

Hawai`i State Association of Counties (HSAC)

Counties of Kaua`i, Maui, Hawai`i and City & County of Honolulu


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March 14, 2017

TO: The Honorable Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senate Committee on Government Operations

FROM: Stacy Crivello
HSAC President 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF MARCH 16, 2017; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 308, HD 1, RELATING TO PUBLIC AGENCY MEETINGS**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of the Hawaii State Association of Counties in **support** of this measure. The purpose of this measure is to allow board members to transmit government records to other board members under specified conditions.

This measure is in the 2017 Hawaii State Association of Counties Legislative Package. Therefore, I submit this testimony on HSAC's behalf.

HSAC **supports** this measure for the following reasons:

1. This measure would amend HRS Section 92-2.5 to allow board members to distribute certain **public documents** among themselves, so long as the transmittal does not include a commitment to vote or a request for such a commitment.
2. I appreciate helpful amendments made to the bill to clarify the transmittal shall not include additional discussion other than a statement describing the government record and shall be filed in the board's office for public inspection.
3. This bill would increase government transparency and efficiency. This measure would put county councilmembers on equal footing with executive branch officials and special-interest groups, who under current law can freely disseminate information and documents to councilmembers and the public.

Mahalo for your consideration.

HSAC:FY2017:17Testimony:HB308_hd1a_mkz