

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1469

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 25 , 2021

RE: S.B. No. 304  
S.D. 2  
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-First State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2021  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, to which  
was referred S.B. No. 304, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CARBON OFFSETS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to establish procedures for  
the Department of Transportation to assist and enable a person to  
voluntarily purchase a verified carbon offset for carbon dioxide  
emissions resulting from the person's air travel to or from an  
airport in the State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Blue Planet Foundation. Your Committee received  
testimony in opposition to this measure from the Climate  
Protectors Hawaii, 350Hawaii.org, Environmental Caucus of the  
Democratic Party of Hawaii, and one individual. Your Committee  
received comments on this measure from the Department of  
Transportation and Office of Planning.

Your Committee finds that there are many contributors to  
climate change, of which transportation-generated greenhouse gas  
emissions is a significant contributor. Within the transportation  
sector, the air transportation component faces particularly  
difficult technical challenges in reducing carbon dioxide

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emissions associated with air travel. This measure supports the State in achieving its zero emissions clean economy target by establishing the voluntary purchase of verified carbon offsets by persons engaging in qualified air travel to or from an airport in the State.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to January 1, 2051, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

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 S.B. No. 304, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 304, S.D. 2, H.D. 1.

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



AARON LING JOHANSON, Chair



