



# 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 ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

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

in SUPPORT of  
**HB 1800**  
**RELATING TO CLIMATE MITIGATION.**

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports with comments HB 1800, which establishes a goal for the statewide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions limit to be at least seventy per cent below 2005 levels by 2030; requires the HSEO to conduct a study to determine Hawai'i's pathway to decarbonization and identify challenges, opportunities, and actions that will be needed to achieve those goals; and appropriates funds out of the Energy Security Special Fund (ESSF) for the study.

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 supports Part III of the bill to have the HSEO analyze pathways and develop recommendations for achieving the State's economy-wide decarbonization goals, including the proposed 2030 limit and the zero emissions clean economy target set forth in Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) § 225P-5. HSEO notes that the submittal date of the analysis and recommendations to be no later than twenty days before the 2023 Legislature. This means that, should the bill and budget be enacted, HSEO would have at most five months to receive the authorized funds, conduct the necessary analyses and stakeholder coordination, contract for any services needed, and prepare

and submit the findings. For these reasons, HSEO requests the Committee consider a submittal date before the 2024 Legislature.

HSEO appreciates setting an economy-wide GHG limit to ensure progress toward decarbonizing the economy. Setting an achievable goal and identifying the means to reach it would come from a decarbonization plan as proposed in Part III of the bill. A decarbonization plan would provide a comprehensive approach to tackling this complex problem. Setting a target such as 70% below 2005 levels by 2030 would build on the success of Act 234, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 2007, and provide a near-term marker for achieving the zero emissions clean economy target. HSEO recommends the Committee consider inserting the 70% by 2030 target in HRS Chapter 225 rather than HRS Chapter 342B and consider re-assessing the target following completion of the decarbonization study. Also, by placing the target in HRS Chapter 225P, this involves the State Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission.

HSEO defers to the appropriate agencies for comment on matters specific to them. HSEO notes that the Department of Health's Greenhouse Gas Inventory has been a critical tool for decarbonizing the economy and appreciates the Department's continual improvement of it.

HSEO supports this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.