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Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Thursday, March 28, 2024
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 329 and Videoconference

In Support of
SB 2122, SD1, HD1

RELATING TO ENERGY-EFFICIENCY PORTFOLIO STANDARDS.

Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Sayama, and members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports SB 2122, SD1, HD1, 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 Decarbonization Report has a specific recommendation to update and extend the EEPS.

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

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.