



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, February 1, 2022
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In CONSIDERATION of
HB 1595
RELATING TO ENERGY.

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) offers comments on HB 1595, which authorizes independent generators of renewable energy to wheel the renewable electricity they produce to users of renewable energy under administrative rules established by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC).

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 agrees that wheeling – including scope, definitions, and what would constitute, as described on page 2, lines 3-4, “fairly compensating the third-party utility for utilizing its existing infrastructure” would be a valid topic for a structured discussion, and would share many of the pricing, location, interconnection, and time of production issues currently undergoing discussion in proceedings such as the microgrid, distributed energy resource, and performance-based regulation dockets.

HSEO recommends allowing the current proceedings to be completed, as the results of several current proceedings will provide information relevant to many of the questions that would need to be addressed in a wheeling docket.

HSEO also recommends allowing the PUC to administer the requirements either by rules or by order. It may be preferable to continue to allow the administrative rules system to focus on how parties interact with the PUC during proceedings in front of that body, and to continue to allow the docket process to focus on discussions and decisions of how both public and private parties interact with the utilities.

HSEO defers to the appropriate agency for comment on this matter.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.