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Testimony of MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Thursday, February 22, 2024 10:00 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 308 and Videoconference

In Support of HB 2801, HD1

RELATING TO COMMERCIAL PROPERTY ASSESSED FINANCING.

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports HB 2801, HD1, that allows condominiums to be eligible for commercial property assessed financing (C-PACER).

HSEO's testimony is guided by its statutory duties under HRS §196-72, in which the Chief Energy Officer of the Hawaii State Energy Office shall "coordinate the State's energy programs with ... the political subdivisions of the State, departments of the State" and "assist public agencies in the implementation of energy assurance and energy resilience."

HSEO is supportive because increased financing resources made available by this measure could allow participants to improve their commercial facilities with loans for safety and energy upgrades, thus achieving several public objectives more quickly and potentially at a reduced cost. Nationwide, over \$4 billion have been invested in over 2,000 C-PACER projects,¹ and prior to 2019 only one C-PACER project defaulted.²

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

¹ <u>https://www.epa.gov/statelocalenergy/commercial-property-assessed-clean-energy</u>

² <u>https://eta-publications.lbl.gov/sites/default/files/cpace-special-assessmentv3.pdf</u>