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TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT & EDUCATION

RE: SB 2231 – RELATING TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY.

February 11, 2008

ROGER TAKABAYASHI, PRESIDENT HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chairs Menor, Sakamoto and Members of the Committees:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association supports SB 2231 which appropriates funds to replace all incandescent lighting with compact fluorescent lighting in public schools. Currently the Department of Education allocates to individual schools a specific amount of monies to cover electricity costs. Once schools have disbursed the allocation, the remainder of electricity costs falls upon the school.

The Association believes finding ways to assist our schools with conserving electricity would financially benefit the schools by saving monies spent on electricity use. The monies saved could be directed towards other expenses that may directly benefit the students' learning.

We urge the committee to pass this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Testimony before the Senate Committees on Education and Energy & Environmental Protection

S. B. 2231 - Relating to Energy Efficiency

Monday, February 11, 2008 3:00 p.m., Conference Room 225

by Alan K.C. Hee Manager, Energy Services Department Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.

Chair Sakamoto, Chair Menor, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Alan Hee and I am testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc., and its subsidiaries, Maui Electric Company (MECO) and Hawaii Electric Light Company, Inc. (HELCO).

Hawaiian Electric supports the installation of energy efficient lighting products in public schools and supports SB 2231. The response to our demandside management compact fluorescent lamp (CFL) rebate program by customers and distributors has been excellent, resulting in greater awareness and availability of these energy efficient lighting products.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.