

THE GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION

1954 - 1955

In 1950, the Delegates elected to draw up a Consitution for the State of Hawaii found that 88 individual units in the Territorial Government reported directly to the Governor. Accordingly, the new Constitution limited major departments to a maximum of 20. Governor Samuel Wilder King appointed a committee on February 15, 1954 to make a preliminary study of the situation. This Committee, composed of the Secretary of Hawaii, the Attorney General and the Governor's Administrative Assistant, recommended thorough study of the structural and human problems involved in thus compressing government into a streamlined simple pattern. Their findings led to the formation of an Advisory Committee of 18 persons and 11 alternates representing government and community. Study focused on the obligations of the government to the public and recommendation of changes in structure designed to achieve maximum effectiveness and efficiency in the discharge of such obligations. Each department was contacted for cooperation and suggestions. The establishment of 14 basic functions led to the formation of 4 sub-committees aided, in turn, by advisory groups. Sub-committees were:

- 1) Finance, Development and Public Works
- 2) Health, Welfare and Education
- 3) Corrections, Law and Public Safety and Regulatory
- 4) Public Lands, Labor, Agriculture, Military and Personnel

Findings and recommendations of the Advisory Groups were submitted to the Sub-committees for study and modification of material before they reported to the Committee. On April 15, 1944, the Committee made its final report to the Governor, who submitted it to the Senate on April 20, 1955. The Senate subsequently referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

These records consist of 36 folders containing:

Correspondence, minutes and memoranda establishing policies and functions
Reports from advisory groups, sub-committees and government units
Representations from community groups on proposed changes
Study materials and research reports
Interim reports--majority and minority
Mimeographed report to the Governor

Boxes OGOV6-1 and OGOV6-2