STAND. COM. REP. NO. 715

Honolulu, Hawaii

Monh 6, 2009

RE: H.B. No. 591

H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say Speaker, House of Representatives Twenty-Fifth State Legislature Regular Session of 2009 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, to which was referred H.B. No. 591 entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to promote the use of renewable energy by:

- (1) Authorizing preferential rates for electricity purchased by electric utilities from renewable energy producers associated with agricultural activities; and
- (2) Providing other incentives for electric utility companies to exceed their renewable portfolio standards or to meet their renewable portfolio standards ahead of time.

The Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, Hawaii Crop Improvement Association, Hawaii Agriculture Research Center, Hamakua Springs, and Alexander & Baldwin, Inc., testified in support of this bill. The Consumer Advocate and Public Utilities Commission (PUC) provided comments.

Your Committee has amended this bill by:

(1) Reducing its scope to the authorization of preferential rates for the purchase of renewable energy produced in

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conjunction with agricultural activities. As amended, this bill now authorizes PUC to establish such preferential rates following a public utility's receipt of a bona fide request;

- Changing the effective date to January 1, 2090, to (2)encourage further discussion; and
- Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity and style.

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. 591, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 591, H.D. 1.

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

ROBERT N. HERKES, Chair

## State of Hawaii House of Representatives The Twenty-fifth Legislature

HSCR 715

## **Record of Votes of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce**

Bill/Resolution No.:	Committee Referral:	Date	2/231	09
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to:  Pass, unamended (as is) Pass, with amendments (HD) Hold Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
<b>CPC Members</b>	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. HERKES, Robert N. (C)				100
2. WAKAI, Glenn (VC)	V			
3. BELATTI, Della Au				V
4. CABANILLA, Rida				
5. CARROLL, Mele		galan saan si ayan Walis		
6. ITO, Ken				
7. KARAMATSU, Jon Riki			30.00	
8. LUKE, Sylvia				
9. McKELVEY, Angus L.K.				V
10. MIZUNO, John M.			Zalino a sa s	
11. MORITA, Hermina M. 12. SOUKI, Joseph M.		ing Salaman and Sa		V
13. TSUJI, Clift				
14. MARUMOTO, Barbara C.				
15. THIELEN, Cynthia				
*				
	<b>4</b>	1		
TOTAL (15)	_	$\varnothing$	9	4
The recommendation is:  Adopted  If joint referral, did not support recommendation.  committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Dyplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				