

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

165

Honolulu, Hawaii

February 12, 2015

RE: H.B. No. 1501

H.D. 1

Honorable Joseph M. Souki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2015  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Labor & Public Employment, to which was referred H.B. No. 1501 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PUBLIC UTILITIES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to increase transparency, increase public participation, and provide the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) with resources to more effectively hold public utilities accountable to the public interest by:

- (1) Providing certain post-employment restrictions on Commission employees and commissioners;
- (2) Requiring public input on a proposed merger or consolidation of public utilities; and
- (3) Requiring the Auditor to conduct a study that compares the salaries of employees at the Commission with employees of comparable positions in the private sector.

Life of the Land and numerous individuals testified in support of this measure. The Public Utilities Commission testified in opposition to this measure. The State Ethics Commission commented on this measure.

HB1501 HD1 HSCR LAB HMS 2015-1787



Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Removing the preamble and the post-employment restrictions on former commissioners and employees of the Public Utilities Commission; and
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2115, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Labor & Public Employment that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1501, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1501, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committees on Consumer Protection & Commerce and Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Labor & Public  
Employment,



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MARK M. NAKASHIMA, Chair



State of Hawaii  
House of Representatives  
The Twenty-eighth Legislature

HSC 165

**Record of Votes of the Committee on Labor & Public Employment**

Bill/Resolution No.: <b>HB 1501</b>	Committee Referral: <b>LAB, CPC/JUD, FIN</b>	Date: <b>2/10/15</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
LAB Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. NAKASHIMA, Mark M. (C)	/			
2. KEOHOKALOLE, Jarrett (VC)	/			
3. AQUINO, Henry J.C.				/
4. HAR, Sharon E.				/
5. ICHIYAMA, Linda	/			
6. JOHANSON, Aaron Ling	/			
7. LOPRESTI, Matthew S.	/			
8. SAN BUENAVENTURA, Joy A.	/			
9. TAKAYAMA, Gregg	/			
10. TAKUMI, Roy M.	/			
11. YAMASHITA, Kyle T.	/			
12. TUPOLA, Andria P.L.	/			
<b>TOTAL (12)</b>	<b>10</b>			<b>2</b>
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____ 				
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