

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

3221

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 22 2010

RE: H.C.R. No. 235
H.D. 2

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2010
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Energy and Environment, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 235, H.D. 2, entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PHASE OUT OF PRODUCTION AND IMPORTATION OF DECA-BROMODIPHENYL ETHER IN THE UNITED STATES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to support the phase out of production and importation of decabromodiphenyl ether (decaBDE) and all other polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDE).

Testimony in support of the measure was submitted by one organization. Written testimony presented to the Committee may be reviewed on the Legislature's website.

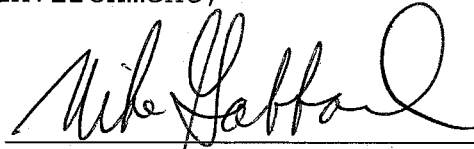
In 2008, the Department of Health prepared a report to the Legislature on the negative environmental and health impacts of decaBDE. These flame retardants have been used in electronics, wire and cable insulation, textiles, automobiles, trains, airplanes, and other devices where the risk of fire is great. Use of decaBDE and PBDE in such products has saved millions of lives, however, when these ethers burn, they emit other chemicals into the air that may cause cancer. Today, there are reasonable alternatives to the use of decaBDE and PBDE. Your Committee finds that the United States Environmental Protection Agency and industry leaders have taken great strides to reduce our citizens exposure to decaBDE and PBDE and your Committee supports future efforts to eliminate the use of these ethers.

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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 concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 235, H.D. 2, and recommends its adoption.

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



MIKE GABBARD, Chair



