

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 12, 2013

RE: H.B. No. 815  
H.D. 1

Honorable Joseph M. Souki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2013  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, to which was referred H.B. No. 815 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to provide the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) with adequate flexibility and discretion to streamline and ease the regulatory process and burden for an electric cooperative in the State. Specifically, this measure:

- (1) Directs the PUC and the Division of Consumer Advocacy to specifically consider the ownership structure and interests of not-for-profit electric cooperatives; and
- (2) Authorizes the PUC to waive or exempt a not-for-profit, consumer-owned electric cooperative from chapter 269, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and all applicable franchises, charters, certificates, decisions, orders, rules or other laws upon a finding that such requirements are unjust, unreasonable, or not in the public interest.

The Public Utilities Commission, Division of Consumer Advocacy, Kauai Island Utility Cooperative, and seven individual council members of the Kauai County Council supported this measure.



Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 815, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 815, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Energy &  
Environmental Protection,



CHRIS LEE, Chair



