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Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Thursday, March 21, 2024
9:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325 and Videoconference

In Support of
SB 2122, SD1

RELATING TO ENERGY-EFFICIENCY PORTFOLIO STANDARDS.

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and members of the Committee, 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 that 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 significant 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, thus negating the need to develop more electricity generation." The Report therefore recommends extending and updating the EEPS.

¹ 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

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.