

ACT 127

H.B. NO. 2258

A Bill for an Act Relating to Legislative Management.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the people of Hawaii have a fundamental right to know about what its government is doing, especially in the

legislative branch of government. This right can only be ensured if public law and policy guarantee and expand public access to public information.

The legislature further finds that a bipartisan committee composed of an equal number of representatives and senators to develop policies and coordinate legislative activities would guarantee that public demands for information are more effectively met. In recognition of the need for permanent joint management of legislative research, reporting, bill drafting, examination and revision of statutes, general administration, and budgetary and fiscal analysis and research, this committee would be responsible for developing and monitoring policies to ensure efficient legislative operations.

As new technologies were introduced through the years and as the needs of the legislature expanded, several computer systems evolved within the legislature. As it enters into a new decade, the legislature also finds that consolidating its technical resources would better serve the needs of the legislature, legislators, and the public.

The purpose of this Act is to create a joint legislative management committee within the legislature to establish general policy and evaluate, supervise, and coordinate activities among the legislative service agencies.

SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by adding a new chapter to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

“CHAPTER JOINT LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

§ -1 **Definitions.** As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

“Committee” means the joint legislative management committee established under this chapter.

“Legislative service agency” means the office of the auditor, the office of the legislative reference bureau, and the office of the ombudsman.

“Legislative service agency director” means the director or administrative head of a legislative service agency.

“Member” means a member of the joint legislative management committee.

§ -2 **Establishment of the joint legislative management committee; members; terms; vacancies.** (a) There is established within the legislature a bipartisan joint legislative management committee to supervise, develop policy, and coordinate activities for all legislative service agency staff services.

(b) The committee shall consist of ten members: five shall be representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, including the chairperson of the house committee on legislative management and at least one member of the minority party, and five shall be senators appointed by the president of the senate, including the chairperson of the senate committee on legislative management and at least one member of the minority party. The appointing authority of each house shall make and announce the appointment or reappointment of members of the committee no later than fifteen days after the convening of the first regular session of each legislature. The chairpersons of the house and senate legislative management committees shall serve as co-chairs of the joint legislative management committee.

(c) Members shall serve for the duration of the legislature during which they are appointed. In the event the appointing authority of either house has not

appointed or reappointed members of the committee within fifteen days after the convening of the first regular session of the legislature, the incumbent members shall continue serving on the committee until successors are appointed. When a member of the committee files a declaration of candidacy for an elective office other than that of member of either house of the legislature, and the member has not resigned from membership on the committee, the member's committee membership shall terminate on the date of filing.

(d) When a vacancy occurs in the membership of the committee, the appointing authority of the house incurring the vacancy shall fill the vacancy within thirty days. A legislator appointed to fill a vacancy shall be a member of the same political party as the member vacating the seat.

(e) Members of the committee shall serve without pay, but shall be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses, including travel expenses incurred in carrying out their duties.

§ -3 Meetings and attendance of quorum. The members of the committee shall meet at times and places as specified by a call of the co-chairpersons or a majority of the committee. The committee shall prescribe rules for its own management and government. Six members of the committee shall constitute a quorum, and a quorum may exercise all the power and authority conferred on the committee.

§ -4 Powers and duties. The committee shall be responsible for establishing general policy and evaluating, supervising, and coordinating activities among the legislative service agencies. The committee shall:

- (1) Determine the types, quantity, and quality of tasks to be assigned to each legislative service agency within statutory limitations; provided that with respect to direction to the auditor to conduct investigations pursuant to Article VII, section 10 of the Constitution of the State, direction shall be by both houses of the legislature;
- (2) Evaluate and recommend the budget of each legislative service agency to the legislature;
- (3) Approve annually the salary pay ranges to be used in determining the salaries of the staffs of legislative service agencies. Legislative service agency directors shall determine the salaries to be paid to their respective staffs in accordance with the pay ranges. Each legislative service agency director shall file a report annually with the committee setting forth the salaries paid to their respective staffs;
- (4) Meet at times as it may determine to carry out its policy-making duties;
- (5) Evaluate ways to improve legislative service agency staff services and organization, including but not limited to: operations of legislative service agencies, management of legislative business, legislative compensation, legislative information systems, legislative office space, and efficient use of state capitol facilities;
- (6) Supervise the development, operation, and maintenance of legislative information processing systems, including but not limited to approving and monitoring joint computer operations in the legislative process;
- (7) Adopt rules as necessary for the purposes of this chapter; and
- (8) Do all things necessary and proper to carry out the purposes of this chapter."

ACT 127

SECTION 3. Upon the effective date of this Act, the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate shall have the authority to make and announce the appointment of members of the joint legislative management committee.

SECTION 4. The joint legislative management committee shall report its findings and recommendations on the feasibility of consolidating the SHADO and HO'IKE bill drafting and statutory retrieval systems to the legislature not less than twenty days before the convening of the regular session of 1991. This study shall include, but not be limited to, proposed funding and an implementation plan.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved June 15, 1990.)