

HOUSE RESOLUTION

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

WHEREAS, many retired senior citizens live on fixed incomes and tight budgets, requiring them to limit expenses; and

WHEREAS, the costs of public utilities, including electricity, water, gas, telephone, and telecommunication services are consistently rising and are difficult to limit or negotiate; and

WHEREAS, the widening gaps between the rising costs of public utility services and fixed incomes of retired senior citizens make it increasingly difficult for retired senior citizens to live within their budgets; and

WHEREAS, proactive measures are needed to help retired senior citizens maintain a reasonable quality of life despite rising, but necessary, public utility expenses; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, that any public utility having a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued by the Public Utilities Commission is requested to provide a fifty percent rate discount to any customer who is a retired senior citizen; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Utilities Commission is requested to assess the actions taken by public utilities and to determine whether any additional legislation is needed to ensure that retired senior citizens receive fifty percent rate discounts; and

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 2023; 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
this Concurrent Resolution to all public utilities that
currently hold a certificate of public convenience and necessity
issued by the Commission.

Straly for MAR - 9 2022