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Testimony of MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the SENATE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Wednesday, February 14, 2024 1:46 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

Providing Comments on **SB 2574**

RELATING TO RENEWABLE FUEL.

Chairs Gabbard and DeCoite, Vice Chairs Richards and Wakai, and members of the Committees, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) offers comments on SB 2574, that (1) establishes a tax credit of up to \$50 million per year for the import of renewable fuel; (2) increases the overall funding available for the renewable fuels production tax credit from \$20 million to \$100 million dollars; (3) modifies the existing renewable fuels production tax credit to allow an increased credit for sustainable aviation fuel; and (4) makes several other changes to the existing renewable fuels production tax credit.

HSEO appreciates the intent of this bill to promote the use of non-petroleum fuels but is concerned about the cost implications generated by this proposal and priorities and challenges associated with post-Maui wildfire recovery efforts.

HSEO also notes that changing the filing and certification deadlines from 30 calendar days to 60 calendar days puts the date for process completion out to the second of May, which is beyond the State tax return deadline of the 20th day of the fourth month following the close of the tax year. HSEO defers to the Department of Budget and Finance on the fiscal implications of this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.