

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2501

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 17, 2006

RE: S.B. No. 3184

S.D. 1

Honorable Robert Bunda
President of the Senate
Twenty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2006
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Housing,
to which was referred S.B. No. 3184 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to adopt policies and reforms
to support the Public Utilities Commission and the Division of
Consumer Advocacy in their progressive and aggressive efforts to
protect ratepayers and the public and implement the State's energy
strategy.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the Public Utilities Commission, Division of Consumer
Advocacy, Hawaii Energy Policy Forum, Hawaii Renewable Energy
Alliance, Rocky Mountain Institute, Young Brothers, Limited,
Hawaiian Electric Company, The Gas Company, Hawaii Transportation
Association, and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that Public Utilities Commission needs
the resources to timely and fairly address regulatory issues
regarding technological advances and operational efficiencies that
encourage balanced growth and investment and ensure system
reliability. The Public Utilities Commission and the Division of
Consumer Advocacy of the Department of Commerce and Consumer
Affairs serve indispensable functions that are necessary to
implement sound energy policies for the State of Hawaii.



Your Committee has amended this measure by reverting from \$3,000,000 to \$1,000,000 as the amount to be retained in the Public Utilities Commission special fund, with any excess balance to be refunded to the credit of the public utilities paying into the fund.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 3184, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 3184, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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



RON MENOR, Chair



