STAND. COM. REP. NO. /227

Honolulu, Hawaii MAR 23 2007

RE: H.B. No. 1005 H.D. 2

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa President of the Senate Twenty-Fourth State Legislature Regular Session of 2007 State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Affordable Housing, to which was referred H.B. No. 1005, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to enhance the ability of the Public Utilities Commission to carry out its duties and responsibilities.

Specifically, this measure:

- (1) Requires the Public Utilities Commission to restructure its operations pursuant to its December 2006, report to the Legislature;
- (2) Appropriates funds to meet the costs incurred as a result of the restructuring process; and
- (3) Authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to consider the need for increased renewable energy use in exercising its authority and duties.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Public Utilities Commission; the Division of Consumer Advocacy; The Gas Company; the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum;

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Hawaiian Electric Company and its subsidiaries; the Sierra Club Hawaii Chapter; and the Hawaii Solar Energy Association, Inc.

Your Committee finds that by Act 143, Session Laws of Hawaii 2006 (Act 143), the Legislature recognized that there is a need for the Public Utilities Commission to function more effectively and efficiently in light of changing regulatory conditions, duties, requirements, and advances in technology. Act 143 also mandated the Public Utilities Commission to conduct a review of its organization and to propose any necessary legislation that will enable it to more effectively protect and represent the interests of consumers. This measure represents the Public Utilities Commission's first step toward reaching the goals and objectives set forth in Act 143.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Affordable Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1005, H.D. 2, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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

BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, Chair

The Senate Twenty-Fourth Legislature State of Hawaii

Record of Votes Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing CPH

1	nmittee Referral: Date: 3/21/07			
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to:				
The Recommendation is:				
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
TANIGUCHI, Brian T. (C)				
IGE, David Y. (VC)				
ESPERO, Will				
IHARA, Jr., Les				
SAKAMOTO, Norman				
SLOM, Sam				Commission (Commission Commission
TOTAL	4			2
Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency				

^{*}Only one measure per Record of Votes