

THE BEAT

Sens. Slom, Espero Criticize Abercrombie's Veto Intent

One bill makes public board financial disclosures, the other transfers enforcement functions of Harbors Division.

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State Sens. **Sam Slom**, a Republican, and **Will Espero**, a Democrat, have separately issued objections to Gov. **Neil Abercrombie's** [intent-to-veto list](#).

Slom is upset that [Senate Bill 2682](#) is on the list. It would make public the **financial disclosure statements** of members of important state **boards, commissions** and **agencies**.

“Why shouldn't the public and the media know if state board or commission members or their immediate family members have a financial interest or an association that may affect the member's decision making?” Slom said in a press release. “This is just an example of the ‘same old, same old,’ where the governor and his appointees get to wield power with a distinct lack of public scrutiny.”

Slom continued: “Let's face it, this veto doesn't help the people of Hawaii establish any confidence in their government.”

The senator noted that SB 2682 passed the Legislature unanimously. If vetoed, he wants his colleagues to convene to override the governor's action.

PF Bentley/Civil Beat



State Sen. Will Espero at the Capitol, February 2014.

Meantime, Espero is concerned about [Senate Bill 2589](#), which transfers the law enforcement functions of the **Harbors Division** of the Department of Transportation to the **Department of Public Safety**.

In an email, Espero said the bill received lots of support and no opposition during the hearing process. Indeed, DPS Director **Ted Sakai** and then-DOT Director **Glenn Okimoto** were among the supporters.

SB 2589 “makes common sense,” said Espero. “We are working to improve the sheriffs now, and together they can improve and be better. To veto the bill would be a terrible mistake; a bad decision.”

The governor has until July 8 to sign the bills, veto them or let them become law without his signature.

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About the Author



CIVIL BEAT STAFF

Chad Blair

Chad Blair is a reporter for Civil Beat. You can reach him by email at cblair@civilbeat.com or follow him on Twitter at [@chadblairCB](https://twitter.com/chadblairCB).

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Tony Alahaki · Honolulu, Hawaii

The governor is required by law to provide this notice of "intent to veto" to give him to OPTION of vetoing specific bills after Monday's deadline. The real news here is the hundreds of bills from last session not on the list that WILL become law. CB should really point this out.

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