



Hawaii Solar Energy Association
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**SENATE
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
&
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
SB 1197**

Christy Imata

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair English, Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committees:

The Hawaii Solar Energy Association supports SB 1197 as it moves to align the state's actions with that of its clean energy goals.

In 2009, the Hawaii State Legislature passed HB1464, setting a goal of 40% renewable energy generation by 2030. However, despite this aggressive goal, the State remains dependent on fossil fuels for about 90% of its electric generation.

State facilities, including public schools, are amongst the largest consumers of electricity. Requiring all new state facilities and renovations, for which the construction exceeds \$1M, to offset a minimum of 10% of its energy use through renewable energy generation would help move the state in the right direction.

The inclusion of renewable energy generation in the construction of new state facilities, including public schools, would also serve as a catalyst for educating Hawaii's youth about the importance of clean energy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Christy Imata
Hawaii Solar Energy Association

About Hawaii Solar Energy Association

Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA) is comprised of installers, distributors, manufacturers and financers of solar energy systems, both hot water and PV, most of which are Hawaii based, owned and operated. Our primary goals are: (1) to further solar energy and related arts, sciences and technologies with concern for the ecologic, social and economic fabric of the area; (2) to encourage the widespread utilization of solar equipment as a means of lowering the cost of energy to the American public, to help stabilize our economy, to develop independence from fossil fuel and thereby reduce carbon emissions that contribute to climate change; (3) to establish, foster and advance the usefulness of the members, and their various products and services related to the economic applications of the conversion of solar energy for various useful purposes; and (4) to cooperate in, and contribute toward, the enhancement of widespread understanding of the various applications of solar energy conversion in order to increase their usefulness to society.