

SB 2624



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

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. Box 541
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
Phone Number: (808) 586-2850
Fax Number: (808) 586-2856
www.hawaii.gov/dcca

LAWRENCE M. REIFURTH
DIRECTOR
RONALD BOYER
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

THE TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2008

Tuesday, February 5, 2008
3:00 p.m.

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

SENATE BILL 2624 – 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 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.

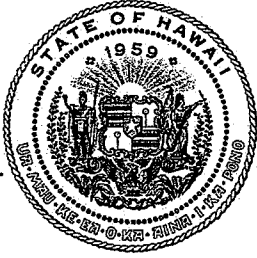
COMMENTS:

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

S.B. No. 2624
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Tuesday, February 5, 2008, 3:00 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.



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

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR
THEODORE E. LIU
DIRECTOR
MARK K. ANDERSON
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of
THEODORE E. LIU
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
Tuesday, February 5, 2008
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

in consideration of

SB 2624
RELATING TO THE HAWAII ENERGY POLICY FORUM.

Chair Menor, Vice Chair Hooser, and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) supports the concept behind HB 2624. There have been many good ideas introduced this legislative session that support the State's economic development goals. We note, however, that this appropriation was not included in the Executive's Supplemental Budget, and request that this appropriation 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.

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI‘I SYSTEM LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY



SB 2624 Relating to the Hawai'i Energy Policy Forum

WRITTEN TESTIMONY FOR THE
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

February 5, 2008 at 3:00 p.m.

by

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

WRITTEN TESTIMONY FOR THE
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment

February 5, 2008 at 3:00 p.m.

by

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

SB 2624 Relating to the Hawai'i Energy Policy Forum

Chair Menor, Vice Chair Hooser, 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 Hawaii. 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.

Testimony before the Senate Committee on
Energy & Environment

SB. 2624 Relating to the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum

Tuesday, February 5, 2008
3 p.m., Conference Room 414

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

Chair Menor, Vice Chair Hoosier, 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 Senate Bill No. 2624 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.

HAWAII RENEWABLE ENERGY ALLIANCE

46-040 Konane Place #3816, Kaneohe, HI 96744 – Telephone/FAX: 247-7753 – Email: wsb@lava.net

Officers

President
Warren S. Bollmeier II

Vice-President
John Crouch

Directors

Warren S. Bollmeier II
WSB-Hawaii

Cully Judd
Inter Island Solar Supply

John Crouch
Sunpower

Herbert M. (Monty) Richards
Kahua Ranch Ltd.

TESTIMONY OF WARREN BOLLMEIER ON BEHALF OF THE HAWAII RENEWABLE ENERGY ALLIANCE BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

SB 2624, RELATING TO HAWAII ENERGY POLICY FORUM

February 5, 2008

Chair Menor, Vice-Chair Hooser 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.

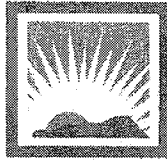
The purpose of SB 2624 is to appropriate funds to reconvene the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum to develop an action plan, timeline, and benchmarks, and to further engage Hawaii's leaders and stakeholders in implementing the Forum's visions, concepts, and recommendations for Hawaii's preferred energy future.

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.



LATE TESTIMONY

Hawaii Solar Energy Association
Serving Hawaii Since 1977

TESTIMONY OF THE HAWAII SOLAR ENERGY ASSOCIATION
IN REGARD TO S.B. 2624
RELATING TO THE HAWAII ENERGY POLICY FORUM
BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT
ON
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2008

Chair Menor, Vice-Chair Hooser and members of the committee, my name is Richard Reed and I represent the Hawaii Solar Energy Assn. (HSEA). HSEA strongly supports the passage of S.B. 2624.

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.



COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

HAWAII ENERGY POLICY FORUM

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA

LATE TESTIMONY

Hawai'i Energy Policy Forum

Mr. Robbie Alm, HECO
Ms. Amy Asselbaye, 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 Hamnett, RCUH
Ms. Paula Helffrich, EDAH
Mr. William Kaneko, HI Institute for
Public Affairs
Mr. Maurice Kaya, DBEDT
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
Dr. Stephen Meder, AIA-Honolulu
Sen. Ron Menor, HI State Senate
Mr. 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 Paglinawan
Pa Ku'i A Lua
Ms. Melissa Pavlicek, Western States
Petroleum Assn
Mr. Randy Perreira, 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

Senate Committee on Energy & Environment
Tuesday, February 5, 2008
3:00 pm
Conference Room 414

IN SUPPORT OF S.B. 2624, 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, has 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 the 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 the USDOE under a 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 a 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 and the Voluntary GHG Reporting Program of the Climate Registry (November 2007)
- Co-sponsored a TV Documentary: "Hawaii's Climate Crisis" (January 2008)
- Convened a briefing of the USDOE-State partnership on the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative (January 2008)

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.

S.B. 2624, 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 further the 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 S.B. 2624 and asks for this Committee's favorable action.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.