

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 12 , 2026

RE: H.B. No. 2284  
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2026  
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and  
Human Services & Homelessness, to which was referred H.B. No. 2284  
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENERGY ASSISTANCE,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish and appropriate funds for the Hawaii Home  
Energy Assistance Program within the Department of Human  
Services to assist qualifying households in paying their  
energy bills; and
- (2) Require the Public Utilities Commission Public Benefits  
Fee Administrator to provide certain information and  
assistance to recipients of the program.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Department  
of Human Services; Public Utilities Commission; Hawaiian Electric;  
and Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative.

Your Committees find that Hawaii's electricity rates are  
among the highest in the nation, placing a financial burden on  
low-income households in the State. Your Committees further find



that assistance provided to Hawaii residents through the federal Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program has been limited and that there is a need to support residents through state funding mechanisms. This measure seeks to allocate financial assistance to low-income households for energy-related costs and provide energy efficiency information and support to recipients of the financial assistance.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the appropriation to an unspecified amount;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.


Your Committees respectfully request your Committee on Finance, should it deliberate on this measure, to consider an appropriation amount of \$1,500,000 for the implementation of the Hawaii Home Energy Assistance Program.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Human Services & Homelessness that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2284, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2284, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Energy &  
Environmental Protection and  
Human Services & Homelessness,



LISA MARTEN, Chair



NICOLE E. LOWEN, Chair



**HSCR 259-26**

Bill/Resolution No.: <b>HB 2284</b>	Committee Referral: <b>EEP/ASH, CPC, FIN</b>	Date: <b>2/10/26</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input checked="" 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)				
EEP Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. LOWEN, Nicole E. (C)	✓			
2. PERRUSO, Amy A. (VC)	✓			
3. CHUN, Cory M.	✓			
4. KAHALOA, Kirstin	✓			
5. KUSCH, Matthias	✓			
6. QUINLAN, Sean	.			✓
7. MATSUMOTO, Lauren				✓
<b>TOTAL (7)</b>	5			2
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original (White) – Committee             Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office             Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				

State of Hawaii  
House of Representatives  
The Thirty-third Legislature

HSCR 259-26

**Record of Votes of the Committee on Human Services & Homelessness**

<b>Bill/Resolution No.:</b> HB 2284	<b>Committee Referral:</b> EEP/HSH, CPC, FIN	<b>Date:</b> 2/10/2020		
<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)				
HSH Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. MARTEN, Lisa (C)	X			
2. OLDS, Ikaika (VC)	X			
3. AMATO, Terez	X			
4. HARTSFIELD, Daisy	X			
5. KEOHOKAPU-LEE LOY, Sue L.	X			
6. TAKAYAMA, Gregg				X
7. TAKENOUCHI, Jenna	X			
8. ALCOS III, David	X			
9. GARCIA, Diamond			X	
<b>TOTAL (9)</b>	7		1	1
<b>The recommendation is:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 10pt;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
<b>Vice Chair's or designee's signature:</b> _____ <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 24pt; margin-top: -10px;"> </div>				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original (White) – Committee      Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office      Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				