



# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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

before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

Tuesday, March 22, 2022  
9:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 211 and Videoconference

COMMENTS  
**HB 1600, HD1**  
**RELATING TO THE STATE BUDGET.**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) supports the intent and offers comments on HB 1600, HD1, which adjusts and requests appropriations for fiscal biennium 2021-2023 funding requirements for operations and capital improvement projects of Executive Branch agencies and programs.

HB 1600 HD1 includes budget adjustments for the Hawai'i State Energy Office – BED120 to restore and strengthen HSEO's capacity to carry out its mission of promoting energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation to help achieve a resilient, clean energy, decarbonized economy. HSEO supports the adjustments, except for the following:

1. **Adjustment: SEQ# 103-001 ADD FUNDS FOR HAWAI'I STATE ENERGY OFFICE** (/\$2,500,000B).

**Impact Statement:** The House FIN does not concur with additional funds for program expenses, specifically, an expenditure ceiling for the Energy Security Special Fund to provide funds to leverage federal grant funding. Without an adequate ESSF ceiling for cost match and/or working capital for federal grant applications, HSEO's ability to pursue federal funding opportunities will be limited

and it may need to forego competing for the federal funds under the Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act, a once-in-a-generation investment in our nation's infrastructure and competitiveness and the largest stimulus appropriations in US history.

**Alternative Reduction:** HSEO requests the funding be restored as originally submitted in the Governor's request. Alternatively, general funds could be added instead of special funds.

2. **Adjustment: SEQ # 108-001** ADD FUNDS FOR HAWAI'I STATE ENERGY OFFICE (/\$31,500A).

**Impact Statement:** The House FIN concurs with additional funds for international outreach and engagement. However, the House states that funding for FY23 is non-recurring. A one-year non-recurring appropriation for international engagement limits the ability to plan and make commitments for events in out-years.

**Alternative Reduction:** None. HSEO requests the funding be identified as recurring as originally submitted in the Governor's request.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.