



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

Providing **COMMENTS** on
HB 920

RELATING TO THE HAWAII STATE BUILDING CODE.

Chair Hashimoto, Vice Chair Aiu, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) respectfully offers comments on this bill which allows the counties to adopt a county building code for single-family dwellings, additional dwellings, duplexes, and non-commercial structures that is distinct from the Hawaii state building codes.

Hawai'i Revised Statutes 107-28 states that **“The governing body of each county shall amend**, adopt, and update the Hawaii state building codes **as they apply within their respective jurisdiction**, in accordance with section 46-1.5(13), without approval of the council” [emphasis added].

The HSEO participated in the writing of HRS 107-28 when the county building division managers made it clear that Hawai'i is a home-rule state and autonomy regarding building codes is a very important issue for them.

HSEO feels that HB 920 is thereby unnecessary due to the clarity of the phrase **“The governing body of each county shall amend”** and the current practice of counties amending the state building codes prior to adoption.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify.