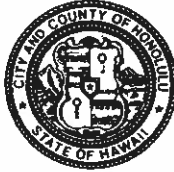


**ETHICS COMMISSION
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

925 DILLINGHAM BOULEVARD, SUITE 190 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817
PHONE: (808) 768-9242 • FAX: (808) 768-7768 • EMAIL: ethics@honolulu.gov • INTERNET: www.honolulu.gov/ethics



RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR

JAN K. YAMANE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
AND LEGAL COUNSEL

May 4, 2022

The Honorable Tommy Waters
Chair and Presiding Officer
and Members
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Waters and Members of the City Council:

SUBJECT: Bill 25 (2022) –Relating to Lobbyist Notary Requirement

Thank you for introducing Bill 25(2022) on behalf of the Honolulu Ethics Commission. The Commission supports this bill.

This bill seeks to revise the lobbyist registration law by removing the requirement that the filer must certify the document under oath which requires a notary. Removing this requirement would do the following:

1. Facilitate timely filing of lobbyist registration and annual report forms, especially during times when notaries may not be available or difficult to obtain.
2. Replace the notary requirement with a self-certification, similar to what is required on city financial disclosure forms and other city ethics forms.
3. Achieve consistency with the Hawaii State Ethics Commission requirement to certify lobbyist registrations.¹

¹ Hawaii Revised Statutes Sec. 97-2(b) provides: "Each lobbyist shall provide and certify the following information...". See also, Hawaii Administrative Rules Sec. 21-10-10(b) which provides: "Every registration, statement, or form submitted pursuant to this chapter shall include a certification by an authorized representative or agent of the registered lobbyist, employing organization, or client that the information contained in the documents is complete, true, and accurate."

The Honorable Tommy Waters

May 4, 2022

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Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of this measure. We look forward to discussing this measure when it is referred to committee. Should have you have any questions, please call me at (808) 768-9242.

Very truly yours,

Wong-Nowinski,

Laurie A

Laurie A. Wong-Nowinski

Asst. Executive Director and Legal Counsel

Digitally signed by Wong-
Nowinski, Laurie A
Date: 2022.05.03 10:02:41
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cc: Rick Blangiardi, Mayor
Michael D. Formby, Managing Director