

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

501

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 03 2011

RE: S.B. No. 1347
S.D. 1

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui
President of the Senate
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2011
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, to which was referred S.B. No. 1347 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to allow public utilities to submit rate filings electronically to the Public Utilities Commission.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Division of Consumer Advocacy of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs and Hawaiian Telcom. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Public Utilities Commission of the Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that accepting electronic documents will allow the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) to function more efficiently, particularly in posting information on the Commission's website. Your Committee further finds that this measure will increase transparency in the Commission's functions by reducing delays between the Commission's receipt of documents and updates to its website to reflect the current status of the Commission's actions. Your Committee also finds that the actions of the Public Utilities Commission impact the public interest, not only in rate filings, but also in decisions on applications and other matters. Therefore, your Committee finds that it is



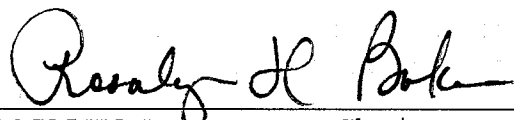
appropriate to allow for the electronic submission of all filings and applications to the Commission.

Accordingly, your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting the provision authorizing electronic rate filing; and
- (2) Adding three new provisions that:
 - (A) Require the Commission to accept electronically submitted documents for all filings and applications under chapters 269, 271, and 271G, Hawaii Revised Statutes;
 - (B) Authorize the Commission to charge an electronic document surcharge for each electronic submission;
 - (C) Direct the Commission to accept electronic documents through at least one identified means no later than January 1, 2012, notwithstanding generally applicable rule-making requirements; and
 - (D) Direct the Commission to adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 governing the submission of electronic documents.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1347, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1347, S.D. 1, and be placed on the calendar for Third Reading.

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



ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Sixth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
CPN

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">SB 1347</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">CPN</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">2/24/2011</div>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (C)	✓			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T. (VC)	✓			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood				✓
GREEN, M.D., Josh	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	✓			
SOLOMON, Malama	✓			
SLOM, Sam				✓
TOTAL	5	0	0	2
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes