

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 16, 2024

RE: H.B. No. 1997
H.D. 1

Honorable Scott K. Saiki
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Second State Legislature
Regular Session of 2024
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, to which was referred H.B. No. 1997, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE INTERISLAND TRANSPORT OF HYDROGEN,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to authorize the Public Utilities Commission to establish a discounted rate by tariff for water carriers that engage in the interisland transport of renewable hydrogen.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Center for Advanced Transportation Technologies and one individual. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from 350Hawaii.org. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs; Hawaii State Energy Office; Hawai'i Gas; and Young Brothers, LLC.

Your Committee finds that hydrogen can be produced from diverse domestic resources with the potential for near-zero greenhouse gas emissions. Your Committee further finds that in order for the State to develop a hydrogen industry, interisland shipping capabilities must be promoted and encouraged to transport hydrogen on an economically viable scale. Because sea



transportation of hydrogen is the only viable option for the State, to capitalize and utilize the transportation infrastructure in use by countries such as Japan and Australia, a reduction in the cost for hydrogen transportation would be beneficial. This measure assists the State in moving toward more renewable energy sources and further away from being reliant on fossil fuels.

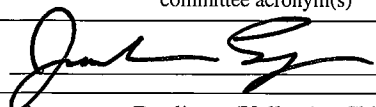
As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1997, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance.

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



MARK M. NAKASHIMA, Chair

Record of Votes of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

Bill/Resolution No.: HB1997 HD1	Committee Referral: TRN, CPC, FIN	Date: 02-13-24		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input 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)				
CPC Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. NAKASHIMA, Mark M. (C)	/			
2. SAYAMA, Jackson D. (VC)	/			
3. AMATO, Terez	/			
4. BELATTI, Della Au	/			
5. HASHEM, Mark J.	/			
6. HUSSEY-BURDICK, Natalia		/		
7. GATES, Cedric Asuega				/
8. LOWEN, Nicole E.				/
9. ONISHI, Richard H.K.	/			
10. TAM, Adrian K.	/			
11. PIERICK, Elijah				/
TOTAL (11)	7	1		3
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <small>committee acronym(s)</small>				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: 				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				