

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR - 7 2006

RE: H.B. No. 2619
S.D. 1

Honorable Robert Bunda
President of the Senate
Twenty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2006
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred H.B. No. 2619, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to lessen Hawaii's dependence on petroleum and fossil fuels by extending the exemption of the sale of alcohol fuel from the general excise tax until December 31, 2009.

Your Committee is aware that the ability to use and produce renewable fuels is an integral component in achieving energy self-sufficiency for the State. Extending the exemption will provide some tax relief to Hawaii motorists, while also supporting efforts to diversify the State's energy sources.

Your Committee is also aware that starting April 2006, at least eighty-five per cent of all gasoline sold in Hawaii is required to contain ten per cent ethanol, as long as the price of ethanol is cost competitive. This exemption will increase the competitiveness of ethanol prices, which is important to Hawaii's ethanol industry as it begins to scale up.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2619, S.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Third Reading.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,



BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, Chair



**The Senate
Twenty-Third Legislature
State of Hawaii**

**Record of Votes of the
Committee on Ways and Means
(Bills and Resolutions)**

Measure:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
HB 2619 SD1	EIA/CPH, WAM	4/4/06
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____		
The Recommendation is to:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (2312) <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (2311) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold (2310) <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit (2313)		
Members	Ayes	Ayes(WR)
Nays	Excused	
TANIGUCHI, Brian T. (C)	/	
TSUTSUI, Shan S. (VC)	/	
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	/	
ESPERO, Will	/	
FUKUNAGA, Carol	/	
HOOSER, Gary L.	/	
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	/	
KANNO, Brian		/
KIM, Donna Mercado	/	
KOKUBUN, Russell S.	/	
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	/	
SAKAMOTO, Norman	/	
HEMMINGS, Fred		/
SLOM, Sam	/	
TRIMBLE, Gordon	/	
TOTAL	13	0
		0
		2
Recommendation:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted		
Chair's or Designee's Signature:		
		
Distribution:		
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency
		Goldenrod Committee File Copy

*Do not list more than one measure per Record of Votes.