
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL TO REVIEW THE PURPOSE AND
EFFECTIVENESS OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU'S
NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD SYSTEM.

1 WHEREAS, in 1973 the process for development of the
2 neighborhood board system began when the revised city charter of
3 Honolulu called for the establishment of a nine-member
4 Neighborhood Commission; and

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6 WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Commission was responsible for
7 developing a neighborhood plan outlining a uniform system of
8 neighborhood boards on Oahu; and

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10 WHEREAS, through the neighborhood plan, neighborhood boards
11 were formed with thirty-three neighborhood boards currently in
12 existence; and

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14 WHEREAS, neighborhood boards serve as a key mechanism
15 through which each neighborhood can communicate its needs and
16 desires in the delivery of basic government services, economic
17 development, land use, and other public policy issues; and

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19 WHEREAS, all residents of Oahu, including military
20 personnel and legal resident aliens, who reside in a
21 neighborhood board area and sub-district are eligible to serve
22 on the neighborhood board; and

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24 WHEREAS, recently, problems with some of the neighborhood
25 boards have drawn sharp criticism from the public; and

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27 WHEREAS, some neighborhood boards possibly overstep the
28 advisory role of the board adopted in the neighborhood plan
29 while others conduct meetings in which taunting, verbal
30 altercations, and personal attacks of board members, government



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1 officials, and members of the public have been known to occur;
2 and
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4 WHEREAS, the conduct of some neighborhood boards has caused
5 residents of certain neighborhoods to lose interest in the
6 neighborhood board process, thus weakening the original purpose
7 of the neighborhood board system to increase communication
8 between government and the people; now, therefore,
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10 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
11 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
12 of 2010, the Senate concurring, that the Honolulu City Council
13 is urged to review the purpose of the neighborhood board system
14 and the conduct of neighborhood board meetings to determine
15 whether:
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17 (1) The neighborhood board system is fulfilling the
18 original intent of the neighborhood board system set
19 forth in the Honolulu city charter; and
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21 (2) Any action is required to address unruly board
22 conduct; and
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24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
25 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Mayor and the
26 Chairperson of the Council of the City and County of Honolulu,
27 and the Chairperson and the Executive Secretary of the
28 Neighborhood Commission.
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OFFERED BY:

Calvin K. Day

By Request

FEB 19 2010

