

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 14, 2024

RE: H.B. No. 2685
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2024
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, to which was referred H.B. No. 2685, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENERGY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish and appropriate funds for:

- (1) The Solar Hui Program to allow multi-family residential property owners to invest into a Solar Hui Investment Fund, which will provide loans to low- and moderate-income households to install solar energy systems; and
- (2) A Solar Hui Program Fund manager to manage the investment fund and market the program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawai'i Green Infrastructure Authority; Community Associations Institute Hawaii Legislative Action Committee; Palehua Townhouse Association; Climate Protectors Hawai'i; Hawai'i Association of REALTORS; 350Hawaii.org; Hawaii Solar Energy Association; Hawaii Bankers Association; Mortgage Bankers Association of Hawaii; Hawaii Credit Union League; and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure



from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Budget and Finance; and Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee finds that in 2022, solar photovoltaic accounted for seventeen percent of the total energy generated by the State. Your Committee further finds that low- to moderate-income households often pay a disproportionately higher percentage of their income toward energy bills and typically do not have the financial means to pursue the installation of renewable energy technologies. This measure is intended to support the State's commitment to clean energy by bridging financial gaps and promoting equitable clean energy benefits.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2685, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

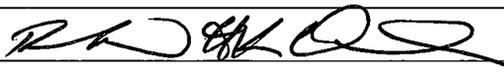
Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Consumer
Protection & Commerce,



MARK M. NAKASHIMA, Chair



Record of Votes of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 2685 HD1	Committee Referral: EEP, CPC, FIN	Date: 2/8/2024		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
CPC Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. NAKASHIMA, Mark M. (C)				/
2. SAYAMA, Jackson D. (VC)	/			
3. AMATO, Terez				/
4. BELATTI, Della Au	/			
5. HASHEM, Mark J.				/
6. HUSSEY-BURDICK, Natalia	/			
7. GATES, Cedric Asuega	/			
8. LOWEN, Nicole E.	/			
9. ONISHI, Richard H.K.	/			
10. TAM, Adrian K.				/
11. PIERICK, Elijah	/			
TOTAL (11)	7	0	0	4
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <small>committee acronym(s)</small>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: <u></u>				
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