



# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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Testimony of  
**MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer**

before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION**

Wednesday, January 31, 2024  
3:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 and Videoconference

In SUPPORT of  
**SB 2070**

## **RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION.**

Chair Kidani, Vice Chair Kim, and members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports SB 2070, which exempts career and technical education (CTE) goods and services purchases by the Hawai'i Department of Education (HIDOE) from the State Procurement Code.

HSEO serves as an Industry Representative on HIDOE's CTE Energy Pathway Advisory Council and Energy Pilot Project Team which provides a framework for incorporating career exploration into high school curricula. The Energy Pathway was developed with the support of industry, teachers, and administrative representatives and launched its pilot in the 2023-2024 school year with James Campbell High School, Kapolei High School, and Kealakehe High School. The Energy Pathway includes three Programs of Study – (1) Renewable Energy Technologies, (2) Alternative Fuels Technologies, and (3) Power Grid Technologies – each leading with a Foundations of Energy course in the first year followed by three subsequent courses. In addition, In 2022, HSEO in collaboration with HIDOE and the Maui Economic Development Board developed and published clean energy curricula and toolkits to train teachers in primarily Title I K-12 schools in Hawai'i. These publicly-available resources empower

teacher, student, and family participation in Hawai'i's transition to a decarbonized economy.

SB 2070 would enable HIDOE to upgrade its CTE programs and provide its students with workspaces that reflect current (and future) industry worksites by providing HIDOE the ability to timely procure tools and equipment that meet industry standards. This would better prepare Hawai'i's students for the current and emerging workforce regardless of where their school is located, enabling equity in access to CTE programs across the state. Students will be able to develop and practice the skills they need to succeed in their industry of study including the clean energy and skilled trades sectors.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.