

1 internal and external procedures, to adopting the best
2 regulatory frameworks for fostering growth and development, it
3 is imperative that the commission use the necessary tools and
4 best practices to effectively and efficiently make informed
5 decisions about Hawaii's future infrastructure.

6 The purpose of this part is to increase transparency and
7 efficiency at the public utilities commission by requiring the
8 adoption of best practices in relation to all commission
9 activities, both internal and external, to ensure the commission
10 is in the best position to guide the State in utility matters.

11 SECTION 2. Chapter 269, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
12 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
13 and to read as follows:

14 **"§269- Commission best practices.** (a) The commission
15 shall integrate and implement utility and regulatory best
16 practices, including in the following areas:

17 (1) The use of innovative regulatory frameworks to solve
18 utility issues and concerns resulting from economic,
19 technological, and policy changes;

20 (2) The making and updating of rules and procedures that
21 streamline the internal and external procedures of the



1 SECTION 5. The legislature finds that for Hawaii's farmers
2 and ranchers to remain competitive and self-sustaining,
3 incentives and mechanisms must be implemented to reduce costs
4 and ensure that the State's constitutional mandate to promote
5 diversified agriculture and increase agricultural self-
6 sufficiency is fulfilled. The public utilities commission
7 regulates the tariffs set for public utilities that provide
8 essential services to the agricultural industry, such as
9 interisland shipping.

10 The purpose of this part is to permit the public utilities
11 commission to authorize preferential rates for water carrier
12 service for ratepayers engaged in agricultural activities.

13 SECTION 6. Chapter 269, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
14 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
15 and to read as follows:

16 **"§269- Preferential water carrier service rates for**
17 **agricultural activities.** The public utilities commission may
18 authorize preferential water carrier service rates by tariff for
19 ratepayers that engage in agricultural activities. The
20 application process for obtaining preferential water carrier
21 service rates by tariff may be established by the public
22 utilities commission."



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PART III

2

SECTION 7. New statutory material is underscored.

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SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2012.



Report Title:

Public Utilities Commission; Best Practices; Appropriation;
Water Carrier; Tariffs

Description:

Requires the Public Utilities Commission to implement best practices in the areas of regulatory frameworks, rules and procedures, and information technology and public access. Appropriates funds to implement best practices. Authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to provide preferential water carrier service tariffs for ratepayers that engage in agricultural activities. (SD1)

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