



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SCOTT J. GLENN
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

235 South Beretania Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone:
Web:

(808) 587-3807
energy.hawaii.gov

Testimony of
SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Wednesday, March 2, 2022
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308 & Videoconference

**COMMENTS
HB 2256 HD1
RELATING TO A DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION.**

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) offers comments on HB 2256, HD1 which establishes a department of environmental protection by July 1, 2026; creates a department of environmental protection working group to address the logistics required for the State to establish a department of environmental protection; and requires the working group to submit a report to the legislature prior to the 2025 regular session; and names the Chief Energy Officer or the Chief Energy Officer's designee as a participant in the working group.

HSEO offers comments concerning the bill's potential to replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget.

If this bill moves forward, HSEO is willing to participate in such a working group. HSEO appreciates the addition in HB2256, HD1 of the Comptroller and the Directors of the Department of Human Resources Development and Finance or their designees in the Department of Environmental Protection Working Group. HSEO recommends the addition of the Department of Accounting and General Services, and the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism for its environmental protection responsibilities.

HSEO defers to the appropriate agency concerning the implementation of the bill's requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.