



# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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

before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM**

Tuesday, January 30, 2024  
1:30 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 and Videoconference

In SUPPORT of  
**SB 2122**

### **RELATING TO ENERGY-EFFICIENCY PORTFOLIO STANDARDS.**

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports SB 2122 which extends the State's energy-efficiency portfolio standards (EEPS) from 2030 to 2045 and authorizes the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to establish interim goals by rule or order to maximize cost-effective energy-efficiency programs and technologies.

HSEO serves on the PUC's Technical Working Group of energy stakeholders that review and assess the State's progress to meeting that State's energy efficiency goals. HSEO also prepared and submitted the Hawai'i Pathways to Decarbonization Report<sup>1</sup> to the 2024 Hawai'i State Legislature that candidly reviews the significantly challenges to meeting Hawai'i's decarbonization goals and the difficult, yet achievable, pathways to get there. There is consensus among the Technical Working Group and the Decarbonization Study that "energy efficiency and conservation are the single most

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<sup>1</sup> Hawaii State Energy Office. *Hawai'i Pathways to Decarbonization*. 2023. [https://energy.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Act-238\\_HSEO\\_Decarbonization\\_Report.pdf](https://energy.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Act-238_HSEO_Decarbonization_Report.pdf)

important and most cost-effective measure to meaningfully reduce electricity demand, thus negating the need to develop more electricity generation.” The Decarbonization Report has a specific recommendation to update and extend the EEPS:<sup>2</sup>

**Recommendation**

Extend, update, and strengthen supportive policies for energy efficiency, such as the Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard (EEPS)...

**Rationale**

In both this report and similar national strategies, such as the “The Long-Term Strategy of the United States: Pathways to Net-Zero Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 2050,” near-term action on energy efficiency provides the foundation for cost-effective and on-schedule decarbonization... Achieving this level of energy efficiency will require new policies and programs.

Given the critical importance of energy efficiency in Hawai'i's energy transition, extending the EEPS end goal date of 2045 to be consistent with the renewable portfolio standard and decarbonization policies are warranted, reasonable, and advisable.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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<sup>2</sup> Ibid, page 9.