

SB 1197

Date: 02/01/2011

Committee: Senate Energy and
Environment
Senate Education

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: SB 1197 RELATING TO ENERGY.

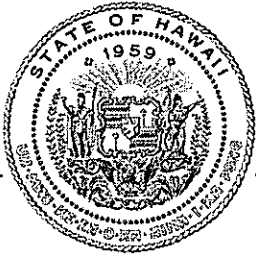
Purpose of Bill: Requires the incorporation of alternative energy designs into construction of, and major renovations to, schools and state facilities for which planning begins on or after 7/1/11.

Department's Position: The Department of Education (DOE) supports the intent of this bill. However, the DOE has major concerns regarding its practical implementation. While the DOE agrees that it is desirable to reduce Hawaii's dependence on imported fossil fuels, the DOE does not believe this bill mandating the implementation of alternative energy designs is necessary or practical. Act 96, SLH 2006, already provides the framework for energy self-sufficiency and mandates energy efficient design of buildings and facilities. The DOE, as well as other state agencies already design our facilities to these standards. Requiring that a specific percentage of a building's energy consumption be generated from alternative energy sources is inflexible and arbitrary and may not be practical to implement in a large system with many variables and options. For example, the most readily available sources of alternative energy for school campuses in Hawaii are solar and wind generated power. However, the amount of wind and/or solar energy available varies widely from campus to campus. This would result in greatly differing impacts amongst projects at these schools and as such, a "one-size-fits-all"

approach is not the solution.

A better approach would be to allow the departments the flexibility to determine how best to meet overall alternative energy goals rather than to fix an arbitrary number for all projects. As the DOE continues to increase our use of alternative energy use through the implementation of photovoltaic installations, the use of energy-saving methods in new building and renovation projects, headway is also being made to increase energy conserving behavior. This multi-strategy approach would be more practical to implement and allow the departments the flexibility they need while still supporting the use of alternative energy. And in addition, the Board of Education's Sustainability Policy takes a more aggressive position, requiring the DOE to utilize clean energy for 25% of its energy needs by 2015, rising to 90% clean energy by 2040.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony.



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

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

RICHARD C. LIM
INTERIM DIRECTOR

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Statement of
RICHARD C. LIM
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the

**SENATE COMMITTEES ON
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT**

And
EDUCATION

Tuesday, February 1, 2011

2:45 p.m.

State Capitol, Conference Room 225

in consideration of

**SB1197
RELATING TO ENERGY.**

Chairs Gabbard and Tokuda, Vice Chairs English and Kidani, and members of the
Committees.

SB1197 requires the incorporation of alternative energy designs into construction of, and
major renovation to, schools and state facilities for which planning begins on or after July 1,
2011.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) supports
the intent of SB1197 and the intent to increase the sustainability of state buildings. We
recommend, however, that before any renewable energy systems are installed, that the building
be maximized for energy efficiency that exceeds the requirements of Leadership in Energy and
Environmental Design, Silver, for buildings. At present Chapter 196-9, energy efficiency and

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environmental standards for state facilities, motor vehicles, and transportation fuel, directs each agency to implement, to the extent possible to “design and construct buildings meeting the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design silver or two green globes rating system.” Energy efficiency is the most cost effective investment in the life of the building. Efficiency investments have a good to excellent payback period. Therefore, before very expensive renewable technologies, such as photovoltaics which cost about \$8,000 installed for one kilowatt, the investments should focus on maximizing building envelopes for roofs, walls, and windows that mitigate heat gain, building envelopes that provide natural day-lighting and ventilation, and all the equipment installed are high efficiency Energy Star products. If a building is not the most energy efficient possible, then expensive renewable energy installations will be used to provide electricity to operate inefficient building equipment and building design.

We offer these comments for your consideration. Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



BRUCE COPPA
Comptroller

RYAN OKAHARA
Deputy Comptroller

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WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
BRUCE COPPA, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEES
ON
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
AND
EDUCATION
ON
February 1, 2011

S.B. 1197

RELATING TO ENERGY

Chair Gabbard, Chair Tokuda, and members of the Committees, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on S.B. 1197.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) opposes S.B. 1197.

We oppose this bill because it is an unfunded legislative mandate that does not contain any legislative commitment to appropriate adequate project funding to accomplish the mandates of the bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.