



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

MARK B. GLICK
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
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Thursday, February 9, 2023
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 329 and Videoconference

In SUPPORT of
HB 654, HD1

RELATING TO BUILDINGS.

Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Sayama, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) supports the intent of HB 654, HD1, which requires state and county agencies to process the aggregated energy and water data of certain properties through the federal ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager and submit the benchmarking data to the Hawaii State Energy Office provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget.

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

HSEO supports the intent and respectfully recommends the following simplified approach, through revising the existing section 196-30(a) in the Hawaii Revised Statutes that relates to public buildings and benchmarking, to read as follows:

§196-30 Public buildings; benchmarks; retro-commissioning guidelines; energy savings performance contracts. (a) By December 31, ~~[2010]~~ **2024**, each state department with responsibilities for the design and construction of public

buildings and facilities shall benchmark every existing public building that is ~~[either]~~ larger than ~~[five]~~ ten thousand square feet ~~[or uses more than eight thousand kilowatt-hours of electricity or energy per year]~~ and shall use the benchmark as a basis for determining the State's investment in improving the efficiency of its own building stock. Benchmarking shall be conducted using the ENERGY STAR portfolio management or equivalent tool. The chief energy officer of the Hawaii state energy office shall provide technical assistance and training to affected departments on the ENERGY STAR portfolio management or equivalent tool, as funding is made available to support this effort.

Also, to enable State agencies and other entities to access tax credits or the benefit of tax credits and other incentives offered through the Inflation Reduction Act and other programs, HSEO recommends revising subsection 196-31(a) to read as follows:

§196-31 **Energy efficiency implementation for state facilities.** (a) State facilities shall implement cost-effective energy efficiency measures as follows:

- (1) Beginning on January 1, 2024, for all state facilities that have not implemented section 36-41 since 2010; and
- (2) Beginning on January 1, 2026, for all other state facilities;

~~{provided that no entity shall claim tax credits or deductions, or depreciate assets under title 14 for implementing energy efficiency measures pursuant to this section;}~~ provided further that nothing in this subsection shall prohibit facilities from implementing energy efficiency measures sooner than indicated under paragraph (1) or (2).

To accomplish this effort with state facilities statewide, would require funding, resources, and staff time to gather, process and provide access to the data on state facilities, as well as to accompany the benchmarking consultants on site verification visits to facilities. Since the City and County of Honolulu and Maui have adopted benchmarking ordinances in their respective counties, having HSEO focus on state facilities would reduce redundancy, allow the counties to implement benchmarking on their own terms, and enable the process to be more effective. Deleting references to “counties” in this bill is highly recommended.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.