

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 21 2019

RE: H.B. No. 560
H.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2019
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Higher Education, to which was referred
H.B. No. 560, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ENERGY TRAINING,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require and
appropriate funds for the University of Hawaii community colleges
to:

- (1) Establish energy systems and technology training courses
for county officers and employees responsible for
permitting, inspecting, licensing, and approving
construction projects;
- (2) Establish an advisory committee of industry stakeholders
for assistance with the training; and
- (3) Submit a report to the Legislature.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the University of Hawai'i System; Department of Business,
Economic Development, and Tourism; State Fire Council; Kaua'i Fire
Department; Maui Fire Department; Ulupono Initiative; Blue Planet
Foundation; 350.org; 350Hawaii.org; Hawai'i Energy; and six
individuals.



Your Committee finds that the State's ambitious clean energy goals, along with advances in energy technology, have created incentives for the adoption of new energy systems technologies and equipment. The increase in the adoption of new energy systems technologies and equipment has placed additional burdens on some county officers and employees who are responsible for permitting, inspecting, licensing, and approving projects, including officers and employees at county public works departments, planning and permitting departments, and fire departments. This measure ensures that these county officers and employees are properly trained and remain informed about new technology in the energy sector.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Higher Education that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 560, H.D. 1, and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Higher Education,



DONNA MERCADO KIM, Chair



