

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2930

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 06 2026

RE: S.B. No. 2497
S.D. 2

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

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 2497, S.D. 1, entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to promote transparency in electric utility bills.

More specifically, this measure:

- (1) Requires all electric utilities to provide transparent customer bill impact analyses that are accessible to the public in an electronic format reasonably usable by ratepayers;
- (2) Establishes requirements for bill impact analyses; and
- (3) Requires electric utilities to submit annual reports to the Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Hawaii Clean Power Alliance and one individual.

Your Committee received written comments in opposition to this measure from the Kauai Island Utility Cooperative and Life of the Land.



Your Committee received written comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs Division of Consumer Advocacy, Office of Information Practices, Public Utilities Commission, and Hawaiian Electric.

Your Committee finds that the Public Utilities Commission relies on bill impact analyses prepared and modeled by electric utilities for proposed energy projects that estimate residential customer bill impacts to evaluate affordability. Your Committee also finds that these analyses rely heavily on assumptions developed by the electric utilities that are not fully disclosed to ratepayers. As a result, ratepayers have only a limited ability to evaluate and determine whether a proposed project is in the public interest and whether their electric utility's projected bill impacts are reasonable, current, and accurate. Your Committee believes that the public disclosures required by this measure will help improve affordability and promote transparency.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring electric utilities to maintain an online bill impact analysis tool that is accessible to ratepayers;
- (2) Specifying that the bill impact analysis tool shall:
 - (A) Cover operational, rather than proposed, electric projects; and
 - (B) Disclose top level assumptions used to calculate the per project impact on customer bills;
- (3) Providing that electric utilities shall represent power systems below an applicable threshold, as determined by the Public Utilities Commission, in a summarized form; and
- (4) Exempting electric cooperatives from the requirements established under this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of



S.B. No. 2497, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2497, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,


DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-Third Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
6B2497, SDI	CPN/EIG, WAM	3/3/2026		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is:				
<input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y. (VC)	X			
DECOITE, Lynn	X			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	X			
HASHIMOTO, Troy N.	X			
INOUYE, Lorraine R.			X	
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
KIM, Donna Mercado	X			
LEE, Chris	X			
RICHARDS, III, Herbert M. "Tim"		X		
WAKAI, Glenn	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt				X
TOTAL	10	1	1	1
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink File with Committee Report Committee Drafting Agency				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes