

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 3109

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 20 2008

RE: H.B. No. 2505
H.D. 2
S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2008
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Energy and Environment, to which was referred H.B. No. 2505, H.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENERGY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to appropriate funds to establish a full-time, permanent renewable energy facilitator position in the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Castle & Cooke Hawai'i; UPC Hawaii Wind Management, LLC; Hawaii Renewable Energy Alliance; and Hawaii Energy Policy Forum. Comments were received from the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism.

Your Committee finds that renewable energy resources offer Hawaii important economic, environmental, and energy security benefits, especially since Hawaii's dependency on petroleum is the highest in the nation, accounting for approximately ninety per cent of the State's energy needs. This high petroleum dependency makes consumers extremely vulnerable to any oil embargo, supply disruption, international market dysfunction, and many other factors beyond Hawaii's control.

Your Committee further finds that there is a need to streamline the permitting process to provide predictability and to

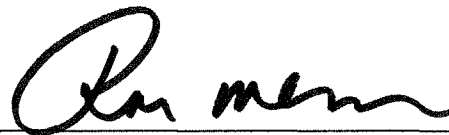


encourage private companies to commit the substantial amounts of capital, time, and effort necessary to develop such projects. Therefore, investment in additional personnel is essential.

Your Committee has amended this measure by deleting its contents and inserting the provisions of S.B. No. 2844, a similar measure that does not include a separate section to establish a position for a renewable energy facilitator. As amended, this measure makes an appropriation of \$122,904, for fiscal year 2008-2009, to establish one full-time permanent position for a renewable energy facilitator in the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism. The facilitator would facilitate the efficient permitting of renewable energy projects and initiate the implementation of key renewable energy projects permitting efficiency improvement strategies identified by the Department. Your Committee has also changed the effective date to July 1, 2008.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy and Environment that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2505, H.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 2505, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Energy and
Environment,

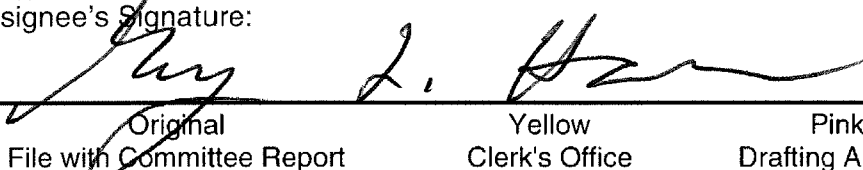


RON MENOR, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Fourth Legislature
 State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Energy and Environment
ENE

| | | | | |
|--|--|-------------------------|-----|---------|
| Bill / Resolution No.:* HB 2505 HD2 | Committee Referral: ENE, WAM | Date: 3/18/08 | | |
| <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 |
| MENOR, Ron (C) | ✓ | | | |
| HOOSER, Gary L. (VC) | ✓ | | | |
| IHARA, Jr., Les | ✓ | | | |
| KOKUBUN, Russell S. | ✓ | | | |
| TRIMBLE, Gordon | ✓ | | | |
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| TOTAL | 5 | | | |
| 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 Clerk's Office Drafting Agency | | | | |

*Only one measure per Record of Votes