



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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Testimony of
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before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

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**SUPPORT
SB 2963, SD1
RELATING TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY.**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports and recommends amendments to SB 2963, SD1, which establishes deadlines for all state facilities, except smaller facilities and facilities within the stadium development district, to implement cost-effective energy efficiency measures; allows the Department of Accounting and General Services to opt out of the cost-effective energy efficiency measures if a facility will be demolished within five years; directs HSEO to collect utility bill and energy usage data for state-owned buildings and to make the data publicly available; establishes a goal of achieving at least a twenty-five percent reduction in the electricity consumption of state facilities; provides that agencies that perform energy efficiency retrofitting may continue to receive appropriations for energy expenditures; and requires, where feasible and cost-effective, the design of all new state building construction to maximize energy and water efficiency, maximize energy generation potential, and use building materials that reduce the carbon footprint of the project.

The bill also directs the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development to collect water utility bills and water usage data for state-owned buildings and to make the data publicly available.

HSEO's support and comments are guided by its mission to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation to help achieve a resilient, clean energy, decarbonized economy.

The objectives of energy efficiency, cost control, lower energy bills, and leading by example outlined in SB 2963, SD1, are consistent with HSEO's mission in accordance with Section 196-71(a), Hawai'i Revised Statutes. It is also consistent with the Chief Energy Officer's duties to "provide technical assistance to state and county agencies to assess and implement projects and programs related to energy conservation and efficiency, renewable energy, clean transportation, energy resiliency, and related measures."

HSEO agrees that energy efficiency is the most cost-effective way to reduce energy usage. HSEO has worked over the years and continues to work with a number of state agencies in Hawai'i that have participated, or are currently participating in, facility benchmarking, energy audits, and energy savings performance contracts. HSEO has observed that there are always more, and sometimes new, energy savings and bill reduction opportunities.

HSEO is working closely with Hawai'i Energy and state agencies to assess these opportunities to reach a target goal of 25% reduction by 2025 from a 2005 baseline year. HSEO has consistently been measuring facility electricity reduction using 2005 as the baseline year, which is consistent with the United States' baseline year in its Nationally Determined Contribution for the Paris Agreement, that Hawai'i committed to support and to "be aligned with" in Part I of [Act 32 of 2017](#).

HSEO's analysis shows since 2005, state agencies' total electricity consumption has declined by 20 percent. HSEO believes with Legislative and Administrative support, that amount can increase to 25 percent by 2025.

HSEO notes the Research & Economic Analysis Division (READ) of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) already collects all electric utility data for state-owned facilities, and the Hawai'i State Energy Office helps coordinate and reports on that data annually. This can also be arranged for state-owned facilities' water usage data. Therefore, HSEO recommends the following

modification to SB 2963, SD1, on page 7, starting on line 1, to read: “§196-__
Electric utility bills and energy usage data; state-owned
facilities. Hawaii state energy office **and the Research &**
Economic Analysis Division (READ) at DBEDT, currently collect
and shall continue to collect all electric utility ~~bills~~ and
energy usage data for state-owned facilities monthly and shall
make this information available in a publicly accessible format.

For consistency, HSEO also recommends the following on page 14, line 7 to be
deleted from Section 225M-2, Hawai'i Revised Statutes and moved to “§196-__ D)
Collecting all water utility ~~bills~~ and water usage data for
state-owned facilities monthly and making this information
available in a publicly accessible format.

HSEO also recommends the language in this bill be made fully consistent with
the language in HB1801, HD1.

HSEO defers to the appropriate agency on the fiscal impacts and ability to
perform the water data requirements of this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.