



# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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

before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Tuesday, March 18, 2025  
10:45 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325 and Videoconference

In Support of  
**HOUSE RESOLUTION 181**

**REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR, STATE AGENCIES, AND OTHER RELEVANT  
STAKEHOLDERS TO ACCELERATE HAWAII'S CLEAN ENERGY TRANSITION  
AND TAKE IMMEDIATE, DECISIVE ACTION TO REDUCE AND ELIMINATE  
DEPENDENCE ON IMPORTED FOSSIL FUELS TO IMPROVE ENERGY SECURITY  
AND PROTECT CONSUMERS FROM RISING ENERGY COSTS.**

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports HR181 that requests the Governor, State Agencies, and stakeholders accelerate the clean energy transition and take immediate, decisive action to reduce and eliminate dependence on imported fossil fuels to improve energy security and protect consumers from rising energy costs.

HSEO's comments are guided by its statutory mission to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation to help achieve a resilient clean energy economy pursuant to HRS §196-71 and the specific duties of the Chief Energy Officer (§196-72) relating to decarbonization and renewable energy.

The Green Administration has taken important initial steps in addressing the intent of HR 181 by issuance of Executive Order (EO) 25-01 in January of 2025 as referenced in the preamble to HR 181. Released concurrently with EO 25-01, HSEO's "*Alternative Fuel, Repowering, and Energy Transition Study*," notes that for Hawai'i to reach its RPS and decarbonization goals (1) alternative power sources must be cost-

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HR 181 - REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR, STATE AGENCIES, AND OTHER  
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SECURITY AND PROTECT CONSUMERS FROM RISING ENERGY COSTS - Support

March 18, 2025

Page 2

competitive with Hawai'i's existing power sources, (2) alternative power generation sources must lead to substantial lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions savings, and (3) alternative power sources will need appropriate private sector investment to ensure capital investments. The continued development of solar, wind, battery storage, and other renewable generating sources must occur in tandem with a fuel transition to ensure Hawai'i has a diverse energy portfolio.

Due to Hawai'i having the highest electricity costs and O'ahu having the highest greenhouse emissions intensity, Hawai'i's clean energy transition needs to be well researched, planned, and supported in order to ensure a quick, effective, and equitable transition that promotes grid reliability, energy security, and energy affordability, considering the three objectives outlined above. HR 181 would assist in progressing Hawai'i's clean energy transition by working towards cost-competitive, renewable, and alternative power generation sources, affordable electricity bills for Hawai'i's residents, and a more reliable and resilient power system.

In conclusion, HSEO strongly supports HR 181 and voices its appreciation to the introducers for referencing Executive Order No. 25-01. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify on this measure.