

**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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Statement of  
**THEODORE E. LIU**  
**Director**

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Monday, February 25, 2008

4:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 308

in consideration of

**HB 2003**  
**RELATING TO THE HAWAII ENERGY POLICY FORUM.**

Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) notes that there have been many good ideas introduced this legislative session that support the State's economic development goals. We also note, however, that any appropriation that may be made for this measure was not included in the Executive's Supplemental Budget, and request that any such appropriation should not displace the priorities contained in that budget.

HB 2003 would appropriate funds so that the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum can continue to implement the vision, concepts, and recommendations of the updated ten point plan to meet Hawaii's energy goals. While the Forum has made considerable progress to date, it would be valuable for them to implement the detailed action plans, continue discussion, and continue to promote greater community awareness of energy issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.



LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR  
JAMES R. AIONA, JR.  
LT. GOVERNOR

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR**  
**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**  
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LAWRENCE M. REIFURTH  
DIRECTOR  
RONALD BOYER  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

THE TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2008

Monday, February 25, 2008  
4:00 p.m.

TESTIMONY OF CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS TO THE HONORABLE REPRESENTATIVE OSHIRO,  
CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

**HOUSE BILL 2003 – RELATING TO THE HAWAII ENERGY POLICY FORUM.**

**DESCRIPTION:**

This measure makes an appropriation for the continuation of the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum ("Forum").

**POSITION:**

The Division of Consumer Advocacy ("Consumer Advocate") supports the continuation of the Forum and the intent of this measure as long as it does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget Request. We defer to the Forum as to the amount of the appropriation needed to continue the Forum's important collaborative work with energy stakeholders.

**COMMENTS:**

We have participated in the Forum since its inception in 2002, and have watched the Forum blossom into a haven for the exchange of ideas, visions, and

H.B. 2003  
House Committee on Finance  
Monday, February 25, 2008, 4:00 p.m.

observations. The Ten Point Plan outlined by the Forum identifies specific areas that need study or attention to ensure that Hawaii has a sustainable, renewable, and affordable energy future. The Forum's continued efforts are necessary to assist us on this path.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



# **UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM**

## **Legislative Testimony**

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**Written Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Finance**  
February 25, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.

by

Virginia S. Hinshaw, Chancellor  
and  
Richard A. Dubanoski, Dean  
College of Social Sciences  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

### **HB 2003 – RELATING TO THE HAWAII ENERGY POLICY FORUM**

Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. Unfortunately, the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa can only support the intent of the bill at this time because of our pressing priorities, such as our tremendous need for repairs and maintenance and health and safety issues, which are critical to our ability to perform our core mission for the State of Hawai'i. We recognize you have many priorities and issues to weigh for the state. We are proud of the work of the Hawai'i Energy Policy Forum of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, and thank you for your support.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify, we appreciate all interest in the University, and want to emphasize that we will be able to perform better in all arenas and best serve the state with support of the current campus priorities approved by the Board of Regents.

*HAWAII RENEWABLE ENERGY ALLIANCE*

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Kahua Ranch Ltd.

TESTIMONY OF WARREN BOLLMEIER ON BEHALF OF THE HAWAII  
RENEWABLE ENERGY ALLIANCE BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

HB 2003, RELATING TO HAWAII ENERGY POLICY FORUM

February 25, 2008

Chair Oshiro, Vice-Chair Lee and members of the Committee I am Warren Bollmeier, testifying on behalf of the Hawaii Renewable Energy Alliance (HREA). HREA is a nonprofit corporation in Hawaii, established in 1995 by a group of individuals and organizations concerned about the energy future of Hawaii. HREA's mission is to support, through education and advocacy, the use of renewables for a sustainable, energy-efficient, environmentally-friendly, economically-sound future for Hawaii. One of HREA's goals is to support appropriate policy changes in state and local government, the Public Utilities Commission and the electric utilities to encourage increased use of renewables in Hawaii.

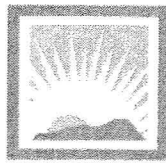
The purpose of HB 2003 is to appropriate funds to reconvene the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum to develop an action plan, timeline, and benchmarks, and to further engage Hawaii's leaders and stakeholders in implementing the Forum's visions, concepts, and recommendations for Hawaii's preferred energy future.

We believe the Forum has provided valuable policy recommendations to the key policy and decision makers and consumers in Hawaii.

While Forum members, who are key energy stakeholders in Hawaii, donate time to participate in the Forum's meetings and activities, we believe it is appropriate to provide funds to University of Hawaii as an independent organization, to provide for the staff and expenses to support their leadership and coordination of the Forum and its activities.

Thus, as a member of the Forum, HREA strongly supports this bill.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



**Hawaii Solar Energy Association**  
*Serving Hawaii Since 1977*

TESTIMONY OF THE HAWAII SOLAR ENERGY ASSOCIATION  
IN REGARD TO H.B. 2003  
RELATING TO THE HAWAII ENERGY POLICY FORUM  
BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
ON  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2008

Chair Oshiro, Vice-Chair Lee and members of the committee, my name is Richard Reed and I represent the Hawaii Solar Energy Assn (HSEA). The HSEA is a professional trade association established in 1977, and affiliated with the Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA) in Washington, D.C. HSEA represents manufacturers, distributors, contractors, financiers, and utility companies active in the solar energy industry in Hawaii. We strongly support the passage of H.B. 2003.

HSEA strongly supports the passage of H.B. 2003. I have represented the HSEA on the Forum since its inception and I believe our collective progress in moving forward a consensus-based energy agenda in Hawaii is directly related to the Forum's vision, leadership, decision making model and outreach.

The U.H. Energy Policy Forum is an inclusive group that brings together a broad cross section of energy stakeholders to develop and implement a preferred energy future. The Forum's essential work in fully establishing its Ten Point Plan for Hawaii is on-going and deserves your continued financial support.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.







Testimony before the House Committee on  
Finance

H.B. 2003 - Relating to the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum

Monday, February 25, 2008  
4:00 p.m., Conference Room 308  
Agenda #6

By William A. Bonnet  
Vice President  
Government & Community Affairs  
Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.

Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and members of the Committee:

My name is Bill Bonnet and I am testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc., and its subsidiary utilities, Maui Electric Company, Ltd., and Hawaii Electric Light Company, Inc.

Hawaiian Electric Company supports House Bill No. 2003, which proposes to make an appropriation for 2008-2009 to continue the work of the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum.

The Forum plays a unique role in energy policy. It brings to the table a variety of energy stakeholders including representatives of businesses, non-profits, government, environmental organizations and academia to discuss and develop policy regarding Hawaii's preferred energy future. From these discussions come consensus positions that have been submitted to the Legislature in recent sessions and which, in many cases, the Legislature has seen fit to enact into law. Hawaiian Electric was a founder and remains an active member and supporter of the Forum.

The proposed funding would enable the Forum to build on its past work by developing a detailed long-term energy policy, with short-term strategies and benchmarks for measuring the progress of these strategies, among other activities. Supporting continuation of the Forum would be a very worthwhile investment.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
**HAWAII ENERGY POLICY FORUM**  
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

**Hawai'i Energy Policy Forum**

Mr. Robbie Alm, HECO  
Ms. Amy Asselbayer, Ofc of US Rep.  
Neil Abercrombie  
Ms. Catherine Awakuni, Div. of  
Consumer Advocacy  
Mr. Warren Bollmeier  
Hi Renewable Energy Alliance  
Mr. Carlito Caliboso, PUC (Observer)  
Mr. Albert Chee, Chevron  
Mr. Kyle Datta, U.S. Biofuels  
Sen. Kalani English, Hi State Senate  
Mr. Mitch Ewan, UH HNEI  
Mr. Carl Freedman  
Haiku Design and Analysis  
Mr. Mark Glick, OHA  
Mr. Steve Golden, The Gas Company  
Dr. Michael Hammett, RCUH  
Ms. Paula Helfrich, EDAH  
Mr. Shad Kane, Ahahui Sivila  
Hawaii o Kapolei  
Mr. William Kaneko, HI Institute for  
Public Affairs  
Mr. Darren Kimura, Energy Industries  
Holdings  
Mr. Mike Kitamura, Ofc of US Sen.  
Daniel K. Akaka  
Mr. Kal Kobayashi, Maui County  
Mr. Laurence Lau, DOH  
Ms. Yvonne Lau, Ofc of US Rep.  
Mazie Hirono  
Mr. Allyn Lee, C&C of HNL  
Mr. Aaron Leong, Ofc of US Senator  
Daniel K. Inouye  
Stephen Meder, AIA-Honolulu  
Ron Menor, Hi State Senate  
..... Jeff Mikulina, Sierra Club  
Dr. Bruce Miller, UH Ofc of  
Sustainability  
Dr. Sharon Miyashiro, Social  
Sciences Public Policy Ctr.  
Rep. Hermina Morita, Hi State  
House of Representatives  
Mr. Tim O'Connell, USDA/Rural  
Development  
Mr. Richard Paglimawan  
Pa Ku'i A Lua  
Ms. Melissa Pavlicek, Western States  
Petroleum Assn  
Mr. Randy Pereira, HI State AFL-CIO  
Mr. Rick Reed, Inter-Island  
Solar Supply  
Dr. Rick Rocheleau, UH HNEI  
Mr. Peter Rosegg, HECO  
Mr. Steven Rymsha, KIUC  
Mr. Riley Saito, PowerLight Corp.  
Mr. Glenn Sato, Kauai County OED  
Mr. Bill Short, BIA of Hawaii  
Mr. Ray Starling, HI Energy Grp  
Mr. Lance Tanaka, Tesoro HI Corp  
Dr. Don Thomas, UH Center for the  
Study of Active Volcanoes  
Mr. Murray Towill, Hawai'i  
Hotel Assn  
Ms. Joan White, Hon Community  
Action Program

Testimony of  
**Sharon Miyashiro**  
Co-Chair - Hawai'i Energy Policy Forum

House Committee on Finance  
Monday, February 25, 2008  
4:00 pm; Agenda #6  
Conference Room 308

**IN SUPPORT OF H.B. 2003, Relating to the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum**

I am Sharon Miyashiro, Co-Chair of the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum ("Forum"). The Forum is comprised of 46 representatives from the electric utilities, oil and natural gas suppliers, environmental and community groups, renewable energy industry, and federal, state and local government, including representatives from the neighbor islands. We have been meeting since 2002 and have adopted a common vision and mission.

The Forum in 2007 revised its comprehensive "10 Point Action Plan" which serves as a framework for meeting our preferred energy vision and goals. The Forum, through its seven working groups have developed more specific action plans covering all ten goals of the Plan. The revised Plan has been instrumental in guiding the Forum's accomplishments to date. Through the specific action plans, it will continue to guide us in the work that remains to be completed to achieve a strong and secure energy future for Hawaii. During 2007, accomplishments of the Forum included the following:

- Study of Biofuel crop development in response to HCR 195 (2006) led to Hawaii Bioenergy Master Plan (2007)
- Study of opportunities and barriers for renewable energy and energy efficiency development in the state and county laws and regulations
- Study of energy efficient transportation strategies in response to Act 254
- Study of natural gas import options for Hawaii in response to USDOE under contract to address Section 355 of the National Energy Policy Act
- Assessment of energy efficiency in four buildings through its "Energy by Example" program

The Forum also sponsored numerous outreach and educational events:

- Briefing of the Congressional Delegation staff on renewable energy developments (March 2007)
- Briefing on federal opportunities in "ag-energy" by U.S. House Agriculture Committee Chairman Colin Peterson (April 2007)
- Briefing on commercialization of new renewable energy technologies by U.S. Departments of Commerce & Energy and local representatives of High Technology Development Corporation, Sopogy & ClearFuels Technology
- Briefing on work by BlueEarth Biofuels (June 2007)

- Facilitated working group that created guidelines for ocean energy development (July 2007)
- Briefing on the work of the Hawaii Natural Energy Institute, University of Hawaii (September 2007)
- Briefing on greenhouse gas emissions by the Technical Working Group of the State Greenhouse Gas Emissions Task Force & the Voluntary GHG Reporting Program of the Climate Registry (November 2007)
- Co-sponsored TV Documentary: "Hawaii's Climate Crisis" (January 2008)
- Have been asked by the USDOE to convene a briefing of the USDOE-State partnership on the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative on January 28

The Forum has adopted actions and benchmarks to address the goals of the Plan; and during the coming year, it hopes to implement and test these actions.

H.B. 2003, which appropriates funds to the Forum to continue its work to meet our preferred energy vision and goals, will support our continuing efforts toward achieving our preferred energy future. The Forum has estimated that funding in the amount of \$185,000 for FY 2008-2009 will enable the Forum to begin implementation of its action plans and development and testing of benchmarks. This amount will fund not only the action plans, but also the needed administrative support and outreach activities as well as enable us to assess overall progress in meeting the goals of the Plan.

**Based on the foregoing the Forum fully supports H.B. 2003 and asks for this Committee's favorable action.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.