

# **Testimony before the House Committee on Housing**

**By Enrique Che  
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Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.**

**Monday, February 4, 2013  
8:45 a.m., Conference Room 329**

## **House Bill 1407 Relating To The Disclosure Of Energy Consumption To Renters and Lessees**

Chair Cabanilla and Members of the Committee:

My name is Enrique Che, and I am testifying on behalf of the Hawaiian Electric Company and its subsidiaries, Hawaii Electric Light Company and Maui Electric Company.

We continue to support the use and development of energy efficiency in homes and business and therefore the intent of HB 1407 to make energy consumption more transparent to energy consumers. However we have the following concerns with HB 1407 as written primarily based on consumer privacy and personal information concerns.

HB 1407 provides that even if a landlord is not the account holder with the electric utility, then the electric utility shall provide monthly energy costs of the subject landlord's tenant to the landlord—without provision for the tenant's consent.

Such monthly energy costs are currently confidential information of our customers and are only given to third parties with the customer's consent, or pursuant to appropriate court order. Additionally, federal law such as the federal Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act provides for numerous federal protections of consumer credit information which may be relevant to customer monthly energy costs.

Because of our utmost concern with customer privacy and confidentiality, we support the intent of this measure but have serious privacy and confidentiality concerns regarding the unconsented disclosure of customer information as may be impacted by HB 1407.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.