Hawaii State Energy Office
State of Hawaii

Testimony of
Scott J. Glenn, Chief Energy Officer

before the
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

Thursday, March 24, 2022
Time 10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

Comments
HCR 55
Requesting the Legislative Reference Bureau to Update a Study on the Feasibility of Undergrounding the State's Utility Facilities.

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) offers comments on HCR 55, which requests the Legislative Reference Bureau (LRB) to update a study on the feasibility of undergrounding the state's utility facilities.

HSEO requests consideration to be a consulted member of the LRB study. Per §196-71, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the statutory purpose of the HSEO shall be to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation to help achieve a resilient clean energy economy. As part of that responsibility, the HSEO provides analysis and planning to actively develop and inform policies to achieve energy efficiency, renewable energy, energy resiliency, and clean transportation goals with the legislature, public utilities commission, state agencies, and other relevant stakeholders. The HSEO also serves as the primary and coordinating agency for State Emergency Support Function 12, Energy, maintaining situational awareness through coordination between local, state, federal, and energy industry partners. HSEO has responsibilities for resiliency and energy security in both the planning and response functions and is ready to support an update to the study on the feasibility of undergrounding the state's utility facilities.

HSEO defers to relevant agencies on the administrative and fiscal impacts of the resolution.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.