

STAND. COM. REP. NO. **3395**

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 04 2018

RE: S.C.R. No. 26

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2018
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,
to which was referred S.C.R. No. 26 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE FEDERAL
COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION TO ESTABLISH REGULATIONS TO REQUIRE
ALL CELLULAR PHONES TO RECEIVE EMERGENCY ALERTS WITHOUT AN
OPTION TO OPT OUT OF RECEIVING EMERGENCY ALERT MESSAGES AND
WITHOUT ANY ADDED COSTS TO SERVICE PLANS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the
Federal Communications Commission to establish regulations to
require all cellular phones to receive wireless emergency alerts
without an option to opt out of receiving emergency alert messages
and without any added costs to service plans.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the O'ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the
Democratic Party of Hawai'i.

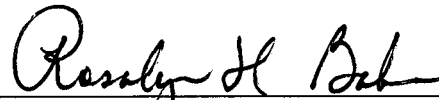
Your Committee finds that a reliable and timely communication
system must be in place for disseminating information to the
public about matters of national and local concern, including
natural disasters, severe weather, and other local civic
emergencies. The events of January 13, 2018, where the Hawaii
Emergency Management Agency erroneously dispatched an incoming
ballistic missile warning alert to citizens and visitors across
the State, revealed a critical flaw in the emergency warning



system. Although the warning sent that day was a mistake, some citizens and visitors received neither the warning nor the subsequent false alarm message on their cellular phones. This occurred because cellular phone owners are able to opt out of receiving certain wireless emergency alerts. Your Committee finds that allowing cellular phone owners the capability to opt out of these critical warnings creates a dangerous and unnecessary risk for the public. This measure therefore requests that the Federal Communications Commission establish regulations to require all cellular phones to receive wireless emergency alerts without an option to opt out of receiving these emergency alert messages and without any added costs to service plans.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 26 and recommends its adoption.

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




ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Ninth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
CPH

Bill / Resolution No.:* <i>SUR 26</i>	Committee Referral: <i>PSM/ETT, CPH</i>	Date: <i>3/28/18</i>		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input 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)	/			
TOKUDA, Jill N. (VC)	/			
CHANG, Stanley	/			
ESPERO, Will	/			
IHARA, Jr., Les				/
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.				/
RUDERMAN, Russell E.				/
TOTAL	4			3
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