

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 & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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

COMMENTS HCR 61 / HR 55

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING AND PERMITTING OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, MAYOR OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, AND THE HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL TO ENSURE GREATER PUBLIC INPUT PRIOR TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF WIND MACHINES HAVING A RATED CAPACITY OF UP TO ONE HUNDRED KILOWATTS.

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) offers comments on HCR 61 / HR 55, urging the Department of Planning and Permitting (DPP) of the City and County of Honolulu, the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, and the City Council to ensure greater public input prior to the construction of wind machines having a rated capacity of up to 100 kilowatts (kW).

HSEO agrees additional regulation and public involvement are necessary for larger wind machines with potential to adversely impact residents in adjacent and neighboring properties. Smaller turbine models (under 5 kW) that can be used to power homes and businesses may warrant special consideration if they are unnoticeable to adjacent property owners. HSEO notes Bill 10 now in front of the City Council would amend the permitting of small, medium, and large wind machines on Oʻahu. HSEO is engaged with the DPP and City Council on this matter.

HSEO defers to the appropriate agency for comment on the administrative and regulatory aspects of this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.