



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

235 South Beretania Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone:
Web:

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

MARK B. GLICK
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

(808) 451-6648
energy.hawaii.gov

Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Thursday, February 27, 2025
10:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211 and Videoconference

In SUPPORT of
SB 1396, SD1

RELATING TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports SB 1396, SD1, an Administration measure, which establishes the Climate Mitigation and Resiliency Special Fund (CMRSF) and the Economic Development and Revitalization Special Fund (EDRS), increases the Transient Accommodations Tax (TAT) starting in 2026, and allocates a portion of this increase to the newly established CMRSF.

HSEO concurs with the Legislature's finding that immediate investments in climate change resilience and mitigation are needed to protect Hawai'i's economy and people. With a balanced approach, HSEO believes the TAT is an appropriate and effective vehicle to fund such investments given their long-term benefits to Hawai'i's visitor industry. HSEO stands ready to support the agencies tasked with administration of the CMRSF and EDRS, and the Selection Committee to review and recommend CMRSF investments; particularly those related to energy and transportation resilience.

As this is a fiscal issue, we defer to the appropriate agency for comment.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify