

H.B. NO. 1062

A BILL FOR AN ACT

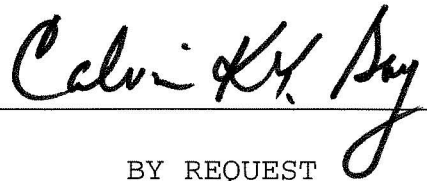
RELATING TO GAS PIPELINE SYSTEMS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 269, part IV, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
2 is repealed.

3 SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

4
5 INTRODUCED BY:



6 BY REQUEST

JAN 26 2009

Report Title:

Gas Pipeline Systems

Description:

Repeals the Public Utilities Commission's responsibility for pipeline safety and inspection functions in Hawaii because this has been the responsibility of the Federal Office of Pipeline Safety since 1993.

JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Budget and Finance (PUC)

TITLE: A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO GAS PIPELINE SYSTEMS.

PURPOSE: To repeal the provisions of chapter 269, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), relating to gas pipeline systems and inspections, as those functions are and have been performed by the federal Office of Pipeline Safety, U.S. Department of Transportation, since 1993.

MEANS: Repeal part IV of chapter 269, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

JUSTIFICATION: Part IV of chapter 269, HRS, requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish safety standards consistent with those of the federal pipeline safety office and authorizes the Commission to make inspections of pipeline systems within the State for purposes of compliance with the safety standards. The federal Office of Pipeline Safety has been overseeing and performing all functions relating to gas pipeline systems in the State since 1993, including establishing compliance with safety standards it created, and exercising authority to issue and enforce safety regulations for the transportation of synthetic natural gas by pipeline under the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Program of 1968, as amended. Without certification from the federal Department of Transportation, the State is prohibited under federal law from asserting authority over gas pipeline safety in the State.

Impact on the public: There will be no impact on the public, as all functions relating to gas pipeline systems have been and are currently monitored and enforced by

the federal government's Office of Pipeline Safety, U.S. Department of Transportation.

Impact on the department and other agencies:

Will remove the impression that the State Public Utilities Commission is responsible for overseeing and ensuring the safety and operations of the gas pipeline safety systems in Hawaii.

GENERAL FUND: None.

OTHER FUNDS: None.

PPBS PROGRAM
DESIGNATION: BUF-901.

OTHER AFFECTED
AGENCIES: None.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon approval.