

PUBLIC ACCESS ROOM
A division of the Legislative Reference Bureau

NEWSLETTER

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Note: Fax from neighbor islands using these numbers with ext. 7-0793.



2011-12 Legislative Timetable

The Interim

The interim, the time between regular legislative sessions, continues through January 17th. On Wednesday, January 18th, 2012, the 2012 Regular Session of the Twenty-sixth Legislature will begin.

When will the 2012 Legislative Timetable be available? Sometime in December or early January, most likely. The President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives will jointly issue it.

Don't forget – Opening Day!
It's the one day you can go ahead and mark on your calendar.



In this Issue: The New Website

Table with 2 columns: Item and Page Number. Includes items like 'The Legislature's Website', 'Often-used Features of the new Home Page', 'Bill Status Sheet', etc.

The Legislature's Website: Better than Ever!

The Hawaii State Legislature's website has been re-designed! With this new design, the public can access information more easily, keep better track of it, and deliver testimony much more efficiently.

The new home page (same address as ever -- www.capitol.hawaii.gov) is now a "dashboard," allowing you to access just about everything you need from that single screen.

Additional features abound. Now you will be able to customize your own measure tracking lists! This will be a great timesaver, and you can learn more about it in this issue (pp.6-7).

The redesign may take a little getting used to, but we think you'll quickly find it rewarding and much more effective.

Here are some important things to keep in mind –

- Only the center portion of the screen changes as you access many features.
Remember that you can return "home" anytime by clicking on the website's banner headline or the handy icon in the upper right-hand corner.

(continued on page 8)

# Often-Used Features of the new Home page

(see p. 3 for details)

Hawaii

State Legislature

[Sign In](#) | [Register](#)

Today is January 30, 2012  
[View Legislative Calendar](#)

Session convene times for Monday, January 30, 2012:  
Senate - 11:30am | House - 12:00pm

Find Your Legislator

Search

[or browse document directories](#)

[How to use the Searchboxes](#)

Bill Status/Measure Status

Keywords

Hearings by Date

Hearings by Measure

Order of the Day

Hawaii Revised Statutes  
(contains 2011 Acts)



[Index](#)  
[Supplement Index \(2011\)](#)  
[Table of Contents](#)  
[Browse HRS Sections](#)

Recent Updates

To view lists of bills introduced in the Senate or House, or other lists of bills in various categories, please navigate to the [Reports and Lists page](#) through this link or the icon located below.

If you are a first-time user, you may visit the [General Information and FAQs page](#) for additional help navigating the website.

- 2012 Session Opening Day Remarks
- 2011-2012 House and Senate Telephone Directory

More information on these features on pp. 6-7

Submit Testimony

Hearing Notification

Measure Tracking

Legislators

Committees

Reports and Lists

Senate

House

Archives

Legislative Information

Special Studies

Links

Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Help and Information

- [Citizen's Guide to the Legislative Process](#)
- [Maps & Directories](#)
- [General Information and FAQs](#)
- [Legislative Glossary](#)
- [Broadcasts](#)
- [Calendar](#)
- [RSS Feeds](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

Current Hearings [\(view full screen\)](#)

Committee	Measure	Date/Time	Notice
HUS	<a href="#">HB1918</a> RELATING TO DOMESTIC ABUSE.	1/30/2012 8:30 AM	<a href="#">See It</a>
HUS	<a href="#">HB2051</a> RELATING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.	1/30/2012 8:30 AM	<a href="#">See It</a>
HUS	<a href="#">HB1716</a> RELATING TO DOMESTIC ABUSE.	1/30/2012 8:30 AM	<a href="#">See It</a>
HUS	<a href="#">HB1729</a> RELATING TO TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDERS.	1/30/2012 8:30 AM	<a href="#">See It</a>
HUS	<a href="#">HB1915</a> RELATING TO MEDICAID.	1/30/2012 8:30 AM	<a href="#">See It</a>
HUS	<a href="#">HB1919</a> RELATING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.	1/30/2012 8:30 AM	<a href="#">See It</a>

Search examples:

**fishing license** will search for the words fishing AND license

**fishing OR license** will search for the words fishing or license

**fishing - license** (minus sign) will search for the words fishing NOT license

**"fishing license"** (in quotes) will search for the exact phrase fishing license

Page 2

November 2011 PAR Newsletter

## Often-Used Features of the new Home page

- A** **Search boxes**
- Search for a bill or resolution using the measure number – use the "Bill Status/Measure Status" search box. Just enter the prefix and the number, no draft numbers and no spaces. (For example, enter "HB123" rather than "HB 123 HD1 SD1.")
  - Search for a bill or resolution using keywords by using the "Keywords" search box.
  - Find particular hearing notices – use "Hearings by Date" or "Hearings by Measure" search boxes.
  - Get the Orders of the Day. They will tell you the order of events taking place in the House and Senate chambers on Session Days.
- B** **Hawaii Revised Statutes**
- New feature – The Index and Supplement Index provide additional search techniques.
  - Table of Contents allows you to glance through the structure of the HRS to find the area you're looking for.
  - Browse HRS sections still allows you to zero in on a specific section number.
  - You can still search the HRS for specific words or phrases.
- C** **Reports and Lists**
- This is a very useful icon! Take a moment to see what it has to offer.
  - Find lists of Acts, Governors Messages, Vetoes, Daily Updates and Reports to the Legislature.
  - Find measures that have passed a given legislative deadline (for example, after 1<sup>st</sup> crossover, find a list of all the measures that are still alive).
  - The lists are sortable and searchable – let PAR know if you need help finding something, and we'll be happy to walk you through the process.
  - This is also where you'll find a list of Bill Packages.
- D** **All Current Hearing Notices**
- Sortable list of all upcoming hearing notices – right on the home page!
  - You can look at the list in full page view, if you prefer.
- E** **Archives**
- Find measures introduced in previous sessions as far back as 1999.
  - After you select a year, you can either search by keyword or bill number or use the "reports" link to find lists of bills, resolutions, Governor's Messages or acts.
  - New feature – you can now search by keyword through all previous sessions.
- F** **Help and Information**
- Links to Citizen's Guide, a handy glossary of legislative terms and acronyms, and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) to help you learn more about the legislative process.
  - Maps and directories to help find your way around the Capitol.
  - Contact information provided for those needing additional assistance.

# Bill Status Sheet – Easy-to-access Features

(see p. 5 for details)



**Hawaii State Legislature**

Today is October 24, 2011  
[View Legislative Calendar](#)

The Senate and House have adjourned sine die for 2011.

[Sign In](#) | [Register](#) | [Home](#)

Find Your Legislator

G

## HB1613 HD1 SD1 CD1




H

**Measure Title:** RELATING TO VOTING.  
**Report Title:** Permanent Absentee Voting; Voter Registration  
**Description:** Requires an application to register to vote in person or by mail to include a space to request a permanent absentee ballot. Removes time limit on requesting an absentee or permanent absentee ballot but not later than 4:30 p.m. on the seventh day prior to the election. Permits the office of elections to continue to use its existing voter registration application forms where possible until such time as new forms are developed and printed. Effective July 1, 2011. (HB 1613 CD1)  
**Companion:**  
**Package:** None  
**Current Referral:** JDL  
**Introducer(s):** KEITH-AGARAN, AQUINO, BELATTI, BROWER, CHANG, CHING, COFFMAN, CULLEN, EVANS, FONTAINE, HANOHANO, HASHEM, HERKES, ICHIYAMA, JOHANSON, C. LEE, LUKE, MCKELVEY, MIZUNO, MORIKAWA, MORITA, NAKASHIMA, NISHIMOTO, B. OSHIRO, M. OSHIRO, PINE, SAIKI, SAY, TAKAI, TAKUMI, THIELEN, WOOLEY, YAMASHITA, Cabanilla, Choy, Ito, M. Lee, Souki

Sort by	Date	Status Text
	1/26/2011	H Introduced and Passed First Reading
	1/28/2011	H Referred to JUD, FIN, referral sheet 3
	2/7/2011	H Bill scheduled to be heard by JUD on Thursday, 02-10-11 2:00PM in House conference room 325.
	2/10/2011	H The committees on JUD recommend that the measure be PASSED, WITH AMENDMENTS. The votes were as follows: 12 Ayes: Representative(s) Keith-Agaran, Rhoads, Brower, Cabanilla, Luke, Morita, B. Oshiro, Souki, Tsuji, Fontaine, Marumoto, Thielen; Ayes with reservations: none; Noes: none; and 4 Excused: Representative(s) Carroll, Herkes, Ito, McKelvey.
	2/17/2011	H Reported from JUD (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 396) as amended in HD 1, recommending passage on Second Reading and referral to FIN.
	2/17/2011	H Passed Second Reading as amended in HD 1 and referred to the committee(s) on FIN with none voting no (0) and Chong, Nakashima excused (2).
	2/25/2011	H Bill scheduled to be heard by FIN on Tuesday, 03-01-11 12:00PM in House conference room 308.
	3/1/2011	H The committees on FIN recommend that the measure be PASSED, UNAMENDED. The votes were as follows: 17 Ayes: M. Oshiro, M. Lee, Chong, Choy, Coffman, Cullen, Har, Hashem, Ichiyama, Jordan, C. Lee, Morikawa, Tokioka, Yamashita, Marumoto, Riviere, Ward; Ayes with reservations: none; 0 Noes: none; and 0 Excused: none.
	3/4/2011	H Reported from FIN (Stand. Com. Rep. No. 707), recommending passage on Third Reading.
	3/8/2011	H Passed Third Reading with none voting aye with reservations; none voting no (0) and none excused (0). Transmitted to Senate.
	3/10/2011	S Received from House (Hse. Com. No. 347).
	3/10/2011	S Passed First Reading.

(. . . text deleted to show you the bottom of the page)

	5/6/2011	H Transmitted to Governor.
	6/21/2011	S Act 142, 6/20/2011 (Gov. Msg. No. 1245).
	6/21/2011	H Act 142, on 6/20/2011 (Gov. Msg. No. 1245).

**S** = Senate | **H** = House | **D** = Data Systems | **\$** = Appropriation measure | **ConAm** = Constitutional Amendment  
 Some of the above items require Adobe Acrobat Reader. Please visit [Adobe's download page](#) for detailed instructions.

## HB1613 HD1 SD1 CD1



Please be advised that these pages may contain links to external Internet sites established by other entities. The Hawaii State Legislature does not maintain, review, or endorse these sites and is not responsible for their content.  
 We make every effort to comply to ADA standards, and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act. [Visit our ADA page here.](#) If you have any problems with any of these pages, please [contact the webmaster](#) with the page address and problems encountered.  
[You may view our Privacy Policy here.](#)

**Archives**

2010  
2009  
2008

**Senate**

Committees  
Leadership

**House**

Committees  
Leadership

**Special Studies**

2011  
2010  
2009

**Links**

Hawaii Government Services  
Hawaii State Judiciary

M

The format of this section remains unchanged.

G

H

I

J

K

L

# Bill Status Sheet – Easy-to-access Features

Bill status sheets have been redesigned to offer much greater access to relevant information. In the prior version of the bill status sheet, the user would need to click on a link in order to get a list of available related documents. Here, the available documents are listed and ready to be accessed with the click of a mouse.

- G** **Most current version of measure**
  - This hasn't changed. Just click on the bill number at the top of the page and you'll get the web-based format – click on the Adobe Acrobat symbol next to it for the .pdf version. (The .pdf version will show the printed measure's page and line numbers).
  - The header section, which shows the measure title, description, introducers, etc., has not changed.
  - The list of measure activity also remains unchanged – everything that happens to the bill or resolution will be listed here.
  
- H** **Submit testimony**
  - A short-cut to the webform used to submit testimony appears on each bill status page.
  
- I** **On demand Media**
  - If one or more of the hearings for the measure have been broadcast, this will bring you to the on-demand video page and links to the videos.
  - Only select hearings are filmed and broadcast, the vast majority are not (for more information on the Legislative Broadcast Project, contact the Public Access Room).
  
- J** **Previous versions and Committee Reports**
  - Easy links to previous versions of the bill are listed in chronological order, from most recent to the original version of the measure.
  - Easy links to Committee Reports are also listed chronologically. (FYI, committee reports are very helpful in summarizing the changes made to the measure.)
  
- K** **Testimony**
  - Easy links to written testimony received.
  - Each link opens a searchable .pdf file.
  
- L** **Hearing Notices**
  - Lists all hearing notices for the measure. Instructions for submitting testimony can be found at the end of each hearing notice.
  
- M** **Links back to other features on the Home page**
  - Handy navigation back to certain home page features.
  - This includes a handy list of "Links" to other government pages and websites.

# New feature: Sign-in

**Register only once** – setting up your password and verifying your email – **and from then on you'll just sign in to use the "Submit Testimony," "Hearing Notification" and "Measure Tracking" features.**

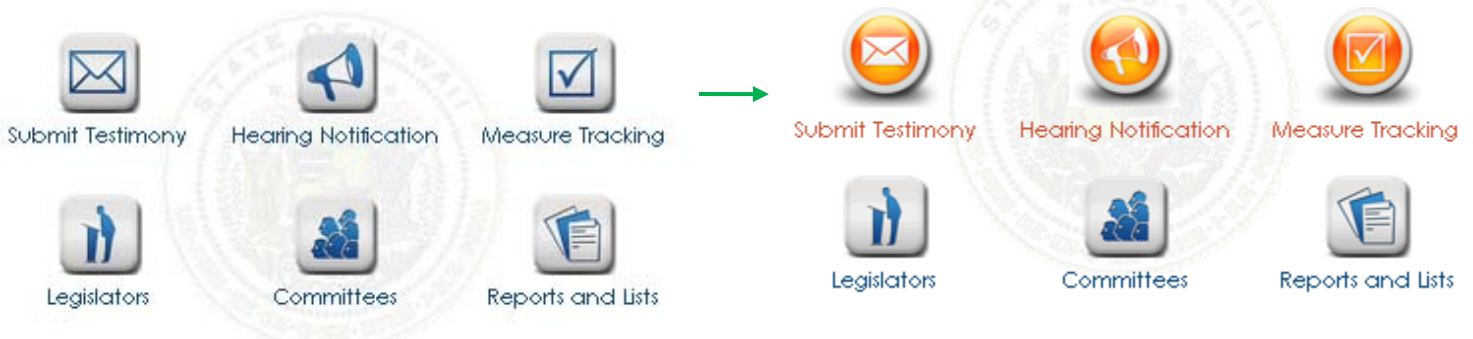
**A bit more information on the process and these features follows.**

The "Sign In" and "Register" links are in the upper right-hand corner next to the "Home" button. Once you've signed in, these links convert to "Manage Account" and "Log Out." (FYI, for security reasons, you'll log off automatically after 10 minutes of inactivity.)



The other thing that happens once you sign in is that the top three icon buttons turn orange and round, to show that you now have member access to these features.

You are signed in as [beck@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:beck@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
and have member access to the orange items below.  
[Edit Account Information or Unsubscribe](#)



More information on these three features appears on the next page.

## New feature: Sign-in



Submit Testimony

The "Submit Testimony" feature works as it has in the past. You'll be asked for the measure you'd like to submit testimony for. **If you've already signed in, it will already have your name and email address ready to go.** You'll just need to fill out the rest of the form (testifying as a group or individual, opposed or supporting the measure, and whether you'll be present at the hearing) and upload your file or add your comments. Don't forget to acknowledge that you've read the privacy terms and conditions!



Hearing Notification

The "Hearing Notification" feature has been streamlined. **If you've already signed in, you will go immediately to the list of measures and committees for which you've asked to receive email hearing notices.**

If you're just starting your list, simply enter the bill or resolution numbers, and click the boxes next to the committees whose hearing notices you'd like to receive. Then "Save and Exit" by clicking the button centered near the top of the page and you'll be good to go. You'll receive the hearing notices for any of those measures or committees by email. Return to this feature any time you'd like to change your selections.



Measure Tracking

"Measure Tracking," an incredibly useful feature, has been introduced by popular demand. **If you've already signed in, you will go immediately to the measure tracking lists you've set up.**

If you're just starting your lists, simply enter a name for your first list of measures, and click "create." (You can create many different lists, if you like. This is helpful if you have certain distinct areas of interest – for example, you can create separate lists for environmental legislation, education measures, housing, etc.)

After you've named a list, click on "Show List." Then "Add a Measure" repeatedly to populate the list with the bills and resolutions you want to track. You can annotate the measures with your own notes.

When you've finished, click on "Generate Report" to view your list as a very handy report that shows each measure, your note, the measure's description, and its current status. The report is sortable. For example, you can sort it by current status to easily see which of the measures you're interested in have had activity most recently. You can also export reports in Excel or database formats, which can be incredibly useful when sharing and/or presenting information.

(continued from page 1)

- Announcements appear in center screen. For example, right now you'll see a link to House and Senate jobs that are available during the upcoming session. (It's a great experience – help spread the word!)
- Handy icons in center screen allow you to click to get to lists of legislators or committees.



And the "Reports and Lists" icon brings you to a wealth of information – from lists of all bills introduced to bill packages. Take a moment and check out what you find there.

In designing the new website, the data systems folks have been wonderfully responsive to suggestions from the public. We believe you will find the site to be greatly improved. Explore and find out all it has to offer. Have comments or ideas for how it can be improved? Or, just want to give them kudos? The webmaster ([webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)) will be happy to hear from you.

**And don't hesitate to contact PAR if you need assistance! We're happy to help you out.**

### PAR Workshops

- In person tutorials on using the website will take place at PAR (Hawaii State Capitol, Room 401) throughout November and December on Tuesdays at 3:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 12 noon. Just call (587-0478) or email ([par@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:par@capitol.hawaii.gov)) to register.
- We're available as your "help" line while you're navigating the website, but if you find you'd like more in-depth guidance, we can offer over-the-phone tutorials. Call or email to set something up.
- Don't miss the PAR "We the Powerful" workshops in your community. Learn more about the legislative process and how you can participate easily and effectively. Contact us or check out the workshop page (<http://hawaii.gov/lrb/par/workshp.html>) for the current schedule .

### *Quotes from the File . . .*

"The trouble with having an open mind, of course, is that people will insist on coming along and trying to put things in it."

- Terry Pratchett

"It is never too late to be what you might have been."

- George Eliot

"We must be the change we wish to see in the world."

- Mahatma Gandhi