



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, March 22, 2022
9:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

**SUPPORT
SB 2963, SD2
RELATING TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY.**

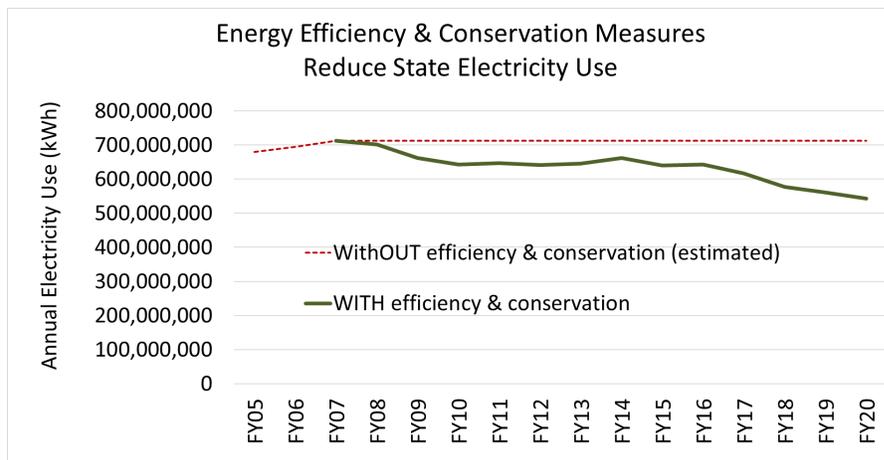
Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports SB 2963, SD2, which establishes deadlines for all state facilities, except smaller facilities and facilities within the stadium development district, to implement cost-effective energy efficiency measures; allows the Department of Accounting and General Services to opt out of the cost-effective energy efficiency measures if a facility will be demolished within five years; directs HSEO, in consultation with the Research and Economic Analysis Division of the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, to collect electricity, energy, and water usage data for state-owned buildings and to make the data publicly available; establishes a goal of achieving at least a twenty-five percent reduction in the electricity consumption of state facilities; provides that agencies that perform energy efficiency retrofitting may continue to receive appropriations for energy expenditures; 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. SB 2963, SD2, also appropriates an unspecified amount of funds for an unspecified amount of full-time equivalent positions at HSEO for the collection and publication of water utility bill and water usage data for state-owned buildings.

The objectives of energy efficiency, cost control, lower energy, and water bills, and leading by example outlined in SB 2963, SD2, are consistent with HSEO’s mission in accordance with Section 196-71(a), Hawai'i Revised Statutes. It is also 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.”

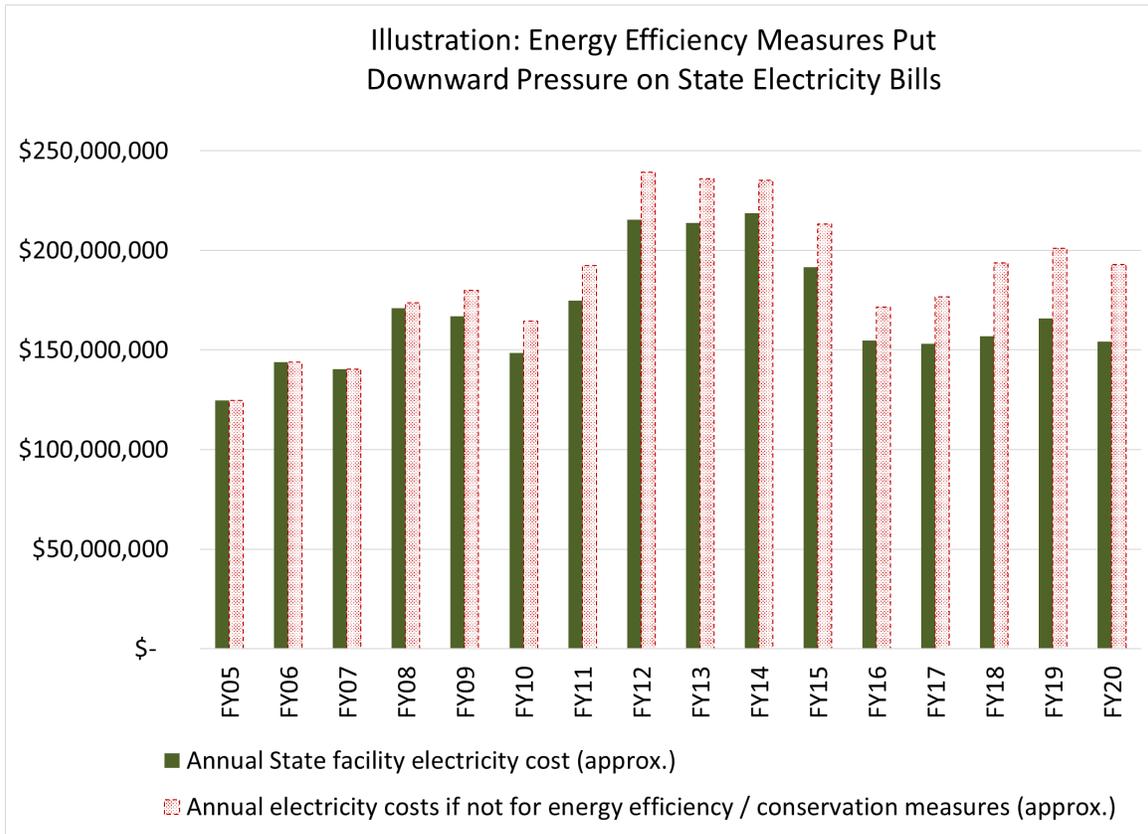
HSEO agrees that energy efficiency is the most cost-effective way to reduce energy usage. HSEO has worked over the years and continues to work with a number of state agencies in Hawai'i that have participated, or are currently participating in, facility benchmarking, energy audits, and energy savings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

HSEO is working closely with Hawai'i Energy and state agencies to assess these opportunities to reach a target goal of 25% reduction by 2025 from a 2005 baseline year. HSEO has consistently been measuring facility electricity reduction using 2005 as the baseline year, which is consistent with the United States’ baseline year in its Nationally Determined Contribution for the Paris Agreement, that Hawai'i committed to support and to “be aligned with” in Part I of [Act 32 of 2017](#).

HSEO’s analysis shows since 2005, state agencies’ total electricity consumption has declined by 20 percent. HSEO believes with Legislative and Administrative support, that amount can increase to 25 percent by 2025.



Although State electricity bills rise and fall when electricity rates increase or decrease, the electricity savings shown in the graph above create downward pressure on State electricity bills. This is shown in the graph below.



HSEO notes the Research & Economic Analysis Division (READ) of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) already collects all electric utility data for state-owned facilities, and the Hawai'i State Energy Office helps coordinate and reports on that data annually. This can also be arranged for state-owned facilities' water usage data. The budget appropriation as proposed in HB 1600 HD1 will help HSEO fulfill this additional task.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.