Honolulu, Hawaii

RE: H.B. No. 1060

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. 1060 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLICATION OF HEARING NOTICES, "

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to improve government efficiency by providing that Public Utilities Commission (PUC) hearing notices regarding proposed changes in public utility rates need only be published in the counties served by the utility rather than statewide.

PUC and the Consumer Advocate testified in support of this bill.

Under section 269-16(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), contested case hearings held in connection with any increase in utility rates must be preceded by a public hearing. Section 269-12(c), HRS, requires PUC to provide statewide notices of these hearings, even if the subject public utility and affected customers are located in one county. By restricting the notice requirement to only the counties affected by the public utility's proposal, this measure will lower PUC's publication costs by as much as 50 percent per fiscal year while still ensuring that notice is provided to those affected by the proposed activity.

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. 1060 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

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



Record of Votes of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

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) CPC Members Ayes Ayes (WR) Nays Excused 1. HERKES, Robert N. (C) 2. WAKAI, Glenn (VC) 3. BELATTI, Della Au 4. CABANILLA, Rida 5. CARROLL, Mele 6. ITO, Ken 7. KARAMATSU, Jon Riki 8. LUKE, Sylvia 9. McKELVEY, Angus L.K. 10. MIZUNO, John M. 11. MORITA, Hermina M. 12. SOUKI, Joseph M. 13. TSUJI, Clift 14. MARUMOTO, Barbara C. 15. THIELEN, Cynthia TOTAL (15) TOTAL (15)	Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1060	Committee Referral: CPC, FIN		Date: 2/11/09		
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The recommendation is: Adopted If joint referral, did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)		eferral,	did not supp	ort recommendation	1.	
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:	Vice Chair's or designee's signature:					
Distribution: Original (White) - Committee Displicate (Yellow) - Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) - HMSO	Distribution: Original (White) – Commit	dee Daplidate (Yollow)	- Chief Clerk's Office	e Duplicate (P	rink) – HMSO	