

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 9, 2015

RE: H.B. No. 484
H.D. 1

Honorable Joseph M. Souki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, to which
was referred H.B. No. 484 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENERGY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to make the benefits of
renewable energy more accessible to a greater number of Hawaii
residents by, among other things:

- (1) Requiring the Public Utilities Commission to establish a
community-based renewable energy tariff or tariffs, to
take effect no later than January 1, 2016;
- (2) Providing that community-based renewable energy
projects:
 - (A) Equal to or less than one megawatt in size are
subject to the interconnection processes approved
by the Public Utilities Commission; and
 - (B) Greater than one megawatt in size are subject to
the Public Utilities Commission's review and
approval;
- (3) Allowing an electric utility to develop and implement
its own community-based renewable energy project or
projects, as along as the project or projects are



subject to the Public Utilities Commission's review and approval; and

- (4) Requiring that the community-based renewable energy tariff and related interconnection processes be, to the extent possible, standardized.

The Division of Consumer Advocacy of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Blue Planet Foundation, Hawaii Solar Energy Association, and numerous concerned individuals supported this measure. A concerned individual opposed the measure. The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism; Public Utilities Commission; Hawaiian Electric Company; Hawaii Electric Light Company; Maui Electric Company; Hawaii Renewable Energy Alliance; and a concerned individual submitted comments.

Your Committee has amended the bill by:

- (1) Requiring the Public Utilities Commission, in establishing the community-based renewable energy tariff or tariffs, to ensure that there is no cross-subsidy by or shifting of costs to non-participants to fund any part of the community-based renewable energy program;
- (2) Adding a definition of "wheeling" to clarify the allowable methods of energy distribution by community-based renewable energy projects; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 484, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 484, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Energy &
Environmental Protection,



CHRIS LEE, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-eighth Legislature

HSCR 43

Record of Votes of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 4184	Committee Referral: EEP, CPC, FIN	Date: 2/3/15		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
EEP Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. LEE, Chris (C)	✓			
2. LOWEN, Nicole E. (VC)	✓			
3. CULLEN, Ty J.K.	✓			
4. EVANS, Cindy	✓			
5. ING, Kaniela				✓
6. NISHIMOTO, Scott Y.	✓			
7. SAY, Calvin K.Y.	✓			
8. YAMANE, Ryan I.	✓			
9. POUHA, Feki	✓			
10. THIELEN, Cynthia	✓			
TOTAL (10)	9	0	0	1
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: Nicole E. Lowen				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				