

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2153

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 11 2014

RE: S.B. No. 2948

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
Regular Session of 2014
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection, to which was referred S.B. No. 2948 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 clarify the Public Utilities Commission's authority concerning standard administrative practices, including operational expenditures and the hiring of personnel.

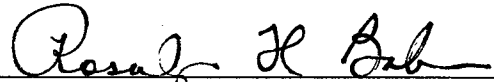
Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Division of Consumer Advocacy of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Public Utilities Commission, Hawaii Energy Policy Forum, Hawaii Renewable Energy Alliance, Life of the Land, and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the Public Utilities Commission is undergoing a major transition due to increased work complexity and program responsibilities, particularly in the area of energy regulation. A streamlined administrative process that clearly defines the authority of the Commission's Chairperson to make decisions on hiring and operational expenditures is therefore necessary. Your Committee further finds that this measure will help avoid future ambiguity regarding the Commission's autonomy and ability to hire appropriate personnel and make necessary expenditures, thereby enabling the Commission to carry out its various regulatory responsibilities within a legislatively approved budget.



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. 2948 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

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



ROSALYN H. BAKER, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Seventh Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
CPN

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:	Date:		
SB2948	CPN, WAM	2/6/14		
<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)	✓			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T. (VC)	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.				✓
WAKAI, Glenn	✓			
SLOM, Sam				✓
TOTAL	3	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