget, Finance, and Economic Development Committee  
(BFED)

**1:30 p.m.**  
Government Relations, Ethics, and Transparency  
Committee (GREAT)

*Wednesday*

**9:00 a.m.**  
Housing and Land Use Committee (HLU)

**1:30 p.m.**  
Disaster, Resilience, International Affairs, and  
Planning Committee (DRIP)

*Thursday*

**9:00 a.m.**  
Water and Infrastructure Committee (WAI)

**1:30 p.m.**  
Agriculture, Diversification, Environment, and Public  
Transportation Committee (ADEPT)

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<b>IANUALI</b> <i>January</i>						
LĀPULE Sun.	PŌ'AKAHI Mon.	PŌ'ALUA Tues.	PŌ'AKOLU Wed.	PŌ'AHĀ Thurs.	PŌ'ALIMA Fri.	PŌ'AONO Sat.
	1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Committee Meetings	9 Committee Meetings	10 Committee Meetings	11 Committee Meetings	12 Council Meeting	13
14	15 <i>Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i>	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 Committee Meetings	23 Committee Meetings	24 Committee Meetings	25 Committee Meetings	26 Council Meeting	27
28	29	30	31			

Note: The red text refers to State and County holidays.

<b>PEPELUALI</b> <i>February</i>						
LĀPULE Sun.	PŌ'AKAHI Mon.	PŌ'ALUA Tues.	PŌ'AKOLU Wed.	PŌ'AHĀ Thurs.	PŌ'ALIMA Fri.	PŌ'AONO Sat.
				1	2	3
4	5 Committee Meetings	6 Committee Meetings	7 Committee Meetings	8 Committee Meetings	9 Council Meeting	10 <i>NACo</i>
11 <i>NACo</i>	12 <i>NACo</i>	13 <i>NACo</i>	14	15	16	17
18	19 <i>Presidents' Day</i>	20 Committee Meetings	21 Committee Meetings	22 Committee Meetings	23 Council Meeting	24
25	26	27 Committee Meetings	28	29		

<b>MALAKI</b> <i>March</i>						
LĀPULE Sun.	PŌ'AKAHI Mon.	PŌ'ALUA Tues.	PŌ'AKOLU Wed.	PŌ'AHĀ Thurs.	PŌ'ALIMA Fri.	PŌ'AONO Sat.
					1	2
3	4 Committee Meetings	5 Committee Meetings	6 Committee Meetings	7 Committee Meetings	8 Council Meeting	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 Committee Meetings	19 Committee Meetings	20 Committee Meetings	21 Committee Meetings	22 Council Meeting	23
24	25	26 <i>Prince Jonah Kūhū Kalaniana'ole Day</i>	27	28	29 <i>Good Friday</i>	30
31						

<b>'APELILA</b> <i>April</i>						
LĀPULE Sun.	PŌ'AKAHI Mon.	PŌ'ALUA Tues.	PŌ'AKOLU Wed.	PŌ'AHĀ Thurs.	PŌ'ALIMA Fri.	PŌ'AONO Sat.
	1 Budget Session	2 Budget Session	3 Budget Session	4 Budget Session	5 Council Meeting	6
7	8 Budget Session	9 Budget Session	10 Budget Session	11 Budget Session	12 Budget Session	13
14	15 Budget Session	16 Budget Session	17 Budget Session	18 Budget Session	19 Council Meeting	20
21	22 Budget Session	23 Budget Session	24 Budget Session	25 Budget Session	26 Budget Session	27
28	29 Budget Session	30 Budget Session				

<b>MEI</b> <i>May</i>						
LĀPULE Sun.	PŌ'AKAHI Mon.	PŌ'ALUA Tues.	PŌ'AKOLU Wed.	PŌ'AHĀ Thurs.	PŌ'ALIMA Fri.	PŌ'AONO Sat.
			1 Budget Session	2 Budget Session	3 Council Meeting	4
5	6	7	8 <i>WIR</i>	9 <i>WIR</i>	10 <i>WIR</i>	11
12	13 Committee Meetings	14 Committee Meetings	15 Committee Meetings	16 Committee Meetings	17 Council Meeting	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 <i>Memorial Day</i>	28	29	30	31	

<b>IUNE</b> <i>June</i>						
LĀPULE Sun.	PŌ'AKAHI Mon.	PŌ'ALUA Tues.	PŌ'AKOLU Wed.	PŌ'AHĀ Thurs.	PŌ'ALIMA Fri.	PŌ'AONO Sat.
						1
2	3 Committee Meetings	4 Committee Meetings	5 Committee Meetings	6 Committee Meetings	7 Council Meeting	8
9	10	11 <i>King Kamehameha I Day</i>	12	13	14	15
16	17 Committee Meetings	18 Committee Meetings	19 Committee Meetings	20 Committee Meetings	21 Council Meeting	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

<b>IULAI</b> <i>July</i>						
LĀPULE Sun.	PŌ'AKAHI Mon.	PŌ'ALUA Tues.	PŌ'AKOLU Wed.	PŌ'AHĀ Thurs.	PŌ'ALIMA Fri.	PŌ'AONO Sat.
	1 Committee Meetings	2 Committee Meetings	3 Committee Meetings	4 <i>Independence Day</i>	5 Council Meeting	6
7	8	9 Committee Meetings	10	11	12 <i>NACo</i>	13 <i>NACo</i>
14 <i>NACo</i>	15 <i>NACo</i>	16	17	18	19 Council Meeting	20
21	22 Committee Meetings	23 Committee Meetings	24 Committee Meetings	25 Committee Meetings	26	27
28	29	30	31			

<b>'AUKAKE</b> <i>August</i>						
LĀPULE Sun.	PŌ'AKAHI Mon.	PŌ'ALUA Tues.	PŌ'AKOLU Wed.	PŌ'AHĀ Thurs.	PŌ'ALIMA Fri.	PŌ'AONO Sat.
				1	2	3
4	5 Committee Meetings	6 Committee Meetings	7 Committee Meetings	8 Committee Meetings	9	10
11	12	13 Council Meeting	14	15	16 <i>Statehood Day</i>	17
18	19 Committee Meetings	20 Committee Meetings	21 Committee Meetings	22 Committee Meetings	23	24
25	26	27 Council Meeting	28	29	30	31

<b>KEPAKEMAPA</b> <i>September</i>						
LĀPULE Sun.	PŌ'AKAHI Mon.	PŌ'ALUA Tues.	PŌ'AKOLU Wed.	PŌ'AHĀ Thurs.	PŌ'ALIMA Fri.	PŌ'AONO Sat.
1	2 <i>Labor Day</i>	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 Committee Meetings	10 Committee Meetings	11 Committee Meetings	12 Committee Meetings	13 Council Meeting	14
15	16	17	18 <i>HSAC</i>	19 <i>HSAC</i>	20 <i>HSAC</i>	21
22	23 Committee Meetings	24 Committee Meetings	25 Committee Meetings	26 Committee Meetings	27 Council Meeting	28
29	30					

<b>'OKAKOPA</b> <i>October</i>						
LĀPULE Sun.	PŌ'AKAHI Mon.	PŌ'ALUA Tues.	PŌ'AKOLU Wed.	PŌ'AHĀ Thurs.	PŌ'ALIMA Fri.	PŌ'AONO Sat.
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Committee Meetings	8 Committee Meetings	9 Committee Meetings	10 Committee Meetings	11 Council Meeting	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Committee Meetings	22 Committee Meetings	23 Committee Meetings	24 Committee Meetings	25 Council Meeting	26
27	28	29	30	31		

<b>NOWEMAPA</b> <i>November</i>						
LĀPULE Sun.	PŌ'AKAHI Mon.	PŌ'ALUA Tues.	PŌ'AKOLU Wed.	PŌ'AHĀ Thurs.	PŌ'ALIMA Fri.	PŌ'AONO Sat.
					1	2
3	4	5 <i>General Election Day</i>	6	7	8	9
10	11 <i>Veterans' Day</i>	12	13	14	15 Council Meeting	16
17	18 Committee Meetings	19 Committee Meetings	20 Committee Meetings	21 Committee Meetings	22	23
24	25	26 Council Meeting	27	28 <i>Thanksgiving</i>	29	30

<b>KĒKĒMAPA</b> <i>December</i>						
LĀPULE Sun.	PŌ'AKAHI Mon.	PŌ'ALUA Tues.	PŌ'AKOLU Wed.	PŌ'AHĀ Thurs.	PŌ'ALIMA Fri.	PŌ'AONO Sat.
1	2 Committee Meetings	3 Committee Meetings	4 Committee Meetings	5 Committee Meetings	6 Council Meeting	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Committee Meetings	17 Committee Meetings	18 Committee Meetings	19 Committee Meetings	20 Council Meeting	21
22	23	24	25 <i>Christmas</i>	26	27	28
29	30	31				

## **Attachment “G”**

### **Overtime Totals by Pay Period**

- January 15 – 57.25 hours
- January 31 – 70.5 hours
- February 15 – 122 hours
- February 29 – 115.75 hours
- March 15 – 144.75 hours
- March 31 – 358.75 hours
- April 15 – 324.5 hours
- April 30 – 376.25 hours
- May 15 – 117.25 hours
- May 31 – 166.5 hours
- June 15 – 154.5 hours
- June 30 – 108.25 hours
- July 15 – 80.25 hours
- July 31 – 57 hours
- August 15 – 53 hours
- August 31 – 72.25 hours
- September 15 – 55 hours
- September 30 – 63 hours
- October 15 – 51.5 hours
- October 31 – 34.5 hours
- November 15 – 65.25 hours
- November 30 – 99.25 hours
- December 15 – 67 hours

**COUNTY COUNCIL**

Mel Rapozo, Chair  
KipuKai Kualii, Vice Chair  
Addison Bulosan  
Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.  
Felicia Cowden  
Fern Holland  
Arryl Kaneshiro



**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK**

Jade K. Fountain-Tanigawa, County Clerk  
Lyndon M. Yoshioka, Deputy County Clerk

Telephone: (808) 241-4188  
Facsimile: (808) 241-6349  
Email: cokcouncil@kauai.gov

**Council Services Division**  
4396 Rice Street, Suite 209  
Lihu'e, Kaua'i, Hawai'i 96766

December 30, 2024

Paul Kanoho, Research Attorney  
Legislative Reference Bureau  
State of Hawai'i  
State Capitol, Room 446  
415 S Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Mr. Kanoho:

**RE: INFORMATION RELEVANT TO A LONGER, INCLUDING  
YEAR-ROUND, LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Sincere apologies for the delay in responding to your letter dated November 25, 2024. Attached please find a table containing the information that you requested.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or the Office of the County Clerk, Council Services Division at (808) 241-4188 should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

JADE K. FOUNTAIN-TANIGAWA  
County Clerk

Attachment

cc: Mel Rapozo, Council Chair

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK, COUNTY OF KAUAI  
 INFORMATION RELEVANT TO LONGER, INCLUDING YEAR-ROUND, LEGISLATIVE SESSION

COUNCIL SERVICES DIVISION	SALARY	HOURS/WEEK	BUSY PERIOD / IMPACT
Administrative Assistant to the County Clerk	\$92,947	40	Annual Budget Review (March – May) +10-15 hours/week for select staff as needed  Election Year (July – November) +10-20 hours/week for select staff as needed  Special Events (Conferences, workshops, town halls, etc., as required.) +10-20 hours/week for select staff as needed  <sup>1</sup> No overtime or compensatory time
Council Departmental Staff Assistant	\$77,009		
Council Legal Analyst	\$104,504		
Council Legal Analyst	\$110,009		
Council Legislative Assistant	\$71,504		
Council Legislative Assistant	\$83,009		
Council Legislative Assistant	\$65,012		
Council Records Management Analyst I	\$60,509		
Council Secretarial Assistant	\$60,509		
Council Secretarial Assistant	\$66,383		
Council Secretarial Assistant	\$10,341		
Council Senior Clerk Typist	\$53,566		
Council Senior Clerk Typist	\$50,004		
Council Services Assistant I	\$48,946		
Council Services Assistant I	\$57,000		
Council Services Assistant I	\$47,004		
Council Services Assistant II	\$77,484		
Records Management Analyst IV	\$65,664	40+	
Records Management Analyst V	\$93,804		
County Clerk <sup>1</sup>	\$148,728	40+	
Deputy County Clerk <sup>1</sup>	\$142,776		
Constituent Relations Coordinator	\$46/hour	<20	Personal staff reporting directly to the appointing Councilmember  No overtime, compensatory time, or other benefits
Constituent Relations Coordinator	\$46/hour		
Constituent Relations Coordinator	\$45/hour		
Constituent Relations Coordinator	\$35/hour		
ELECTIONS DIVISION	SALARY	HOURS/WEEK	BUSY PERIOD / IMPACT
Election Clerk II	\$40,248	40	Election Year (July – November) +10-30 hours/week
Election Clerk II	\$40,248		
Election Clerk II	\$40,248		
Election Clerk II	\$40,248		
Elections Administrator	\$97,560		
Elections Assistant	\$54,984		
Elections Program Specialist II	\$65,000		
Printing Services & Election Warehouse Specialist	\$64,404		
Senior Election Clerk	\$45,216		
COUNTY AUDITOR	SALARY	HOURS/WEEK	BUSY PERIOD / IMPACT
Administrative Staff Assistant	\$1.00	Vacant	N/A
Audit Manager	\$1.00		
Auditor II	\$1.00		
County Auditor	\$1.00		
Program Audit Analyst	\$1.00		

## Relevant Hawaii State Constitutional Provisions<sup>1</sup>

Provision	Requirement	Comment
<b>Art. III, § 10</b>	Convene annually in regular session at 10:00 a.m. on the third Wednesday in January.	Specific convene date and time.
	Regular session is limited to a period of 60 session days.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Session days exclude Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and recess days.</li> <li>• Session days = days the Senate and House convene in Floor Session and conduct chamber business.</li> <li>• Committees may still hold hearings and act (i.e., vote).</li> <li>• Session days need not be scheduled successively.</li> </ul>
	Any session may be extended for a total of up to 15 session days.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Granted by the presiding officers of both houses at the written request of two-thirds of the members to which each house is entitled.</li> <li>• Or granted by the governor.</li> <li>• Full extension = <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 75 total regular session days.</li> <li>○ 45 total special session days.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Mandatory recess for at least 5 days at some period between the 20th and 40th session days.	
	Any session may be recessed by concurrent resolution adopted by a majority of the members to which each house is entitled.	
	All sessions are required to be held in the state capital.	The Governor may direct that any session be held elsewhere if the capital is deemed unsafe.

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<sup>1</sup> See Chapter 2, section entitled Constitutional Provisions Relating to Legislative Sessions.

	<p>Special sessions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• may be convened at the written request of two-thirds of the members to which each house is entitled.</li> <li>• The Governor may convene both houses or the Senate alone in special session.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senate may be convened alone in special session to carry out its consent duties for gubernatorial and judicial appointments.</li> <li>• Limited to a period of 30 session days.</li> </ul>
<b>Art. III, § 11</b>	Neither house shall adjourn during any session for more than 3 days, or <i>sine die</i> , without the consent of the other.	No specific adjournment dates.
<b>Art. III, § 12</b>	Bill Introduction Deadline	By procedural rule, each house must specify the date by which all bills for consideration in a regular session shall be introduced.
	Bill Referral Recall	20 days after a bill has been referred to a committee in either house, the bill may be recalled from that committee by an affirmative vote of one-third of the members to which the house is entitled.
<b>Art. III, § 15</b>	No bill shall become law unless it shall pass three readings in each house on separate days.	No bill shall pass third or final reading in either house unless printed copies of the bill in the form to be passed shall have been made available to the members of that house for at least 48 hours.
	Any bill pending at the final adjournment of a regular session in an odd-numbered year shall carry over with the same status to the next regular session.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Before the carried-over bill is enacted, it shall pass at least one reading in the house in which the bill originated.</li> <li>• Carried-over bills maintain the same status in the legislative process in the next regular session.</li> </ul>
<b>Art. III, § 16</b>	Every bill passed by the Legislature is presented to the Governor for approval or veto.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governor's signature = Bill becomes law.</li> <li>• Disapproval = Governor vetoes the bill or returns it to the Legislature with objections.</li> <li>• The Governor may veto specific items in any bill that</li> </ul>

		appropriates money for specific purposes.
	The Governor has <b>10</b> days to consider bills presented to the Governor <u>10 or more session days</u> before adjournment <i>sine die</i> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the Governor takes no action and the bill is neither signed nor returned by the Governor, the bill becomes law.</li> <li>• 10 days excludes Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and recess days.</li> </ul>
	The Governor has <b>45</b> days <u>after</u> adjournment <i>sine die</i> to consider bills presented to the Governor <u>less than 10 session days</u> before adjournment <i>sine die</i> or after adjournment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bill becomes law on the 45th day unless the Governor has given 10 days' notice to the Legislature that the Governor plans to return the bill with the Governor's objections on that day.</li> <li>• Legislature may convene at or before noon on the 45th day in special session to act upon any bill returned by the Governor.</li> <li>• Bill fails to become law if the Legislature does not convene.</li> <li>• Any returned bill may be amended to meet the Governor's objections. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Only 1 reading required in each house to pass.</li> <li>○ Returned to the Governor, who must sign it within 10 days after presentation.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 45 days excludes Saturdays, Sundays, holidays, and recess days.</li> </ul>
<b>Art. VII, § 8</b>	The Governor must submit to the Legislature a budget before the opening of each regular session in an odd-numbered year.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan of proposed expenditures of the executive branch.</li> <li>• Estimates of aggregate expenditures of the legislative and judicial branches.</li> <li>• Anticipated receipts of the State in the ensuing fiscal biennium.</li> </ul>
	The Chief Justice must submit to the Legislature a complete plan of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>

	<p>proposed expenditures of the judicial branch for the upcoming fiscal biennium before the opening of each regular session in an odd-numbered year.</p>	
<p><b>Art. VII, § 9</b></p>	<p>General Appropriation Bill</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In each regular session in an odd-numbered year, the legislature shall transmit to the governor an appropriation bill or bills providing for the anticipated total expenditures of the State for the ensuing fiscal biennium.</li> <li>• Must be passed before other appropriations bills, except for emergency appropriations or the legislative branch budget bill.</li> </ul>
	<p>Supplemental Appropriations Bill</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In each regular session in an even-numbered year, the governor may submit to the legislature: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A bill to amend any appropriation for operating expenditures of the current fiscal biennium.</li> <li>○ Bills to amend any appropriations for capital expenditures of the current fiscal biennium.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Legislature may submit bills to amend any appropriation act or bond authorization act of the current fiscal biennium or prior fiscal periods.</li> <li>• Must be passed before other appropriations bills, except for emergency appropriations or the legislative branch budget bill.</li> </ul>

<b>Art. XVII, § 3</b>	Constitutional Amendments proposed by the Legislature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requires affirmative vote by a two-thirds majority in each house on final reading.</li> <li>• The Governor must be given at least 10 days' written notice of the proposed amendment in final form.</li> <li>• No notice to the Governor requires a majority vote in each house on final reading at each of two successive sessions.</li> </ul>
	Publication and Public Inspection Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed amendments must be published once weekly for four successive weeks in at least 1 generally circulated newspaper in each senatorial district where the newspaper is published, within the 2 months immediately preceding the next general election.</li> <li>• At least 30 days before the proposed amendment is submitted to voters, the full text of the amendment must be made available for public inspection (Art. XVIII, § 2).</li> </ul>



FEBRUARY 3, 2026

## SENATE BILL 2343

CURRENT REFERRAL: GVO

808-679-7454  
kris@imuaalliance.org  
www.imuaalliance.org  
@imuaalliance

Kris Coffield,  
*President*

David Negaard,  
*Director*

Mireille Ellsworth,  
*Director*

Justin Salisbury,  
*Director*

Eileen Roco,  
*Director*

Beatrice DeRego,  
*Director*

Corey Rosenlee,  
*Director*

Amy Zhao,  
*Policy and Partnerships  
Strategist*

### POSITION: SUPPORT

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Imua Alliance supports SB 2343, which requires the Legislative Reference Bureau, in collaboration with the Department of Budget and Finance, to conduct a study on the costs, savings, and potential productivity changes of transitioning to a continuous legislative calendar.

Imua Alliance is a Hawai‘i-based organization dedicated to ending all forms of exploitation, including corporate interference in our democracy.

**Compressed sessions limit legislative effectiveness.** Hawai‘i’s current system condenses thousands of bills, hearings, stakeholder consultations, and budgetary deliberations into approximately five months each year (January–May). According to reports from national legislative studies, condensed sessions contribute to rushed policy deliberation, reduced stakeholder engagement, and increased work outside of committee hearings, often in informal or remote settings that are less accessible to the public. As noted by the National Conference of State Legislatures, in its 2021 study “Session Length and Effectiveness”, states with continuous or extended sessions consistently report higher rates of public testimony, deeper committee engagement, and more thoughtful deliberation on complex policy topics.

**Comparative data illustrates real benefits.** Oregon and Washington operate longer legislative cycles (biennial with extended meeting periods or biennial with annual interim sessions) and have documented that expanded committee availability leads to earlier bill drafts, improved technical review, and better incorporation of public input. According to the Oregon Legislative Policy and Research Office, longer sessions improve policy analysis and reduce last-minute amendments that can undermine transparency and oversight.

**Year-round continuity supports public participation and transparency.** A hallmark of democratic governance is sustained engagement between policymakers and the communities they represent. Continuous session structures help ensure that public testimony is heard in real time and not compressed into limited hearing windows. They also allow for incremental

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review of fiscal impacts and mid-course corrections that are challenging in a heavily compressed schedule. Testimony provided early in the session can meaningfully shape legislation, rather than being an afterthought in a late-March or April hearing rush, and impactful measures can be given more time for public vetting, rather than being scrapped without justification because of time and scheduling constraints.

**Continuity fosters better policy outcomes and institutional memory.** A continuous session would allow committees and working groups to build longer timelines for complex interagency coordination. According to legislative scholars, the ability to work year-round significantly reduces the policy “whiplash” experienced when statutes must be drafted, vetted, amended, and passed in just a few months. Longer cycles also help reduce staff burnout and improve legislative research quality, increasing the legislature’s capacity to address emergent issues—such as housing affordability, climate resilience, artificial intelligence, or health equity—without procedural strain.

**Economic and administrative benefits are tied to better governance.** While Hawai‘i’s compact session may appear cost-efficient on its face, rushed timelines increase administrative costs in other ways: last-minute budget adjustments, implementation delays, and reactive policymaking can lead to inefficiencies and unanticipated fiscal risks. Longer or continuous sessions, balanced with appropriate cost containment, promote proactive budgeting and better alignment with executive and agency planning cycles.

For these reasons, Imua Alliance urges the legislature to adopt this measure to evaluate the impacts of transitioning toward a legislative structure that prioritizes thoughtful deliberation and more meaningful public engagement.

With aloha,

*Kris Coffield*

President, Imua Alliance

**SB-2343**

Submitted on: 1/31/2026 8:37:08 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/3/2026 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I find something lacking in this bill. You have special sessions, yet the bill does not include what those have cost when estimating the fiscal impact. The bill mentions the cost to fund each regular session from 2015 through 2025. If it was an expense because of a special session it must be included in the calculations. Please amend the bill to take that into account.

lynne matusow

**SB-2343**

Submitted on: 2/2/2026 1:19:22 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/3/2026 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jackie Keefe	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee,

Please support this bill to study the impacts of a continuous legislative session.

Mahalo,

Jackie Keefe, Lahaina