

PUBLIC ACCESS ROOM

A division of the Legislative Reference Bureau

NEWSLETTER

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CONTACT US!

Public Access Room (PAR)

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Neighbor Islands (Toll Free): After dialing these numbers, enter extension 7-0478 followed by the # sign.

Hawai'i 974-4000 Kaua'i 274-3141
Maui 984-2400 Moloka'i/Lana'i ... (800) 468-4644



2018 Legislative Timetable

January

24th Bill Intro Cutoff

February

8th Triple Referral Filing (Bills)
16th First Lateral (Bills): Bills must be moved to final committee in originating chamber
19th Holiday: Presidents' Day
22nd to 28th: Mandatory 5-Day Recess

March

2nd First Decking: Last day to file non-budget bills for Third Reading in originating chamber
8th First Crossover (Bills)
9th Last day to introduce Substantive Resolutions
12th Budget Decking
14th Budget Crossover
15th Second Triple Referral Filing (Bills)
23rd Second Lateral (Bills): Bills must be moved to final committee in non-originating chamber
26th Holiday: Kuhio Day
28th First Lateral for Concurrent Resolutions
30th Holiday: Good Friday

April

5th First Crossover for Concurrent Resolutions
6th Second Decking (Bills): Last day to file bills for Third Reading in non-originating body
12th Second Crossover (Bills) & Last day to disagree
16th Second Lateral for Senate Concurrent Resolutions
20th Constitutional Amendments: Deadline for final form
23rd Second Crossover Concurrent Resolutions
26th Last day to file Non-Fiscal Bills to deck for Final Reading
27th Last day to file Fiscal Bills to deck for Final Reading

May

3rd Adjournment *sine die* (Session pau!)

What's New?


Another legislative session. Some things are the same, but there are a few new things to note...

- First off, the **NEW** bills. Newly introduced bills are easy to identify by their bill number: new House bills start with the number 1602, new Senate bills start with 2001. Those numbers or higher indicate the bill was introduced in 2018.

- Since it's the second year of the biennium (two-year legislative session), we've also got **leftover bills**. All of the 2017 bills that died and didn't pass out of the Legislature last year have carried over to *this* year -- and they've stayed right where they were when session ended. Now, if nothing changes, and no one takes action, the deadlines will come and go and the bills will once again be declared dead. But *some* of



those bills *may* be resurrected (in the PAR we call them "zombie bills," because they can come back to life!). For example, if a chair decides to grant a hearing for a bill that died in committee last session, the bill may be back in the running. If you need help figuring out which deadlines apply, feel free to contact PAR.

- The **broadcasts** page on the Legislature's website has an up-to-date calendar! With a quick click  of the "[Broadcasts](#)" link, you can easily check to see if the hearings you're interested in have been scheduled

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The Bill Status Page: Your Portal to Valuable Information

Did you know that as soon as a bill is introduced at the Legislature it receives its own webpage?

A bill's status page can be an invaluable source of information, telling you just about everything you need to know about a bill.

Find the status page for a bill by entering the bill number in the top left search box on the capitol.hawaii.gov homepage. It'll bring you to a page that looks something like this:

See the following page for an explanation of the lettered highlights.

Don't forget, this is an easy shortcut if you're searching for one bill after another.

Hawaii State Legislature
28th Legislature, 2015
Floor session convene times for Friday, March 20, 2015:
Senate: 11:30 a.m. | House of Representatives: 12:00 p.m.

SB364 SD2

Measure Title: RELATING TO ELECTIONS.
Report Title: Elections; Recount; Supreme Court; Contests for Cause
Description: Establishes a process for the recounting of ballots in an election. Authorizes that contests for cause challenging an election result may also be based upon unlawful activity or force majeure. Effective 01/07/2015. (SD2)
Companion: [HB125](#)
Package: None
Current Referral: JUD, FIN
Introducer(s): KEITH-AGARAN, BAKER, ENGLISH, GALLERIA, SHIMABUKURO, TOKUDA, Kahele, Riviere, Wakai

Sort by	Status	Text
Date	S	Introduced.
1/26/2015	S	Passed First Reading.
1/26/2015	S	Referred to JDL, WAM.
1/30/2015	S	The committee(s) on JDL has scheduled a public hearing on 02-04-15 9:00AM in conference room 016.
2/4/2015	S	The committee(s) on JDL recommend(s) that the measure be PASSED, WITH AMENDMENTS. The votes in JDL were as follows: 6 Aye(s): Senator(s) Keith-Agaran, Shimabukuro, Espero, Ihara, L. Thielen, Slom; Aye(s) with reservations: none ; 0 No(es): none; and 1 Excused: Senator(s) Gabbard.
2/13/2015	S	Reported from JDL (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 158) with recommendation of passage on Second Reading, as amended (SD 1) and referral to WAM.
2/13/2015	S	Report adopted; Passed Second Reading, as amended (SD 1) and referred to WAM.
2/24/2015	S	The committee(s) on WAM will hold a public decision making on 02-27-15 9:00AM in conference room 211.
2/27/2015	S	The committee(s) on WAM recommend(s) that the measure be PASSED, WITH AMENDMENTS. The votes in WAM were as follows: 11 Aye(s): Senator(s) Tokuda, Kouchi, Chun Oakland, Dela Cruz, English, Galuteria, Harimoto, Inouye, Riviere, Ruderman, Slom; Aye(s) with reservations: none ; 0 No(es): none; and 0 Excused: none.
3/6/2015	S	Reported from WAM (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 804) with recommendation of passage on Third Reading, as amended (SD 2).
3/6/2015	S	48 Hrs. Notice 03-10-15.
3/10/2015	S	Report adopted; Passed Third Reading, as amended (SD 2). Ayes, 24; Aye(s) with reservations: none . Noes, 0 (none), Excused, 1 (Senator(s) Shimabukuro). Transmitted to House.
3/10/2015	H	Received from Senate (Sen. Com. No. 117) in amended form (SD 2).
3/12/2015	H	Pass First Reading
3/12/2015	H	Referred to JUD, FIN, referral sheet 30
3/17/2015	H	Bill scheduled to be heard by JUD on Friday, 03-20-15 2:00PM in House conference room 325.

All Versions of this Measure

- [SB364 SD2](#)
- [SB364 SD1](#)
- [SB364](#)

Committee Reports

- [SB364 SD1 SSCR158](#)
- [SB364 SD2 SSCR804](#)

Testimony

Filename

- [SB364 TESTIMONY JDL 02-04-15](#)
- [SB364 TESTIMONY JDL 02-04-15 LATE](#)
- [SB364 SD1 TESTIMONY WAM 02-27-15](#)
- [SB364 SD2 TESTIMONY JUD 03-20-15](#)

Hearing Notices

Comm	Room	Date/Time	Notice
JDL	016	2/04/2015 9:00 AM	View
WAM	211	2/27/2015 9:00 AM	View
JUD	325	3/20/2015 2:00 PM	View

This is probably the status update we receive the most questions on! When you see a "48 Hrs. Notice" entry, it indicates the bill has been scheduled for Third or Final Reading (vote) in the chamber, and members are being given the mandatory 48 hours to review the bill. The date indicates when it will undergo the vote.

(Continued on page 3)

("The Bill Status Page," continued from page 2)

- A. Most Current Version of Measure:** At the top of the page, you'll find the current version of the bill in HTML or PDF form — both have the same content. For faster access, click on the bill number for the web or HTML version. Click on the PDF link to see the version used by legislators, with line and page numbers.
- B. Measure Title / Report Title / Description / Companion / Package / Current Referral / Introducer:** There's a lot here! So we'll start from the top: the measure title for a bill never changes, however the report title and description may change along with the bill. If a companion bill (the same bill introduced in the opposite chamber) has been introduced, you *may* find it listed — but don't count on it. If the bill is a part of a legislative package (Kupuna Caucus, Women's Caucus, Governor's package, etc.) you'll find it noted here. Regarding the introducers listed: the first legislator listed is considered the bill's author or sponsor; next are primary introducers, in all capital letters and listed alphabetically; and finally come the co-sponsors, listed alphabetically.
- C. Bill's History and Status:** This section includes every action taken on the bill and the date on which it occurred. The first action is listed at the top with each subsequent action falling under it. An "S" indicates an action taken by the Senate, while an "H" indicates an action taken by the House. (Occasionally you'll see a "D" for Data Systems.) Note that while the bill's history is updated after each action, it will *not* show you if a bill has missed a deadline and died! For that you need to refer to the [calendar](#) or our handy [deadlines guide](#).
- D. Submit Testimony:** This provides a link to the testimony page, where you can submit testimony for a bill *if* it's been scheduled for a hearing. The format of the "Submit Testimony" feature has changed: it now provides a list and confirmation of all the testimony you have submitted. And, if you're composing in the comments section of the form, you can use some simple formatting tools and save drafts of your testimony.
- E. On Demand Media:** If any of the bill's hearings were scheduled for broadcast, the "On Demand Media" link takes you to the archived videos.
- F. All Versions of this Measure:** These links and PDFs allow you to look at the original version of the bill, as well as any subsequent draft of the bill.
- G. Committee Reports:** Every time a bill moves forward out of committee, a report is issued that provides an overview of the discussion and testimony at the public hearing and a summary of the amendments made to the bill. The committee's vote sheet is also included in the report (click on the PDF version).
- H. Testimony:** These links open documents compiling the testimony submitted at each hearing of the bill. Testimony is not posted until the start of the hearing (Senate) or after the hearing (House).
- I. Hearing Notices:** View the current hearing notice for the bill and any past hearing notices here. If this area is blank, no hearings have been scheduled. Instructions on submitting testimony appear at the bottom of the hearing notice.

Sometimes "One More Piece of Paper" Is Just What You Need!

[PAR's Session Calendar](#) - easy to read, with explanations of the deadlines for bills, resolutions, and the budget
[Which Deadlines Apply to Your Bill?](#) - flow chart to help you make sense of the deadlines and what they mean to you
[Hearing Notification](#) - Instructions on subscribing to hearing notices
[Bill Tracking](#) - Tips on searching for the bills you're interested in, and setting up a bill tracking list

Convenient one-page lists:

- All State legislators' contact information - ([Room, phone, fax, and email](#))
- [Senators](#) and [Representatives](#) - contact information, party affiliation, and committee assignments
- [Senate Committees and Leadership Assignments](#) and [House Committees and Leadership Assignments](#)
- [Senate Committee/Room Schedules](#) and [House Committee/Room Schedules](#) - where/when committees meet
- [Maps of the Capitol floors](#) - helps you find offices and conference rooms
- [Office Managers](#)
- [Committee Clerks](#)

These documents (and others) are also available on PAR's website (Irbhawaii.org/par), on our [Information Sheets](#) page.

Say "Hello!" to PAR's 2018 Session Hires!



Angela Holton joins PAR as a Legislative Research Assistant for the 2018 session. She earned her Bachelor's degree in Communication from the University of Colorado Denver, and her Master's degree in Communication and Rhetoric from Syracuse University. Angela enjoys audiobooks, munchkin cats, and murder mystery documentaries.

Christopher (Chris) Fernandez happily joins the PAR team as Legislative Research Assistant for the 2018 session. New to the island, he hopes to learn more about his new home by supporting the patrons of the PAR and getting involved in the community. He is inquisitive by nature and loves solving problems, whether it be helping others with theirs or tinkering with his own inquiries. He has a diverse background in the workforce, having started out as a welder and, later, finding purpose working to support those struggling with mental health in San Francisco. He spends most of his free time with his partner and their two dogs, Theo and Phil, either hiking and beachcombing or watching science fiction.



L-R: Keanu Young, Angela Holton, Chris Fernandez, Virginia Beck

"What's New?" continued from page 1

- for broadcast and streaming. Find the link on the right side of the capitol.hawaii.gov homepage, underneath the photo of the Capitol.
- The **"Submit Testimony"** page has changed, so that you'll be able to log into the system to confirm your testimony has been processed and received, rather than receiving a confirmation email. And, for those who prefer to type their testimony in the "comments" section of the form, there are now formatting options and the ability to save your draft.
 -  PAR has a **Facebook** page! Find us on Facebook [@PublicAccessRoom](https://www.facebook.com/PublicAccessRoom) -- and "like" our page to keep up with news and tips as the session unfolds.
 - Follow us on  [Twitter](https://twitter.com/Hawaii_PAR) at Hawaii_PAR — our tweets will help to keep you in the loop!



The Public Access Room staff is here to help you as you participate at the Hawaii State Legislature — we look forward to hearing from you!

PAR Hours

Monday - Friday
7:45 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
(until May 3rd)

Workshops

Learn more about the legislative process and how you can participate easily and effectively. Attend one of PAR's free "Your Voice" workshops — offered in the Public Access Room (Room 401) on **Tuesdays at 12:00 noon**.

Please call (587-0478) or email (par@capitol.hawaii.gov) to sign up! Let us know your level of knowledge and experience, and we can tailor the workshop for you. **Have a group you'd like to help get involved?** Contact us to set up a workshop specifically for your group. They're free (and we promise you'll learn something).