MAR 0 6 2020

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING PUBLIC UTILITIES TO PROVIDE FIFTY PERCENT RATE DISCOUNTS TO RETIRED SENIOR CITIZENS.

WHEREAS, many retired senior citizens aged sixty years and 2 older live on fixed incomes and tight budgets that require them to limit or curtail the purchase of discretionary goods or services; and

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> WHEREAS, expenses that cannot be easily limited or curtailed are those offered by public utilities that provide electricity, water, gas, telephone, telecommunications, and taxicab services; and

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WHEREAS, the gap between the costs of these services and the fixed incomes of retired senior citizens will tend to widen over time, making it increasingly difficult for a retired senior citizen to budget accordingly; and

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WHEREAS, proactive measures must be taken so that retired senior citizens can maintain a reasonable quality of life and afford increasing public utility costs; now, therefore,

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BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that any public utility having a certificate of public convenience and necessity obtained from the Public Utilities Commission is requested to provide a fifty percent rate discount to any retired senior citizen residing in the State; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Utilities Commission is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2021 on actions that have been taken by public utilities or legislation that needs to be enacted to provide the fifty percent rate discounts to retired senior citizens; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Chairperson of the Public Utilities Commission, who in turn is requested to distribute copies of the Concurrent Resolution to all public utilities that currently hold a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued to them by the Commission.

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OFFERED BY:

