

Honolulu, Hawaii  
February 12, 2016

RE: H.B. No. 1851

Honorable Joseph M. Souki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2016  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, to which was referred H.B. No. 1851 entitled:

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

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to amend the eligibility requirements to serve on the Public Utilities Commission and allow for the limited use of teleconferencing or videoconferencing in Commission meetings.

Specifically, this measure:

- (1) Requires at least one Commissioner to be a resident of a county other than the City and County of Honolulu and requires that Commissioner to receive a per diem compensation; and
- (2) Allows an Oahu Commissioner to use the technology to attend a meeting on a neighbor island and allows a neighbor island Commissioner to use the technology to attend a meeting on Oahu.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from two members of the Hawaii County Council; Young Brothers, Limited; and one concerned individual. Comments on the measure were received from the Public Utilities Commission and the

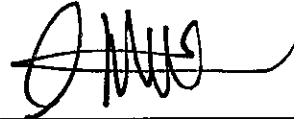


Division of Consumer Advocacy of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

Your Committee finds that decisions of the Public Utilities Commission may have statewide consequences and that the best interests of the State will be served through statewide representation. Your Committee further finds that the use of teleconferencing or videoconferencing will assist the Commission in meeting quorum requirements.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1851 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Consumer  
Protection & Commerce,



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ANGUS L.K. MCKELVEY, Chair



