

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 13 2013RE: S.B. No. 1143
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
Regular Session of 2013
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Energy and Environment, to which was referred S.B. No. 1143 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Establish the environmental review special fund;
- (2) Establish fees to enhance the activities of the Office of Environmental Quality Control;
- (3) Authorize the Office to expend monies out of the environmental review special fund;
- (4) Support and maintain technology systems for the Office;
- (5) Support outreach, training, education, and research regarding environmental stewardship; and
- (6) Provide for the hiring of adequate staff for the Office.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Environmental Council; Office of Hawaiian Affairs; and Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii and Building Industry Association of Hawaii.



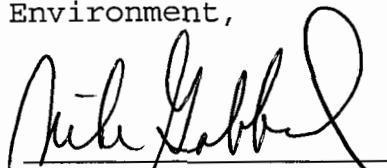
Your Committee finds that general fund appropriations have not kept pace with the expanding workload of the Office of Environmental Quality Control, which has resulted in longer wait times for public and private projects. Operations are further hampered by an outdated information technology infrastructure.

Your Committee further finds that the establishment of fees, rule-making authority, and a special fund will provide a revenue stream that roughly correlates with demand and creates enhanced flexibility to meet evolving needs as sensitivity to environmental impacts grow.

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

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy and Environment that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1143, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1143, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Energy and
Environment,




MIKE GABBARD, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Seventh Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Energy and Environment
ENE

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 1143	Committee Referral: ENE, WAM	Date: 1/31/13		
<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
GABBARD, Mike (C)	X			
RUDERMAN, Russell E. (VC)	X			
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne	X			
IHARA, Jr., Les	X			
SLOM, Sam			X	
TOTAL	4	0	1	0
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes