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Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
**SENATE COMMITTEES ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
AND
ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM**

Thursday, February 8, 2024
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224 and Videoconference

In Support of
SB 2650

RELATING TO GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES.

Chairs Shimabukuro and DeCoite, Vice Chairs Fevella and Wakai, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports SB 2650 which appropriates moneys for the continued exploration and identification of geothermal resources on Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL).

HSEO advocates the role of geothermal energy as a firm renewable resource in playing a significant role in achieving 100% renewable energy generation statewide and supports incentives for its development. HSEO supports funding to explore for geothermal resource potential on DHHL lands that could ultimately result in royalties to native Hawaiian beneficiaries. The identification and verification of potential geothermal resources for electrical power generation through slim hole resource characterization with State support is a necessary step to attract private capital and qualified, reputable developers for potential geothermal development. Otherwise, there is too great a risk of failure for developers to engage in full-scale geothermal production efforts devoid of geological evidence. Data and knowledge gained from exploration can also greatly inform the on-site potential of groundwater resources and carbon sequestration.

HSEO defers to the appropriate agencies for comment on the fiscal, administrative, and regulatory impacts of this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.