

HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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Testimony of SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer

before the SENATE Committee on ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

> Monday, January 31, 2022 3:00 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

in SUPPORT of SB 3057 RELATING TO RENEWABLE PORTFOLIO STANDARDS.

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Misalucha, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) strongly supports SB 3057, an Administration bill, which amends the definition of renewable portfolio standard to be a percentage of electrical energy generation, rather than sales.

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.

It is important that we make this change now. As noted in the bill, it would be possible to reach the "100 per cent renewable portfolio standard" (with the current definition, based on sales) with only 79 per cent of Hawai'i's electricity produced from renewable sources and the other 21 per cent still generated from fossil fuel.

When the original version of the renewable portfolio standards law was enacted, over twenty years ago, there were several competing objectives that led to the bill language as it exists today, in which a formula is used to calculate the renewable energy percentage.

The current calculation does not accurately capture the amount of renewable energy on the system, and allows for greater use of fossil fuels. Therefore, it is now time to adjust the RPS calculation to reduce the amount of fossil fuel that will be used to generate electricity in Hawai'i.

I thank the Committee for hearing the bill and for the opportunity to testify, and I encourage your approval of this measure.