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Testimony of MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the SENATE COMMITTEES ON **ENERGY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS** AND LABOR AND TECHNOLOGY

Monday, February 3, 2025 3:20 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

> In Support of **SB 997**

RELATING TO ENERGY.

Chairs Wakai and Aquino, Vice Chairs Chang and Lee, and Members of the Committees, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) supports SB 997, which would establish labor standards for renewable energy projects one megawatt or larger.

This measure could help ensure workers can earn a living wage and be motivated to pursue a long-term career in Hawai'i's utility renewable energy construction sector.

SB 997 directs the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) to retain the required attestation or declaration in a manner consistent with the department's record retention rules. While HSEO is not specifically referenced to perform this function in SB 997, HSEO has the capability and experience in filing records for energy efficiency and renewable energy programs and currently has the capacity to maintain the records (e.g., attestations, declarations) required by SB 997 if the measure were to pass and DBEDT were to request HSEO's assistance.

HSEO suggests the committee's consideration to combine the content of this measure with that of SB 743 which gives the Public Utilities Commission the ability to Hawai'i State Energy Office SB 997 – RELATING TO ENERGY – Support February 3, 2025 Page 2

authorize preferential rates for the purchase of renewable energy from projects that meet certain prevailing wage requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.