

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 01 2007

RE: S.B. No. 1419  
S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2007  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and  
Affordable Housing, to which was referred S.B. No. 1419 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GASOLINE PRICE GOUGING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to protect Hawaii consumers from price gouging in the purchase of gasoline during periods of abnormal disruption of the marketplace caused by extraordinary adverse circumstances.

Specifically, this measure includes gasoline price gouging as an unfair or deceptive trade practice under section 480-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, the Hawaii Transportation Association, and one individual. The Western States Petroleum Association submitted testimony in opposition to this measure.

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's geographic isolation makes it vulnerable to high gasoline prices, especially during times of catastrophic world events and other disruptions to the marketplace. The intent of this measure is to ensure that Hawaii consumers are protected from price gouging by making it an unfair or deceptive trade practice for any gasoline-related business to sell or offer to sell any gasoline product for an amount that represents an unconscionably excessive price during any abnormal



disruption to the market, regardless of whether that disruption occurred in Hawaii or in other parts of the world.

Your Committee has amended this measure to make technical, nonsubstantive changes for the purposes of clarity and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Affordable Housing that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1419, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1419, S.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

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

  
BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Fourth Legislature  
 State of Hawaii

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Affordable Housing**  
**CPH**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 1419</b>	Committee Referral: <b>CPH</b>	Date: <b>2/22/07</b>		
<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
TANIGUCHI, Brian T. (C)	✓			
IGE, David Y. (VC)	✓			
ESPERO, Will	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les				✓
SAKAMOTO, Norman				✓
SLOM, Sam			✓	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align:center;"><i>David Y. Ige</i></div>				
Distribution:            Original            Yellow            Pink File with Committee Report            Clerk's Office            Drafting Agency				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes