

Bill No. SB 2858

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March 9, 2010

Hearing on SB2858, Relating to Retail Wheeling
Before the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
on Tuesday, March 9, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. in Conference Room 325

Dear Chair Morita and members of the Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Dowling Company in support of Senate Bill No. 2858. Dowling Company is a Maui-based real estate development company that is committed to green building practices and sustainable development.

As Project Coordinator and LEED Accredited Professional, I support the general provisions of this bill. This bill supports the objective of becoming an energy independent state. Retail wheeling is a critical mechanism for increasing renewable energy use through the direct sale of renewable energy from non-utility producer to end user. Allowing retail wheeling will decrease fossil fuel-based energy usage through the integration of wind, solar, and other renewable energy technologies. Inasmuch, this bill will support economic activity in the renewable energy sector, will stabilize the economy against the volatile fossil fuel market, will create a more attractive market for the public by offering alternative energy providers, and will benefit the environment by reducing carbon emissions associated with the importation and burning of fossil fuel in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

Sincerely,

Tiare Ferguson