



# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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Testimony of  
**SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer**

before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Tuesday, February 1, 2022  
9:00 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

In SUPPORT of  
**HB 1801**  
**RELATING TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY.**

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) supports HB 1801, which requires and establishes deadlines for state facilities, except for smaller facilities, to implement cost-effective energy efficiency measures. In addition, HB 1801 directs HSEO to collect utility bill and energy usage data for state-owned buildings and to make the data publicly available. HB 1801 also establishes a goal of achieving at least a twenty-five percent reduction by 2025 in electricity consumption of state facilities; provides that agencies that perform energy efficiency retrofitting may receive appropriations for such measures; and beginning 7/1/2023, requires, where feasible and cost-effective, the design of all new state building construction to maximize energy and water efficiency, maximize energy generation potential, and use building materials that reduce the carbon footprint of the project.

HSEO's comments are guided by its mission to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation to help achieve a resilient, clean energy, decarbonized economy.

HSEO supports HB 1801 to maximize the near-term savings and long-term energy performance of state buildings. The objectives of energy efficiency, cost control, lower energy bills, and leading by example outlined in HB 1801 are consistent with the

Chief Energy Officer's duties to "provide technical assistance to state and county agencies to assess and implement projects and programs related to energy conservation and efficiency, renewable energy, clean transportation, energy resiliency, and related measures."

HSEO agrees that energy efficiency is the most cost-effective way to reduce energy usage and has worked over the years with state agencies in Hawai'i that are currently participating or have participated in facility benchmarking, energy audits, and energy savings performance contracts. HSEO has observed that there are always more, and sometimes new, energy savings and bill reduction opportunities.

HSEO also agrees that designing new state buildings to maximize energy and water efficiency, identifying energy generation potential, and using building materials that reduce the carbon footprint, where feasible and cost-effective, are in alignment with the State's clean energy and decarbonization goals.

HSEO is working closely with Hawai'i Energy and state agencies in a project on energy efficiency for state buildings to assess and promote opportunities to reach a target goal of 25 percent by 2025 reduction, from a 2005 baseline year. HSEO has consistently been measuring facility electricity reduction using 2005 as the baseline year. Also, the use of 2005 as the baseline year is consistent with the United States' baseline year for its commitment pursuant to the Paris Agreement, which Hawai'i committed to support and to "be aligned with" in Part I of [Act 32 of 2017](#).

HSEO's analysis shows that since 2005, state agencies' total electricity consumption has declined by 20 percent. HSEO believes that with legislative and administrative support that amount could become 25 percent by 2025.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.