

## BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET  
HONOLULU, HI 96843  
www.boardofwatersupply.com



September 21, 2022

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Manager and Chief Engineer

ELLEN E. KITAMURA, P.E.  
Deputy Manager and Chief Engineer

The Honorable Calvin K. Y. Say, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Budget  
Honolulu City Council  
530 South King Street, Room 202  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Say and Members:

SUBJECT: City Council Bill No. 45 (2021), Proposed CD1: Relating to Incentives for Businesses

The Board of Water Supply (BWS) understands the intent of City Council Bill No. 45, proposed CD1, relating to incentives for businesses.

The BWS is a semi-autonomous City department that is responsible for Oahu's critically important municipal (i.e., City-owned) drinking water supply systems island-wide. It is governed by a 7-member Board that is appointed by the Mayor and affirmed by the City Council. It was established to be financially self-sustaining depending primarily on revenue from water rates and charges, and not dependent on tax revenue. The single-focused Board has the authority to conduct long-range planning, approve the operating and capital improvement project (CIP) budgets, set policies for the department and to adopt water rates and charges without the City Council's approval.

The BWS Board Directors passed Resolution No. 889, 2018, Adopting Revisions to the Schedule of Rates and Charges for the Furnishing of Water and Water Service for Fiscal Years 2019 – 2023, effective September 10, 2018 through June 30, 2023. The Board recognizes the importance of affordable water to meet essential household needs and allowed for waiver(s) of the water system facilities charge and new meter cost for qualified affordable and homeless dwelling units, up to 500 dwelling units per year.

For clarification purposes, the BWS suggests amending the language in Section 35-1.4 of Bill 45, proposed CD1, as follows:

**"Sec. 35-1.4 Incentives for qualified businesses.**

The city, excluding the Board of Water Supply, shall provide the following incentives to qualified businesses:

DEPT. COM. 677  
BUD

SEP 21 PM 3:33 CITY CLERK

The Honorable Calvin K. Y. Say, Chair  
and Members  
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Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ernest Y.W. Lau', is written over a horizontal blue line.

ERNEST Y.W. LAU, P.E.  
Manager and Chief Engineer