



Hawai'i Senate

Twitter Usage Policy

Based upon recommendations from our 2009 Senate Paperless Working Users group, the Hawai'i Senate leadership approved a pilot project during the 2010 regular session for the use of "Twitter" micro-blogging during Senate committee hearings. The purpose of the committee "tweets" is to provide real time information in an electronic format during committee hearings. This information will be available to Senators, Senate staff, and members of the public who subscribe to "Twitter's" free service. However, as there are both legal and workload implications related to using "Twitter", we are adopting the following usage policy for all committees that participate in the pilot project.

- Every committee "Twitter" account shall use the following naming convention:
 - **HI_Senate_ACR** (ACR=Committee Acronym)
- The Hawai'i State Seal shall be the avatar for any committee "Twitter" account.
- Each committee is responsible for ensuring that committee hearing information is consistently posted throughout the session once "tweeting" has commenced.
- Each "tweet" shall be followed by the initials of staff posting the information; e.g. **(HS)**.
- The "tweets" shall be limited to the following information (character limit = 140)
 - **ACR Comm now convened**
 - **ACR Comm now hearing SB#** (or HB#) throughout the agenda
 - **ACR Comm now in decision-making**
 - **ACR Comm decision-making adjourned, status at www.capitol.hawaii.gov**

-OR-

 - **ACR Comm deferred decision-making, status at www.capitol.hawaii.gov**
 - **ACR Comm hearing adjourned**

This usage policy shall apply during all committee hearings on measures, decision-making meetings, and informational briefings. The use of "Twitter" committee accounts during the Conference period has not been approved by Senate Leadership and thus will not be part of the pilot project at this time. For additional assistance or information, please contact the Senate Clerk's Office at 808-586-6720 or sclerk@capitol.hawaii.gov