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TESTIMONY
OF
RUSS K. SAITO, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEES
ON
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
AND
JUDICIARY AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
ON
February 13, 2009

S.B. 811

RELATING TO ENERGY RESOURCES

Chair Gabbard, Chair Taniguchi, and members of the Committees, thank you for the opportunity to testify on S.B. 811.

DAGS supports the intent of this bill, which "requires all new State buildings and facilities for which construction commences after 1/1/10, to have no less than 10% of

electricity usage supplied by renewable energy". DAGS has comments relative to implementation.

Buildings and facilities for which construction commences after January 1, 2010 would likely have to have been designed by the end of June 2009. Because this bill, if it becomes law, will be typically put into effect around July 1, 2009, the bill should take into consideration that design of buildings would not have been completed for those projects. In addition, design intervals of a year are nominal. This means that projects for which design is started after July 1, 2009 would result in construction not likely to start until 1/1/11. If this bill is passed, this time requirement should be taken into account. An alternate way of taking the time requirement into consideration might be to require that all construction based on designs initiated after the effective date of the bill, are constructed

so that no less than 10% of the electricity requirement be supplied by renewable energy technology.

It may also turn out that depending on the size, location, climate and terrain of the property on which the building or facility is built, 10% may not be feasible. The bill should include a provision "unless prohibited by the size, location, climate and terrain of the property on which the building or facility is being constructed.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.