

# HAWAII RENEWABLE ENERGY ALLIANCE

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## TESTIMONY OF WARREN BOLLMEIER ON BEHALF OF THE HAWAII RENEWABLE ENERGY ALLIANCE BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

### HB 3064, RELATING TO REFUNDABLE RENEWABLE ENERGY TAX CREDIT

February 5, 2008

Chair Morita, Vice-Chair Carroll 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 3064 is to allow a taxpayer with an adjusted gross income of \$20,000 or less to take a refundable tax credit for the purchase and installation of a renewable energy technology, which includes solar water heating, photovoltaic, and wind systems.

HREA strongly supports this bill, which will provide an option to those consumers that don't have a "tax credit" appetite. However, we can't say for sure if the \$20,000 threshold is appropriate, e.g., perhaps it should be higher?

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.