



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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Testimony of
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before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

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10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

**SUPPORT
SB 3195, SD1
RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS.**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) supports SB 3195, SD1, which appropriates moneys to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) for the investigation, exploration, and identification of geothermal resources on Hawaiian home lands.

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 believes geothermal energy can play a significant role in achieving 100% renewable energy generation statewide and supports incentives for its development. HSEO supports the exploration of geothermal resources on DHHL lands as geothermal can provide long-term revenues and resources to DHHL. Geothermal investigation, exploration, and identification requires upfront capital and can be costly to confirm the viability of a geothermal resource for energy and hydrogen production. Support for geothermal resource exploration can help attract private capital for potential development. Certain exploratory activities can also indicate the existence of geothermal for other uses such as direct use of steam from the ground. Data and knowledge gained from exploration can also inform the on-site potential of other resources such as groundwater and soil composition.

HSEO defers to the appropriate agencies for comment on the fiscal, administrative, and regulatory impacts of this proposal.

HSEO supports this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.