



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

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Tuesday, 9, 2016
8:00a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of
HB 1751

RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY.

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen, and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) offers comments on HB1751, which broadens the definition of renewable energy.

DBEDT is concerned that “other resources that replenish themselves at a *sufficient rate* for *sustainable* economic extraction in *meaningful human timeframes*” could be subject to interpretation, making it difficult to implement the will of the legislature.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments on HB 1751.

TESTIMONY OF RANDY IWASE
CHAIR, PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

February 9, 2016
8:00 a.m.

MEASURE: H.B. No. 1751
TITLE: RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY

Chair Lee and Members of the Committee:

DESCRIPTION:

This measure greatly expands the definition of “renewable energy” for the purposes of the Part VI of Chapter 269, Hawaii Revised Statutes regarding the Renewable Portfolio Standards (“RPS”).

POSITION:

The Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) offers the following comments for the Committee’s consideration.

COMMENTS:

The Commission notes that, as the measure is currently written, it is unclear what technologies would be eligible to be counted as part of the RPS. More importantly, it is unclear what technologies would be excluded from eligibility to be counted as part of the RPS. This lack of clarity may lead to unintended consequences with respect to the State’s ability to achieve it’s clean energy goals.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



Before the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
Tuesday, February 9, 2016, Room 325
HB: 1751 Relating to Renewable Energy

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen, and members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Distributed Energy Resources Council of Hawaii (“DER Council”), I would like to testify in opposition to HB 1751, which broadens the definition of renewable energy. The DER Council is a nonprofit trade organization formed to assist with the development of distributed energy resources and smart grid technologies to support an affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy supply for Hawaii.

The DER Council supports the use of all renewable resources for a sustainable Hawaii. However, we are concerned over the vagueness of the language that is proposed in HB 1751 under section 1 (10) where the definition of renewable energy is expanded beyond the wind, the sun, falling water, biogas, geothermal, ocean water, currents, waves, thermal energy conversion, biomass, biofuels, and hydrogen produced from renewable sources to “[o]ther resources that replenish themselves at a sufficient rate from sustainable economic extraction in meaningful human timeframes.”

The DER Council is concerned that this amendment could unintentionally allow non-renewable resources to fit under this amended renewable energy definition. For instance, if a new method for extraction of LNG is created such that the resource appears to “replenish itself” at a sufficient rate as more of this fossil fuel is driven to the surface—would that suffice to satisfy the definition? To our knowledge, there is currently no renewable resource which we cannot add to our renewable portfolio because of an overly narrow definition. We ask that the legislature consider amending the definition of a renewable resource only if and when a true need arises.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify

Leslie Cole-Brooks
Executive Director
Distributed Energy Resources Council of Hawaii



P.O. Box 37158, Honolulu, Hawai`i 96837-0158
Phone: 927-0709 henry.lifeoftheland@gmail.com

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Rep. Chris Lee, Chair

Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, February 09, 2016

TIME: 8:00 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 325

Re: HB 1751 Related to Renewable Energy

PLEASE HOLD

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen, and Members of the Committee

Life of the Land is Hawai`i's own energy, environmental and community action group advocating for the people and `aina for 45 years. Our mission is to preserve and protect the life of the land through sound energy and land use policies and to promote open government through research, education, advocacy and, when necessary, litigation.

HB 1751 adds language to existing law that makes everything renewable energy. "Renewable energy' means energy not limited to ..."

The proposed new section, 269-91(10), is ambiguous at best. It adds several undefined terms: "replenish," "sufficient rate," "sustainable economic extraction," and "meaningful human timeframes," that combined could be interpreted in multiple ways.

Mahalo

Henry Curtis
Executive Director

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2016 12:44 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: rustonu@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1751 on Feb 9, 2016 08:00AM*

HB1751

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2016 08:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ruston Utu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Email: communications@ulupono.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Tuesday, February 9, 2016 — 8:00 a.m. — Room 325

Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports HB 1751, Relating to Renewable Energy

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Kyle Datta and I am General Partner of the Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment company that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally grown food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and reduce waste. We believe that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity, and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

Ulupono strongly supports HB 1751, which expands the definition of renewables to include all technologies that possess renewable characteristics.

Ulupono supports the clarification of the definition because we do not believe it was the policy intent to limit the renewable technologies solely to those that were available at the time of that the law was enacted. This modest modification would allow inclusion of technologies that might be available in the future to meet our 100% renewable goals.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Kyle Datta
General Partner

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 08, 2016 3:51 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: dylanarm@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB1751 on Feb 9, 2016 08:00AM*

LATE

HB1751

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for EEP on Feb 9, 2016 08:00AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dylan Armstrong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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February 8, 2016

For: HB1751 – Relating to Renewable Energy
Date: Tuesday, February 9, 2016
Time: 8:00 AM
Committee: House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
Room: Conference Room 325

LATE

From: Dr. Melvin H Chiogioji, PE

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB1751

Dear Chair Lee and Members of the Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection:

Aloha and thank you for allowing me to submit my testimony in support of HB1751 a bill that enhances Section 269-91 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes. This measure, when approved, positions Hawaii to welcome all approved technologies that can assist the State in becoming energy independent. This can only be positive for the State, our economy and the generations of our families to come.

Needless to say, Hawaii is now in the global spotlight to be a model citizen as it relates to renewable energy, since the goal to be weaned off of fossil fuels was set to the year 2045. Although 90% of energy is derived from the importation oil today we must chart a new course of action to reach our goal.

HB1751 opens another window of opportunity that can allow our State to be driven not by fossil fuels but by the hope of becoming self-sustainable related to energy.

I humbly urge this committee to vote in favor of this measure and thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely Yours,

Melvin H Chiogioji
President, DBA, PE

Timothy P. Donovan
Chief Executive Officer



February 8, 2016

Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
Hawaii State House of Representatives
State Capital Conference Room 325
Time: 8:00 AM



RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

HB1751 – Relating to Renewable Energy

Dear Chair Lee and Members of the Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection:

I am submitting my testimony in Support for HB1751.

This bill establishes the foundation our State needs to move towards energy sustainability. Especially since Hawaii has set a goal of energy independence by the year 2045. Although we have made significant strides towards this goal we are far short of where we need to be in order to stay on track.

One key pathway would be to welcome all technological advances that can increase our energy security and make Hawaii a global demonstration model. HB1751 provides a significant platform to accomplish this and provides opportunities to further strengthen our economy as a benefit.

Thank you for your consideration and affirmative votes in this matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T.P. Donovan'.

Timothy P. Donovan

Chief Executive Officer
HP Energy



MOLOKAI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

P.O. Box 515
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LATE

February 8, 2016

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2016

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Rep. Chris Lee, Chair
Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 09, 2016

8:00 a.m.

Conference Room 325
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

Support for HB 1751 RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY. Broadens the definition of renewable energy.

Honorable Energy & Environmental Protection Committee Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen and Committee Members:

As a representative organization of the neighbor-island of Molokai with dozens of members who employ hundreds of our neighbors, friends and families, we are respectfully submitting testimony in Favor of HB 1751.

As you may well know, Molokai suffers from some of the highest energy costs in our State and as we move towards Hawaii's clean energy goals, renewable energy will play the largest role in achieving them and helping to provide stable and cost effective energy to meet the demands of our island businesses, residents and all the people of Hawaii.

At the current rate of technological advancements in this dynamic sector, we are likely to encounter technologies that, while technologically fully renewable, may not meet the specific criteria of the current definition under HRS 269-91. As a State we would be remiss if we did not allow for the inclusion of these technologies under this definition and make available the same resources for their development and implementation as their statutorily defined counterparts currently enjoy.

These new, emerging and yet to be discovered technologies will ultimately play a critical role in propelling us forward into the energy future we all envision, one where we are good stewards of our environment and natural resources, and provide for the energy needs of our greatest natural resource, our people, the people of Hawaii.

For these reasons and more we humbly ask you to Support HB 1751 and pass it through your committee.

Sincerely,

Robert Stephenson, President & CEO



**Testimony to the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
Tuesday, February 9, 2016 8:00 am
Conference Room 325, State Capitol
RE: House Bill 1751**

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen and Members of the Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection:

Hawaii Gas **supports** HB 1751, which expands the definition of “Renewable Energy” to include resources that replenish themselves at a sufficient rate for sustainable economic extraction in meaningful human timeframes.

In order to meet the states clean energy goals of Act 97 of the 2015 Session Laws of Hawaii, which establishes a 100 percent renewable portfolio standard by 2045, the definition should include the current 9 sources as stated in Section 269-91 of Hawaii Revised Statutes, as well as new, yet to be determined renewable technologies.

HB1751 serves to broaden the definition of “Renewable Energy” to allow for innovative sustainable technologies.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.