

HAWAII RENEWABLE ENERGY ALLIANCE

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TESTIMONY OF WARREN BOLLMEIER ON BEHALF OF THE HAWAII RENEWABLE ENERGY ALLIANCE BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

SB 2287, RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY

January 31, 2012

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Chair Gabbard and Vice-Chair English and members of the Committee, I am Warren Bollmeier, testifying on behalf of the Hawaii Renewable Energy Alliance (HREA). HREA is an industry-based, nonprofit corporation in Hawaii established in 1995. Our mission is to support, through education and advocacy, the use of renewables for a sustainable, energy-efficient, environmentally-friendly, economically-sound future for Hawaii. One of our goals is to support appropriate policy changes in state and local government, the Public Utilities Commission and the electric utilities to encourage increased use of renewables in Hawaii.

The purpose of SB 2287 is to provide eligible customer-generators with the option to maintain existing net metering contracts even if the public utilities commission establishes alternative mechanisms for crediting or otherwise compensating eligible customer-generators for exported power.

HREA strongly supports this measure as it supports our clean energy objectives and we offer the following comments in support. We like options, and the most basic option is to keep doing what you are doing, i.e., if you have a net metering agreement and a system in place, you should be able to keep the agreement and the system in place.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.