



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEES ON
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Tuesday, February 14, 2023
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325 and Videoconference

In SUPPORT of
HB 239

RELATING TO CLEAN ENERGY.

Chairs Lowen and Holt, Vice Chairs Cochran and Lamosao, and Members of the Committees, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports HB 239, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget.

HSEO supports the addition in Section 2 of the "socially equitable" and "social equity" language to the existing Hawai'i Clean Energy Initiative (HCEI) law. Energy equity is a guiding principle in all HSEO initiatives and activities. For example, HSEO helped establish the Energy Equity Hui (EEH) in 2020 as a statewide public-private collaborative network to ensure equitable transformation in Hawai'i's quest to meet its 2045 clean energy goals. The EEH consists of approximately 100 energy professionals working together to promote equitable outcomes for all of Hawai'i's diverse communities. The EEH created four working groups to focus on key topics including equity definitions and frameworks, community benefits agreements, renewable energy request for proposals process improvements, and energy equity legislation. Outcomes of these working groups include comments for the 'Energy Equity and Justice' docket in

front of the Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission¹ and improved coordination between state, county, private, non-profit, and community organizations in the pursuit of an equitable renewable energy transition.

HSEO also supports the addition in Section 2 of new language to the existing HCEI law regarding the need for a workforce development plan for the clean energy sector. The intent of this measure may also benefit from an upcoming partnership of HSEO, the University of Hawai'i Community Colleges, the Hawai'i Chamber of Commerce, and many other partners to launch a multi-year Good Jobs Hawai'i² workforce development initiative funded by a grant from the U.S. Economic Development Administration. With clean energy as one of four sector focus areas, the Good Jobs Hawai'i initiative seeks to identify and meet current and future needs of Hawai'i's clean energy workforce.

HSEO supports the addition in Section 3 of new language that would allow for expenditures from the Energy Security Special Fund under section 201-12.8 of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) to go towards clean energy workforce development and strengthening social equity in the transition to a clean energy economy.

HSEO also supports the addition in Section 4 of new language in HRS 225P regarding social equity.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

¹ [Public Utilities Commission | Energy Equity and Justice \(Docket No. 2022-0250\) \(hawaii.gov\)](https://www.hawaii.gov/energy/equity-justice/)

² <https://uhcc.hawaii.edu/goodjobshawaii/>