

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR - 3 2006

RE: S.B. No. 3161
S.D. 2

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Housing,
to which was referred S.B. No. 3161, 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 adopt a broad approach to
lessening the State's dependence on fossil fuels and moving the
State towards greater energy self-sufficiency.

Specifically, this measure:

- (1) Establishes a biofuel preference;
- (2) Establishes objectives and policies for state facility
systems with regard to energy;
- (3) Appropriates funds for a statewide multi-fuel biofuel
production assessment;
- (4) Appropriates funds to assist the agricultural community
interested in developing renewable energy projects;
- (5) Establishes a renewable hydrogen program and hydrogen
investment capital special fund;
- (6) Appropriates funds for three positions for the hydrogen
program; and



- (7) Appropriates funds for the hydrogen investment capital special fund.

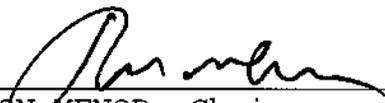
Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; the Division of Consumer Advocacy, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Hawaiian Electric Company; Maui Electric Company; Hawaii Electric Light Company; Honolulu Seawater Air Conditioning LLC; Hawaii Energy Policy Forum; Hawaii Renewable Energy Alliance; Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter; and Rocky Mountain Institute. Oral comments were presented to your Committee by Pacific Biodiesel.

Your Committee finds that it is in the State's interest to encourage the use of renewable fuels and support the development of renewable energy.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making a technical, non-substantive amendment.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 3161, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 3161, S.D. 2.

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



RON MENOR, Chair



