



LATE TESTIMONY

Hawaii Solar Energy Association
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TESTIMONY OF THE HAWAII SOLAR ENERGY ASSOCIATION
IN REGARD TO S.B. 2632
RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGIES
BEFORE THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
ON
THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 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 supports the intent of this bill.

The realm of solar energy includes both heat (solar thermal) and light (solar electricity). Solar thermal energy is particularly versatile in that it can be used to provide air conditioning, to heat water and air, or to generate electricity. High temperature solar thermal steam generators, often referred to generically as concentrating solar power (CSP) technologies, are capable of generating enormous amount of electricity.

S.B. 2632 amends the statute by adding language to include CSP's as a qualifying technology. The change clarifies and acknowledges that both PV and solar thermal systems are capable of generating electricity. The bill also adds a new section defining what solar power systems are, but notably fails to include electricity generation in the definition.

S.B. 2623, the next bill on today's agenda, also amends HRS 235-12.5 to make explicit that electricity producing thermal systems are qualifying technologies. HSEA prefers the clarity and simplicity of the definitional change found in S.B. 2623.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.