

January 26, 2022

MEMO TO: Traci N. T. Fujita, Director of Council Services

F R O M: Laksmi Abraham, Legislative Analyst *DMR for LKA*
James Forrest, Legislative Attorney *JB*
Brittney Sunderland, Legislative Analyst *BS*

SUBJECT: **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING: “LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY DURING COVID” WEBINAR** (PAF 21-012(24))

On January 7, 2022, we attended the Pacific Law Institute webinar “Legislative Advocacy During Covid.” Members of the Hawai‘i State Senate and House discussed procedure and structure for the 2022 Legislative Session.

With the Capitol closed, Senate and House committees are following a virtual format for hearings. The best way to follow any changes to the virtual model, provide testimony, and receive updates is through creating an account at the Legislature’s website at capitol.hawaii.gov.

There will not be limitations on the number of testifiers; however, time-constraints may be imposed at the discretion of committee chairs. Written testimony must be submitted to ensure receiving the Zoom link to join the hearings for verbal public testimony presentation. Submitting written testimony at least 24 hours in advance is important. It is also important to show up to the meeting early to troubleshoot any technical issues ahead of the meeting. Legislators have been advised not to take any in-person meetings, but are accessible by email, and requests for virtual meetings can be made.

The Legislature is committed to updating the meeting protocols if the omicron surge and COVID-19 concerns subside, Senate President Ronald D. Kouchi and Speaker of the House Scott K. Saiki said. All updates will be readily communicated and available through the website.

Legislators said this is going to be a critical year on some serious long-term and long-standing issues. They also referenced the State Supreme Court’s decision to invalidate the “gut-and-replace” system in League of Women Voters of Honolulu v. State of Hawai‘i on November 4, 2021. They said the opinion will not require many changes to the legislative process, except that public testimony will be received on substantive changes to legislation.

The webinar flyer is attached. Please let us know if you have questions.

paf:brs:21-012(24)b
Attachment

cc: David Raatz, Deputy Director of Council Services

Presented by
Pacific Law Institute

Produced by ThinkTech Hawaii

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY DURING COVID

A Virtual Seminar on

How the Hawaii Legislative 2022 Session will be Conducted

PROGRAM

- Will the Capitol be open this year?
- What about schedules and deadlines?
- How will hearings be conducted - in person and virtual?
- What is the process for testimony?
- Scheduling meetings with legislators in the Capitol
- Budget and Fiscal Issues - the economy
- How will FIN and WAM hearings be conducted?
- What about Conference Committee hearings?

FACULTY

- Sen. Ronald Kouchi - Senate President
- Rep. Scott Saiki - Speaker of the House
- Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran - Senate WAM Vice-Chair
- Rep. Sylvia Luke - House Finance Chair
- Sen. Dru Mamo Kanuha - Senate Majority Leader
- Rep. Della Au Belatti - House Majority Leader
- Bob Toyofuku, Pacific Law Institute President - Moderator

DETAILS

DATE: Friday, January 7, 2022

TIME: 9 -10:30 AM

Register through the link below. Upon registering, you will receive a Confirmation and Zoom link There is no fee to register for this seminar.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)

Any Questions? Call
Bob Toyofuku 808-554-0852 or
Kelly Nishimura - 808-342-9254
Email hawaiipacificlaw.ce@gmail.com