Testimony of
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before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Thursday, February 24, 2022
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

SUPPORT
SB 2768, SD1
RELATING TO THE HAWAII YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS.

Chair Dela Cruz, and Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai‘i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports SB 2768, SD1, which authorizes the Governor to designate the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to administer or enter into an agreement for the administration of a green jobs youth corps to provide temporary work and training opportunities in the fields of natural resource management, agriculture, or other sustainability related professions to young adults ages thirty-eight and younger; requires the department to partner with an organization that has received accreditation from the Corps Center of Excellence Accreditation Program or has at least ten years of experience providing similar programming statewide in the State; and appropriates funds.

HSEO believes that DLNR is well-suited to oversee the corps, provide training and job experience for the workforce of the future, in the areas noted above. This program will help advance Hawaii’s clean energy and decarbonization goals, expand the green workforce, and launch a new generation of clean energy leaders. HSEO is in support of this and other green workforce development efforts, as we work together toward achieving 100% clean energy by or before 2045.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.