



# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

235 South Beretania Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone:  
Web:

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE  
LT. GOVERNOR

MARK B. GLICK  
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

(808) 451-6648  
energy.hawaii.gov

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

before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND  
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

Monday, March 11, 2024  
3:45 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 225 and Videoconference

In Support Of  
**HB 2523, HD1**

## **RELATING TO ELECTRIC UTILITY LINEMAN.**

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) is supportive of HB 2523, HD1, for the purpose of establishing state licensing requirements for journey worker electric utility line workers who work on Hawai'i's active, high-voltage utility transmission and distribution systems. A second objective of this measure is to build and retain a local workforce in this critical and dangerous vocation through Hawai'i's Registered Apprenticeship program and place two (2) utility line worker industry representatives on the Board of Electricians and Plumbers.

HSEO's judgment is that safety and local workforce development outcomes to be achieved upon passage of this measure outweigh legitimate concerns about the demand for and availability of licensed journey worker electric utility line workers in Hawai'i. Such programs would be expected to benefit from greater demand for journey worker electric utility line workers as Hawai'i rebuilds, modernizes, and maintains transmission and distribution electric grid infrastructure post-Maui wildfires. HSEO also encourages and supports continued dialogue and cooperation on optimal ways to achieve local workforce objectives for critical electricity sector infrastructure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.