



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 & 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 Hawai'i 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, Hawai'i 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.