

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 and ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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

in CONSIDERATION of HB 1808 RELATING TO GEOTHERMAL ROYALTIES.

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) offers comments on HB 1808, which increases the percentage of royalties received by the State from geothermal resources that are to be paid to the county in which the geothermal resources are located, requires the royalties paid to a county to be used for further geothermal resources discovery and development, and requires the county to submit an annual report to the Legislature.

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 believes geothermal energy can play a significant role in achieving 100% renewable energy generation statewide and supports incentives for its development. Royalties from geothermal development play an important role in its regulation and the administration of state and county programs related to geothermal.

HSEO defers to the appropriate agencies for comment on the fiscal, administrative, and regulatory impacts of this proposal.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.