

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1669-22

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 04 , 2022

RE: H.C.R. No. 48  
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2022  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 48 entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO CONSIDER EFFORTS TO MITIGATE HIGH ENERGY BURDENS FOR LOW- AND MODERATE-INCOME CUSTOMERS AND INVESTIGATE HOW TO INTEGRATE CONSIDERATIONS OF ENERGY EQUITY AND JUSTICE ACROSS ITS WORK,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to request the Public Utilities Commission to consider efforts to mitigate high energy burdens for low- and moderate-income customers and investigate how to integrate considerations of energy equity and justice across its work.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Office of Community Services; Hawaiian Electric Company; and one individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Hawaii State Energy Office and Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee finds that many households in Hawaii have difficulty paying energy bills. Despite Hawaii having the highest electricity rates in the nation, the State's electric utilities do

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not offer utility specific low- to moderate-income discount rates and have limited, if any, bill assistance options. Therefore, it is critical to examine ways to assist low- and limited-income customers by reducing their residential electricity burden and ensuring continued access to electrical power.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Acknowledging the work of the Public Utilities Commission on energy resource issues;
- (2) Requesting the Public Utilities Commission to consider input from the Consumer Advocate;
- (3) Clarifying that the requested proceeding or proceedings established by the Public Utilities Commission should not be duplicative, but rather focus on the need for integration of energy equity and justice;
- (4) Amending its title in accordance with its amended purpose; and
- (5) 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 Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 48, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.C.R. No. 48, H.D. 1.

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

*for* Kim Marts  
NICOLE E. LOWEN, Chair



*HSCR 1669-22*

**Record of Votes of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection**

<b>Bill/Resolution No.:</b> <i>HCR 48</i>	<b>Committee Referral:</b> <i>EEP</i>	<b>Date:</b> <i>3/24/22</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
<b>The recommendation is to:</b> <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)				
<b>EEP Members</b>	<b>Ayes</b>	<b>Ayes (WR)</b>	<b>Nays</b>	<b>Excused</b>
<b>1. LOWEN, Nicole E. (C)</b>	✓			
<b>2. MARTEN, Lisa (VC)</b>	✓			
<b>3. HASHEM, Mark J.</b>	✓			
<b>4. MATAYOSHI, Scot Z.</b>	✓			
<b>5. PERRUSO, Amy A.</b>	✓			
<b>6. TODD, Chris</b>	✓			
<b>7. TOKIOKA, James Kunane</b>	✓			
<b>8. MATSUMOTO, Lauren</b>	✓			
<b>TOTAL (8)</b>	<b>8</b>			
<b>The recommendation is:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
<b>Vice Chair's or designee's signature:</b> <i>Nicole E Lowen</i>				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original (White) – Committee    Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office    Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				