

# SB 2810

Measure Title: RELATING TO THE ONE CALL CENTER.  
Report Title: One Call Center; Public Utilities Commission  
Description: Allows for more flexible use of the State's One Call Center funding collected from civil penalties by amending section 269E-6(e), Hawaii Revised Statutes.  
Companion: [HB2261](#)  
Package: Governor  
Current Referral: CPN, WAM  
Introducer(s): KIM (Introduced by request of another party).

TESTIMONY OF HERMINA MORITA  
CHAIR, PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
STATE OF HAWAII  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
COMMERCE & CONSUMER PROTECTION

February 4, 2014  
9:00 a.m.

**MEASURE:** S.B. No. 2810  
**TITLE:** Relating to the One Call Center

Chair Baker and Members of the Committee:

**DESCRIPTION:**

This is an Administration measure that proposes to amend Section 269E-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS"), which deals with the One Call Center's use of civil penalties, so as to allow for the discretionary use by the Commission of civil penalties authorized under HRS § 269E-14.

**POSITION:**

The Commission strongly supports this measure and would like to offer the following comments.

**COMMENTS:**

This measure would provide the Commission with greater flexibility in the use of One Call Center-related collections of civil penalties authorized under HRS § 269E-14. Currently, the Commission is limited under HRS § 269E-6(e) to using penalty amounts collected only to "educate the operating and excavating community in Hawaii and to reduce the center's operating costs." This measure would allow the Commission to utilize those amounts in additional ways, which could benefit the One Call Center and the State's excavators beyond the limitations of the current law. In addition, the One Call Center is operated under a fixed-fee contract,<sup>1</sup> so the usage of collected penalties under the current contract structure for operational purposes would involve added administrative burden to track and link expenditures of penalty collection amounts to specific operational costs. Thus, the Commission believes that this measure would simplify the process for expenditure of One Call Center penalty amounts.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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<sup>1</sup>Under a Commission contract that runs through June 30, 2014, the One Call Center is operated by One Call Concepts, Inc. The contract is for a fixed price, and includes planned events to educate the operating and excavating community in Hawaii.



NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
LT. GOVERNOR

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TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2014  
9:00 A.M.

TESTIMONY OF JEFFREY T. ONO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF  
CONSUMER ADVOCACY, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER  
AFFAIRS, TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

SENATE BILL NO. 2810 - RELATING TO THE ONE CALL CENTER

DESCRIPTION:

This measure proposes to allow for more flexible use of the State's One Call Center funding collected from civil penalties by amending section 269E-6(e), Hawaii Revised Statutes.

POSITION:

The Division of Consumer Advocacy supports this measure.

COMMENTS:

The One Call Center provides a valuable service to help utilities, and their ratepayers, as well as the excavating community in Hawaii. This center helps to reduce the possibility of unintended damage to underground facilities, which benefits Hawaii by making excavating safer, reduces costs by mitigating the need for replacement facilities

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Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
Tuesday, February 4, 2014, 9:00 a.m.  
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when unintended damages occur, and improves utility service reliability by reducing the probability of damage to underground facilities.

This proposed measure will grant flexibility and eliminate the possibility of violations related to the contract between the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission and the vendor selected to operate the One Call Center. It is the Consumer Advocate's understanding that any funds collected as One Call penalties will continue to be solely used for One Call purposes, such as education or other worthy activities related to One Call functions, but not limited to only education activities.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.