STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3527

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 0 8 2026

RE: S.R. No. 163
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2026
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, to which was referred S.R. No. 163 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS ON THE BEST PATHS TO MAXIMIZE COST REDUCTION AND MINIMIZE FINANCIAL RISK TO HAWAII RESIDENTS WHILE MEETING STATE GOALS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request that the Public Utilities Commission conduct an objective, independent analysis and evaluation on the best paths to maximize cost reduction and minimize financial risk to Hawaii residents for energy while meeting the State's established goals.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Earthjustice.

Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from one individual.

Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Division of Consumer Advocacy of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Public Utilities Commission, and Hawaii State Energy Office.

Your Committee finds that energy-related decisions likely to be made in the coming years may either save or cost the State and its residents billions of dollars. Therefore, it is critical that the State has the most accurate and reliable information before making major decisions on Hawaii's energy future. This measure would request that the Public Utilities Commission base decisions on independent, comprehensive analysis on the optimal energy pathways for the State to meet its renewable energy mandates, uphold constitutional obligations, and lower future economic and environmental costs and risks for consumers.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

(1) Deleting certain findings in relation to the discussion of certain fuels for power generation and certain energy storage methods in the Hawaii State Energy Office's "Alternative Fuels, Repowering, and Energy Transition Study"; and

(2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 163, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as S.R. No. 163, S.D. 1.

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

JARRETT KEOHOKALOLE, Chair

The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
CPN

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
SR 163	CPN	04/07/2026

☐ 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
KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett (C)	✓			
FUKUNAGA, Carol (VC)	✓			
LAMOSAO, Rachele	✓			
MCKELVEY, Angus L.K.	✓			
AWA, Brenton				✓
TOTAL	4			1

Recommendation: ☑ Adopted ☐ Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature:

Carol Fukunaga

Distribution: Original — File with Committee Report; Yellow — Committee; Pink — Drafting Agency

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

Revised: 01/02/26