

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

2304

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 14 2018

RE: S.B. No. 2297

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

Sir:

Your Committees on Labor and Transportation and Energy, to which was referred S.B. No. 2297 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to extend the sunset date of Act 65, Session Laws of Hawaii 2013 (Act 65), which provides a limited exemption to the licensing requirements for certain individuals in situations when an electric utility must retain qualified individuals to work with high voltage (six hundred volts or higher) who are not licensed in the State but are otherwise deemed qualified by the electric utility.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency; Board of Electricians and Plumbers; Chamber of Commerce Hawaii; Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.; and Land Use Research Foundation.

Your Committees find that most in-state electrical workers are experienced in only low voltage work, which includes wiring buildings at one hundred twenty/two hundred forty volts; therefore, in the event of a catastrophic occurrence requiring electrical workers who possess the level of skill required for high voltage work, Hawaii must import workers from the mainland since there are not enough electricians, splicers, and linemen in the State who are experienced and qualified to work with high voltage and who could respond in the event of a catastrophic




occurrence or complex maintenance work affecting an electric utility. Your Committees further find that Act 65 provides a limited exemption to the licensing requirements for certain individuals in situations when an electric utility must retain qualified individuals to work with high voltage (six hundred volts or higher) who are not licensed in the State but are otherwise deemed qualified by the electric utility; however, Act 65 sunsets on June 30, 2018. This measure extends the sunset date of Act 65 for five years, to June 30, 2023.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Labor and Transportation and Energy that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2297 and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Labor and  
Transportation and Energy,

  
LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair

  
JILL N. TOKUDA, Chair



The Senate  
 Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Labor**  
**LBR**

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:
SB 2297	LBR/TRE, CPH	2/9/18

The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.  
 If so, then the previous decision was to: \_\_\_\_\_

The Recommendation is:

Pass, unamended 2312   
 Pass, with amendments 2311   
 Hold 2310   
 Recommit 2313

Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
TOKUDA, Jill N. (C)	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani (VC)	✓			
CHANG, Stanley	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les	✓			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>			

Recommendation:     Adopted     Not Adopted

Chair's or Designee's Signature: *J. Kalani English*

**Distribution:**    Original    Yellow    Pink    Goldenrod  
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\*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate  
 Twenty-Ninth Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Transportation and Energy**  
**TRE**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 2297</b>	Committee Referral: <b>LBR/TRE, CPH</b>	Date: <b>2/9/2018</b>		
<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
INOUYE, Lorraine R. (C)	✓			
ESPERO, Will (VC)	✓			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani	✓			
HARIMOTO, Breene	✓			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	✓			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5</b>			
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="text-align: center; font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">Will Espo</div>				
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