

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **684**

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 5, 2009

RE: H.B. No. 590
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2009
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Water, Land, & Ocean Resources and Energy & Environmental Protection, to which was referred H.B. No. 590 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY FACILITIES,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to expedite the development of renewable energy facilities by:

- (1) Reducing the time for processing and approving or denying permits under permit plans from twelve to six months after acceptance of a completed permit plan application; and
- (2) Automatically approving permit applications within twelve months rather than eighteen months if either the permitting agency fails to provide a report identifying diligent measures that it has taken to complete processing and take action on a permit plan application, or if no action is taken.

Dowling Company, Inc., the SunPower Systems Corporation, Castle & Cooke Hawaii, and the Hawaii Building and Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO, testified in support of this bill. The Department of Health, Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Life of the Land, Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter, Hawaii Sierra Club - Maui Group, and several concerned individuals opposed this measure.

HB590 HD1 HSCR WLO-EEP HMS 2009-2797



Your Committees have amended this bill by:

- (1) Reinstating the original time periods for permit review and automatic approval;
- (2) Setting a thirty-day time limit for the filing of the diligence report with the energy resources coordinator by the permitting agency;
- (3) Giving the energy resources coordinator discretion to deem a permit approved if no further processing or action is taken by the permitting agency within seventeen months of the completed permit application;
- (4) Changing the effective date to January 1, 2020, to encourage further discussion; and
- (5) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Water, Land, & Ocean Resources and Energy & Environmental Protection that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 590, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 590, H.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Water, Land, &
Ocean Resources and Energy &
Environmental Protection,

Denny Coffan, Vice Chair
for HERMINA MORITA, Chair

[Signature]
KEN ITO, Chair



