



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HOUSING

Friday, February 3, 2023
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 312 and Videoconference

In **OPPOSITION** to
HB 681

RELATING TO STATE BUILDING CODES.

Chair Hashimoto, Vice Chair Aiu, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) opposes adoption of HB 681, which exempts any code with an official publication date within four years of the prior code publication date from certain adoption requirements. 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.

Hawai'i Revised Statutes 107-24 states that "the adoption of a code or standard shall be within two years of the official publication date of the code or standard." The intent of HRS 107-24 is to synchronize Hawai'i's code adoption cycle with the national cycle which updates codes every three years. The intent of updating building codes is to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of building occupants.

Amending HRS 107-24 to exempt codes from following the national three-year update cycle would slow down code adoption and adversely affect building occupants and potential future FEMA funding. Hawai'i's eligibility for FEMA funding for disaster mitigation, resilience and recovery is determined in part by scores for hazard-resistant building codes and standards.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.