

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 10 2025

RE: S.B. No. 997
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs and
Labor and Technology, to which was referred S.B. No. 997 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENERGY,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require an
attestation or declaration regarding project labor standards,
including adherence to state-approved apprenticeship programs and
prevailing wage requirements, for covered large-scale renewable
energy generation projects.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure
from the Hawaii State Energy Office, Hawaii Laborers and Employers
Cooperation and Education Trust, Operating Engineers Local 3, and
Hawai'i Construction Alliance.

Your Committees received comments on this measure from the
Hawaii Clean Power Alliance.

Your Committees find that achieving the State's renewable
energy standard of one hundred percent by 2045 necessitates the
construction of large-scale renewable energy projects. Requiring
the developers of these large-scale renewable energy projects to
pay a prevailing wage will help ensure that workers are
compensated fairly and that certain requirements for federal
funding or credits are met, further motivating workers to pursue



long-term careers in Hawaii's utility renewable energy construction sector.

Your Committees note that Senate Bill No. 743, Regular Session of 2025, is a similar measure regarding prevailing wages for those who work on large-scale renewable energy projects. Your Committees conclude that the language in Senate Bill No. 743 is preferable because it contains language authorizing preferential energy rates for the purchase of renewable energy produced from facilities in conjunction with prevailing wages.

Accordingly, your Committees have amended this measure by deleting its contents and inserting the contents of section 2 of Senate Bill No. 743, which:

- (1) Grants the Public Utilities Commission the ability to authorize preferential rates for the purchase of renewable energy from facilities that meet certain prevailing wage requirements; and
- (2) Requires public utilities to forward certain requests for preferential rates to the Public Utilities Commission for approval.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs and Labor and Technology that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 997, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 997, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committees on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs and Labor and Technology,


HENRY J. C. AQUINO, Chair


GLENN WAKAI, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Labor and Technology
LBT

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 997	Committee Referral: EIG/LBT, WAM	Date: 2/3/25
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The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.
If so, then the previous decision was to: _____

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312 Pass, with amendments 2311 Hold 2310 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
AQUINO, Henry J.C. (C)	x			
LEE, Chris (VC)	x			
IHARA, Jr., Les	x			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.	x			
FEVELLA, Kurt				x
TOTAL	4			1

Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: 

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*Only one measure per Record of Votes