



CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-3065/Telephone 547-7000

Charles K. Djou

Councilmember, District IV

Chair, Intergovernmental Affairs Committee

Phone: (808) 547-7004 / Facsimile: (808) 523-4220

Email: cdjou@honolulu.gov

Web: www.honolulu.gov/council/d4

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For More Information, Please Contact:

Councilmember Charles K. Djou

Phone: (808) 265-2858

COUNCILMEMBER DJOU: INSTITUTE TERM LIMITS FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD

Today, the Executive Matters committee will consider Resolution 07-379, a charter amendment introduced by Honolulu City Councilmember Charles K. Djou (Waikiki, East Honolulu) to establish an eight consecutive year term limit for Neighborhood Board members.

“Following up on the recommendation by the Neighborhood Board Task Force, I introduced a term limit proposal for neighborhood board members. Regular turn over in our government helps the vibrancy of our democracy. Term limits will ensure fresh perspectives are regularly introduced to the Neighborhood Board system just as it has at the City Council and the mayor’s office,” stated Councilmember Djou.

The Neighborhood Board Taskforce submitted its final report to the City Council last month. Although the taskforce suggested a number of administrative changes to improve the neighborhood board system, term limits was the only legislative suggestion made by the taskforce. Councilmember Djou’s proposal would limit Neighborhood Board members to no more than four consecutive two-year terms. Djou’s eight-year term limit resolution would give neighborhood board members the same eight-year term limit as the mayor and city council. Djou’s resolution allows term-limited neighborhood board members to return to a neighborhood board after sitting out a two-year election cycle.

Councilmember Djou is currently in his second and final term on the City Council. Djou is opposed to repealing term limits for City Councilmembers and has already pledged not to seek re-election in 2010 even if the City Council’s two-term limit is repealed.

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