



Hawaii Solar Energy Association
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SENATE
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY &
ENVIRONMENT
SB 2291

Mark Duda
President

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair English and Members of the Committee:

SB2291 is an important measure that expands access to the savings that solar energy offers residents of Hawaii. Over time, the opportunity to reap these savings has expanded from, in years past, an original group of high-income early adopters to today when solar serves the needs of many low- and moderate-income homeowners. It is still the case however, that these savings have only been available principally to owners of single-family detached housing, and, as clarified in §196-7, town homes.

SB2291 would extend this opportunity to owners of low-rise condominiums, who would gain access to common roof elements in a ratio proportionate with their ownership. It is important to note that giving residents of such structures is not a wholly new concept – the roof is a common element in townhouses as well. As a result, SB2291 is merely extending the same consideration to owners of low-rise condominiums that is already enjoyed by townhouse owners. Given Hawaii's dire energy circumstance and catastrophic dependence on imported fossil fuels, SB2291 is a common sense measure that allows more of the state's homeowners to invest in Hawaii's renewable energy future.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mark Duda
President, Hawaii Solar Energy Association

About Hawaii Solar Energy Association

Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA) is comprised of installers, distributors, manufacturers and financiers 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.