

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2083

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB - 9 2010

RE: S.B. No. 2809  
S.D. 1

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

Madam:

Your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, to which was referred S.B. No. 2809 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO UTILITIES REGULATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to ensure adequate funding for the Public Utilities Commission and the Division of Consumer Advocacy, including funding to fully implement the reorganization of both agencies mandated by Act 177 and Act 183, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from Hawaii Transportation Association, Blue Planet Foundation, Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc., Hawaii Energy Policy Forum, and the Division of Consumer Advocacy of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. Written testimony presented to the Committee may be reviewed on the Legislature's website.

Your Committee finds that this measure will ensure that the Public Utilities Commission and the Division of Consumer Advocacy have sufficient funding to allow those agencies to perform their statutory duties and to fully enact the reorganization plans required by Acts 177 and 183, Session Laws of Hawaii 2007. Your Committee finds that the Public Utilities Commission and the Division of Consumer Advocacy serve an essential function by regulating the electrical, natural gas, telecommunications, water, wastewater, and transportation industries. In addition, the recent implementation of the State's clean energy initiative has

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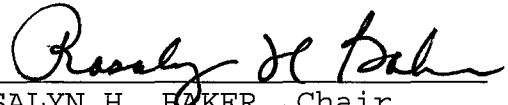


increased the workload of both agencies while, at the same time, funding and staff positions have been reduced. Your Committee notes that all moneys appropriated by this measure are appropriated from the Public Utilities Commission Special Fund, which is funded by fees paid by regulated industries to offset the costs of their own regulation.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making nonsubstantive, technical changes for the purposes of clarity and consistency in its language.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2809, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2809, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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



ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Fifth Legislature  
 State of Hawaii

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection**  
**CPN**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB 2809	CPN, WAM	2/2/10		
<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
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (C)	✓			
IGE, David Y. (VC)				✓
ESPERO, Will	✓			
GREEN, M.D., Josh	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les				✓
SAKAMOTO, Norman	✓			
HEMMINGS, Fred	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>			<b>2</b>
Recommendation:				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted</span>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<i>Will Espero</i>				
<b>Distribution:</b>				
Original File with Committee Report	Yellow Clerk's Office	Pink Drafting Agency	Goldenrod Committee File Copy	

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes