

A Bill for an Act Relating to the Public Utilities Commission.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. (a) The state auditor shall conduct a management audit to evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of the public utilities commission and aid in the commission's transition to a better functioning entity. The management audit shall include but not be limited to:

- (1) Appropriateness and applicability of current utility legislation;
- (2) Adequacy of coverage of current public utilities commission policies, rules, and procedures, including the commission's current strategic plan;
- (3) Management of the public utilities commission in terms of:
 - (A) Providing technical and analytical staff support in case management and enforcement of the public utilities commission's rules; and
 - (B) The ability of individual commissioners to request or select the services of a staff attorney, researcher, or clerical or support staff to assist the requesting commissioner with that commissioner's duties; and
- (4) The effectiveness of the public utilities commission in dealing with telecommunications, energy, and other utility issues.

(b) The auditor may also review public utilities commissions in other jurisdictions to determine any generally considered best practices for a public utilities commission, including any emphasis on efficiency in operations or collaborations amongst members and any examples of other commissions that require more diverse backgrounds amongst commissioners or any commissions that have the ability to consider more than one docket at a time.

(c) The auditor shall submit a report to the legislature of findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2018.

SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

(Approved July 11, 2017.)