

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 20 2015

RE: S.B. No. 419
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and
Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 419 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARDS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to allow
neighborhood board members to attend meetings or presentations
without violating the Sunshine Law, under certain conditions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Neighborhood Commission Office of the City and County of
Honolulu, Waikiki Neighborhood Board, and four individuals. Your
Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from
the Society of Professional Journalists, League of Women Voters,
and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this
measure from the Office of Information Practices and Civil Beat
Law Center for Public Interest.

Your Committee finds that there have been widespread
complaints regarding the inability of neighborhood board members
to attend informational events due to the Sunshine Law. Under
section 92-82, Hawaii Revised Statutes, if at least a number that
constitutes a quorum of neighborhood board members attends any
meetings or presentations open to the public, those members in
attendance may be in violation of the Sunshine Law.
Implementation of this measure will allow neighborhood board
members to attend meetings or presentations without violating the



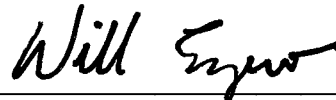
Sunshine Law, under certain conditions, and increase communication between neighborhood board members and constituents.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an effective date of July 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 419, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 419, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Judiciary and Labor.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs,



WILL ESPERO, Chair



