

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

297

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 17 , 2021

RE: H.B. No. 941

H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2021
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, to which
was referred H.B. No. 941 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE USE OF ELECTRONIC FILING
BY THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to allow the Public Utilities
Commission to use electronic filing processes and similar
practices as an alternative to hard copy, rather than requiring
both.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Public
Utilities Commission, and Hawaiian Electric Company. Your
Committee received comments on this measure from the Disability
and Communication Access Board.

Your Committee finds that certain existing statutory
provisions require the Public Utilities Commission to employ hard
copy service or filing in addition to electronic filing. This
resulted in over ninety-five percent of the Commission's docketed
filings being on paper and submitted in-person or via mail.
However, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Governor's
emergency orders, the Commission implemented a temporary
all-electronic filing system to ensure services were still being



offered to the public and stakeholders while protecting the health and safety of all persons. Your Committee recognizes that this process has been successful, and this measure will authorize the continuation of this practice beyond the COVID-19 state of emergency.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing language that allowed administrative rules to supersede the statutory provisions authorizing electronic filing as an alternative method of submitting documents;
- (2) Changing the effective date to January 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, 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. 941, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 941, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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



AARON LING JOHANSON, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Thirty-first Legislature **HSCR 297**

Record of Votes of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 941	Committee Referral: CPC, FIN	Date: 2/5/2021		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input 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)				
CPC Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. JOHANSON, Aaron Ling (C)	✓			
2. KITAGAWA, Lisa (VC)	✓			
3. AQUINO, Henry J.C.	✓			
4. HAR, Sharon E.	✓			
5. HASHEM, Mark J.				✓
6. KONG, Sam Satoru	✓			
7. MIZUNO, John M.	✓			
8. MORIKAWA, Dee	✓			
9. ONISHI, Richard H.K.	✓			
10. TARNAS, David A.	✓			
11. MATSUMOTO, Lauren	✓			
TOTAL (11)	10	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: small;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: <u><i>Dee Morikawa</i></u>				
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