



**Hawaiian
Electric**

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH**

H.B. 2454, HD1

Relating to Critical Electrical Infrastructure

Wednesday, March 11, 2020
9:30 a.m., Agenda Item #5
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Cary Okimoto
Security Supervisor
Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.

Dear Chair Baker, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Cary Okimoto and I am testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. (Hawaiian Electric) in **support of H.B. 2454, HD1** Relating to Critical Electrical Infrastructure. The purpose for this bill is to protect the public and electric utility employees from the serious dangers associated with compromised electrical infrastructure and to ensure the resilience of the electric grid that residents, businesses and others rely on for the delivery of safe, clean and reliable electricity.

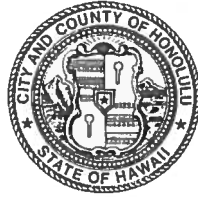
Under the current law, existing trespass laws do not provide a proportionate level of protection for such a critical and essential resource. Currently, if an individual is convicted of Criminal Trespass in the First Degree (708-813), he or she may receive up to a year in jail and/or pay a fine of up to \$1,000, which is not enough of a deterrent. Hawaiian Electric's secured facilities, many of which are high-voltage and dangerous environments, are compromised on a regular basis, and while we have implemented tools to deter such activity, including but not limited to, securing our facilities with fencing and installing cameras and signage, these tools are not sufficient in deterring

trespassing of our critical facilities. Hawaiian Electric believes with increased penalties – it would be a stronger deterrent to those who unlawfully access Hawaiian Electric properties and intentionally or knowingly commit acts of vandalism or theft in pursuit of personal gain or benefit. The impact and duration of a major electrical outage caused by those individuals could last for days or even months. The outages caused by trespassers result in immeasurable costs to our State’s residents, businesses and military partners.

Accordingly, Hawaiian Electric strongly supports H.B. 2454, HD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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SUSAN BALLARD
CHIEF

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CLYDE K. HO
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OUR REFERENCE GB-KK

March 11, 2020

LATE

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
and Members
Committee on Commerce, Consumer
Protection, and Health
State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Baker and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 2454, H.D. 1, Relating to Critical Electrical Infrastructure

I am Gail Beckley, Captain of the Criminal Investigation Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports House Bill No. 2454, H.D. 1, Relating to Critical Electrical Infrastructure.

Attacks on critical infrastructure, specifically electrical infrastructure, could be used to cause widespread panic and create economic distress. The infrastructure risk associated with criminal threats include vandalism, copper theft, and unauthorized access into the facility. The government's primary responsibilities are to ensure the health, safety, and security of its citizen; thus having a vested interest in protecting these facilities. This bill will emphasize the importance in protecting our electrical power plants and deter criminal activity by making trespassing on these facilities a felony.

The HPD urges you to support House Bill No. 2454, H.D. 1, Relating to Critical Electrical Infrastructure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Susan Ballard in black ink.

Susan Ballard
Chief of Police

Handwritten signature of Gail Beckley in black ink.

Gail Beckley, Captain
Criminal Investigation Division