



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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Statement of
RICHARD C. LIM
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEES ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND BUSINESS
AND
CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE**

Friday, February 15, 2013
10 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

in consideration of
HB 811, HD1
RELATING TO ENERGY INFORMATION REPORTING.

Chairs Tsuji and McKelvey, Vice Chairs Ward and Kawakami, and Members of the Committees.

The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) supports HB 811, HD1, which includes moving the Energy Industry Information Reporting Act registration process from the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to DBEDT. This measure combines the registration process with the information gathering functions already within DBEDT to improve the efficiency of the Energy Industry Information Reporting Act processes and clarifies the enforcement and investigatory powers of the PUC and DBEDT.

DBEDT defers to the PUC on the specific administration of this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in support of HB 811, HD1.

TESTIMONY OF HERMINA MORITA
CHAIR, PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEES ON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS
AND
CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

FEBRUARY 15, 2013
10:00 a.m.

MEASURE: H.B. No. 811, H.D. 1
TITLE: Relating to Energy Information Reporting

Chair Tsuji, Chair McKelvey, and Members of the Committees:

DESCRIPTION:

This measure proposes to consolidate within the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (“DBEDT”) the functions of receiving energy distributor registrations and energy distributor reporting information under Chapter 486J, Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”), which are currently performed by the Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) and DBEDT, respectively. In addition, this bill would remove provisions concerning the Commission’s ability to examine energy distributors for energy industry information reporting purposes under HRS Chapter 486J.

POSITION:

The Commission strongly supports this measure and would like to offer the following comments for the Committees’ consideration.

COMMENTS:

H.B. No. 811, H.D. 1 will simplify the registration and reporting processes for fuel distributors by providing a “one-stop shop” for businesses to comply with the law. Rather than continuing with a process that leaves open the potential for confusion or duplication, this bill would merge the entire registration and reporting process in HRS Chapter 486J within DBEDT’s established energy industry reporting processes and existing database systems.

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This measure does not eliminate or amend sections of the law that ensure the protection of confidential information received by the Commission from energy distributors in the course of the Commission's previous and current energy reporting functions.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.