

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

April 22, 2008

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIONS TO SENATE BILL NO. 868

Honorable Members  
Twenty-Fourth Legislature  
State of Hawaii

Pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii, I am returning herewith, without my approval, Senate Bill No. 868, entitled "A Bill for an Act Relating to Boards and Commissions."

The purpose of this bill is to expressly except communications to state boards and commissions initiated by the Legislature and its committees from the requirement in section 26-35(a)(1), Hawaii Revised Statutes, that boards and commissions communicate with the Governor and the Legislature only through the head of the department to which the board or commission is administratively attached.

I believe communication between persons at all levels of the legislative and executive branches is vital to our ability to fulfill the responsibilities each of us is assigned by the Constitution and laws of the State.

It is my understanding that individual members of boards and commissions and their staffs testify regularly and respond to requests from individual members and committees of the Legislature in order to formulate state policy and enact laws to effectuate them. Boards and commissions also take official positions on bills pending before the Legislature and, when doing so, coordinate this testimony through the appropriate department and agency to which they are attached. Inasmuch as the means for the Legislature and executive branch boards and

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commissions to communicate with each other are already in place and, more importantly, are being used regularly, this bill is not needed.

For the foregoing reasons, I am returning Senate Bill No. 868 without my approval.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda Lingle", written in a cursive style.

LINDA LINGLE  
Governor of Hawaii