

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2649

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 29 2008

RE: S.B. No. 2847

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

Madam:

Your Committees on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs and Energy and Environment, to which was referred S.B. No. 2847 entitled:

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

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to include solar energy facilities as a permitted use within the agricultural district on land with soil classified D or E.

Testimony in support of this measure was submitted by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii, Dowling Company, Inc., Castle & Cooke Hawaii, SunPower Corp., Hawaii Renewable Energy Alliance, and one individual. Testimony in opposition to this measure was submitted by the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation and Maui County Farm Bureau. The Department of Agriculture submitted testimony offering comments on this measure.

Your Committees find that renewable energy resources can greatly benefit Hawaii's economy, environment, energy security, and sustainability. The increased use of Hawaii's abundant renewable energy resources, such as wind, solar, ocean thermal, wave, and biomass resources, is key to reducing Hawaii's green house gas emissions and contribution to global warming and creating new job opportunities and economic diversification.

Your Committees further find that Hawaii's trade deficit is also a significant impediment to Hawaii's goal of economic and energy security and sustainability. Specifically, in 2006, Hawaii

2008-1672 SSCR SMA.doc



exported only \$16,300,000,000 in goods and services, including visitor spending, while importing approximately \$24,000,000,000. Hawaii's oil imports totaled \$3,400,000,000 for the year, accounting for approximately fifteen per cent of the total imports. Over ninety-three per cent of Hawaii's energy is supplied by fossil fuel. Allowing a solar energy facility on marginal agricultural lands may have more beneficial effects for Hawaii's economy, environment, and energy security than having such lands go unused.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs and Energy and Environment that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2847 and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Agriculture and
Hawaiian Affairs and Energy and
Environment,



RON MENOR, Chair



JILL TOKUDA, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Fourth Legislature
 State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Agriculture and Hawaiian Affairs
AHW

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB2847	Committee Referral: AHW/ENE	Date: 26 Feb 2008
------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	-----------------------------

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
TOKUDA, Jill N. (C)	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani (VC)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike	✓			
HEE, Clayton				✓
KOKUBUN, Russell S.				✓
SLOM, Sam	✓			
TOTAL	4			2

Recommendation: Adopted Not Adopted

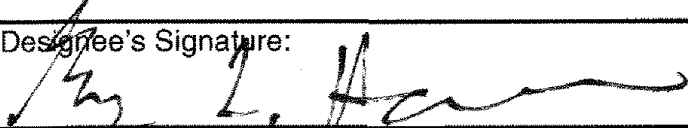
Chair's or Designee's Signature: *J. Kalani English*

Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod
 File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate
 Twenty-Fourth Legislature
 State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Energy and Environment
ENE

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 2847	Committee Referral: ATW / ENE	Date: 2/26/08		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input 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				✓
TOTAL	3			2
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