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Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
**SENATE COMMITTEES ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION
AND
WAYS AND MEANS**

Friday, March 1, 2024
9:50 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211 and Videoconference

In Support of
SB 2122, SD1

RELATING TO ENERGY-EFFICIENCY PORTFOLIO STANDARDS.

Chairs Keohokalole and Dela Cruz, Vice Chairs Fukunaga and Moriwaki, and members of the Committees, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports SB 2122, SD1, 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 the State's energy efficiency goals. HSEO also prepared and submitted the Hawai'i Pathways to Decarbonization Report¹ 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 important and most cost-effective measure to meaningfully reduce electricity demand,

¹ Hawai'i State Energy Office. *Hawai'i Pathways to Decarbonization*. 2023. https://energy.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Act-238_HSEO_Decarbonization_Report.pdf

thus negating the need to develop more electricity generation.” The Decarbonization Report has a specific recommendation to update and extend the EEPS:²

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.

² Ibid, page 9.