



Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter

PO Box 2577, Honolulu, HI 96803
808.538.6616 hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org

LATE

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS

February 26, 2013, 10:00 A.M.
(Testimony is 1 page long)

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HCR 44, HR 26

Aloha Chair Tsuji and Members of the Committee:

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i, with over 10,000 members and supporters, **supports** HCR 44, HR 26. This measure asks the Department of Taxation to look at the feasibility of offering a tax credit for the maintenance of a solar water heater.

A solar water system is the most basic renewable energy device to harness the clean energy from the sun. The technology is mature, tested, and works. And yet a solar water system may require maintenance over time, a fact that many consumers may not know. In order to ensure residents are benefiting from a properly maintained solar water system, it may be necessary to look at ways to encourage and incentivize regular maintenance.

We note that there may be reluctance to pursue a tax credit. ***We encourage this Committee to consider asking the Public Utilities Commission to consider asking the Public Benefits Administrator to look at investing in marketing and offering rebates to encourage proper maintenance of solar water heaters.***

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.