

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 16 , 2018

RE: S.B. No. 2648
S.D. 2
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2018
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and
Labor & Public Employment, to which was referred S.B. No. 2648,
S.D. 2, entitled:

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

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to make various updates to the
structure and operations of the Public Utilities Commission to
increase efficiency and effectiveness, including:

- (1) Establishing guiding principles for the Commission;
- (2) Establishing docket review and decision-making
processes;
- (3) Permitting teleconference and videoconference abilities;
- (4) Specifying senior staff members who must file public
financial disclosures;
- (5) Beginning January 1, 2019, increasing the number of
Commissioners to five;



- (6) Updating the composition of the Commission;
- (7) Specifying training requirements for Commissioners;
- (8) Clarifying Commissioners' ability to appoint and employ staff;
- (9) Clarifying the roles of the executive officer and chief counsel;
- (10) Permitting neighbor island members to receive per diem compensation and compensation for travel expenses; and
- (11) Requiring the Commission to report to the Legislature regarding certain staff duties.

Ulupono Initiative and one concerned individual testified in support of this measure. The Public Utilities Commission, and one concerned individual testified in opposition to this measure. The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Hawaii State Ethics Commission, Electricity Working Group of the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum, and one concerned individual provided comments on this measure.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language which:
 - (A) Establishes guiding principles for the Commission;
 - (B) Establishes docket review and decision-making processes;
 - (C) Permits teleconference and videoconference abilities;
 - (D) Specifies which senior staff members must file public financial disclosures;
 - (E) Increases the number of Commissioners from three to five and updates the composition of the Commission;
 - (F) Specifies training requirements for Commissioners;



- (G) Clarifies the roles of the executive officer and chief counsel; and
- (H) Requires the Commission to report to the Legislature regarding certain staff duties; and
- (2) Establishing and appropriating funds for a task force to examine the operations of the Public Utilities Commission and report to the Legislature before the 2019 Regular Session; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Energy & Environmental Protection and Labor & Public Employment that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2648, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2648, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Energy &
Environmental Protection and
Labor & Public Employment,


AARON LING JOHANSON, Chair


CHRIS LEE, Chair



HCOR 1193-18

State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-ninth Legislature

Record of Votes of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

Bill/Resolution No.: SB 2648, SD2	Committee Referral: EEP/LAB, CPC, FIN	Date: 3-15-18		
<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)				
EEP Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. LEE, Chris (C)	/			
2. LOWEN, Nicole E. (VC)	/			
3. CULLEN, Ty J.K.	/			
4. KONG, Sam Satoru		/		
5. McKELVEY, Angus L.K.				/
6. TODD, Chris	/			
7. YAMANE, Ryan I.	/			
8. MCDERMOTT, Bob				/
TOTAL (8)	5	1		2
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: <u>Nicole E. Lowen</u>				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				

