

to encourage HECO to encourage the development of renewable energy alternatives to its currently oil-based generation ("[HECO rate increase gets final OK](#)," Star-Advertiser, Dec. 31).

The PUC will need to be very vigilant to ensure that resultant guaranteed income received by HECO is indeed applied in an appropriate manner to the development of renewable energy.

Thomas Mun
Aiea

Filibuster reform could promote better legislation

Tomorrow, the U.S. Senate has an opportunity to make critical changes to its rules regarding filibusters.

While many people associate the filibuster with the movie "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington," today's reality is extremely different. The unprecedented use of the filibuster and holds, often done in secret and out of the view of the American people, does a disservice to our democracy.

Until 1970, the Senate averaged approximately one filibuster per year, but in the past two sessions, this tactic was used roughly 70 times per year. The filibuster has become a weapon for partisan fights and obstruction on critical legislative issues.

Filibuster reform has the potential to promote better legislation, less partisan gridlock and greater transparency and accountability.

Political observers, major editorial boards and citizen advocates around the country are calling for reform now.

Our Hawaii senators, Daniel Akaka and Daniel K. Inouye, should support this effort to make Washington more effective for all of us.

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