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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE

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ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY

TESTIMONY BY WESLEY K. MACHIDA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 957, H.D.1, S.D.1

April 4, 2017
9:35 a.m.
Room 211

RELATING TO HEAT ABATEMENT

House Bill No. 957, H.D.1, S.D.1, amends Section 196-65, HRS, to allow moneys from the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Special Fund to be used, subject to approval of the Public Utilities Commission, for installation costs of energy efficient lighting and other energy efficiency measures to address heat abatement at public schools. The measure also authorizes the Department of Education (DOE) to borrow \$46,400,000 from the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Special Fund for heat abatement at public schools. In addition, the measure requires that the DOE re-pay the loan from general revenue savings resulting from the installation of energy efficient lighting and other energy efficiency measures.

While DOE should realize general fund savings related to the heat abatement project, we defer to DOE on how much savings will be generated and how quickly those savings may be applied to the repayment of the GEMS loan. We note that requiring general funds for repayment of GEMS loan will mean a long-term commitment of general funds that might otherwise be available for DOE programs.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

Date: 04/04/2017

Time: 09:35 AM

Location: 211

Committee: Senate Ways and Means

Department: Education

Person Testifying: Kathryn S. Matayoshi, Superintendent of Education

Title of Bill: HB 0957, HD1, SD1 RELATING TO HEAT ABATEMENT.

Purpose of Bill: Authorizes the Department of Education to borrow moneys from the Hawaii green infrastructure loan program for heat abatement measures at public schools. Requires the Department of Education to make payments on the loan from revenues saved by energy efficiency measures. Effective 1/28/2081. (SD1)

Department's Position:

The Department of Education (DOE) supports the intent of HB 0957, which authorizes the DOE and the Department of Budget & Finance to borrow moneys from the Green Energy Market Securitization (GEMS) program. The DOE, however, has serious concerns about holding the debt service. As initially envisioned, the Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) had originally agreed to hold the debt service. However, with B&F changing its position, the DOE feels that the volatility in the energy markets increases the risk that savings may not cover debt service.

While the DOE strongly supports energy-efficient lighting programs such as the replacement of fluorescent bulbs with Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) in the 256 public schools that would result in cooler classrooms, lower utility bills and help offset increased costs of additional air conditioning, the assumption of the debt service risks the possibility that the DOE will need to use other program funds if anticipated savings are not enough to offset the debt.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.

TESTIMONY OF RANDY IWASE
CHAIR, PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS

April 04, 2017
9:35 a.m.

MEASURE: H.B. No. 957, H.D. 1, S.D. 1
TITLE: RELATING TO HEAT ABATEMENT

Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

DESCRIPTION:

This measure would authorize the Department of Education (“DOE”) to borrow moneys from the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Loan Program for financing the installation costs for energy-efficient lighting and other energy-efficiency measures related to heat abatement measures at public schools. This measure requires the DOE to make payments on the loan from revenues saved by energy efficient measures.

POSITION:

The Commission offers the following comments for the Committee’s consideration.

COMMENTS:

The Commission takes no position with respect to the proposal to authorize DOE to borrow moneys from the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Loan Program for financing the installation costs for energy-efficient lighting and other energy-efficiency measures related to heat abatement measures at public schools, provided that funds for repayment are provided for the duration of the loan. Unintended consequences, including increased customer surcharges and/or a limited ability to achieve the State’s statutorily required Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standards, pursuant to section 269-96, HRS, may arise if funds for repayment are not provided for the duration of the loan repayment.

The Commission also notes that on February 22, 2017, via Order No. 34421 in Docket No. 2014-0135, the Commission approved Program Notification No. 11 (“PN11”) authorizing the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority (“HGIA”) to deploy up to \$60,000,000 from the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Loan Program to DOE for energy efficiency (“EE”) infrastructure as part of the DOE’s Ka Hei Energy Sustainability Program (“Ka Hei Program”). According to HGIA, the Ka Hei Program has developed shovel-ready EE initiatives including energy efficient LED lighting and other energy conservation measures, such as the optimization and control of existing equipment and facilities (i.e. refrigeration and ventilation systems, etc.). PN11 is intended to provide DOE with access to financing to install EE and certain heat abatement measures that could significantly reduce DOE’s kW load, energy consumption, and costs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS
Tuesday, April 4, 2017 — 9:35 a.m. — Room 211

Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports HB 957 with an Amendment, Relating to Heat Abatement

Dear Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Murray Clay and I am Managing Partner of the Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally produced food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and reduce waste. Ulupono believes 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 957 HD 1 SD 1, which authorizes the Hawai'i Department of Education (DOE) to borrow moneys from the Hawai'i Green Energy Market Securitization (GEMS) loan program for heat abatement in Hawai'i's public schools, because it aligns with our goal of increasing the production of clean, renewable energy in Hawai'i.

The green infrastructure special fund was established in June 2013 to provide low-cost financing for energy technology to ensure all ratepayers receive an opportunity for affordable clean energy. However, it is important to keep in mind that the GEMS program has only been operational for a year and a half. Furthermore, GEMS's loan programs were severely impeded when the PUC changed the rules to restrict Net Energy Metering for rooftop solar.

Currently, the GEMS program is growing in the number and size of potential projects in its pipeline and is actively working on obtaining more. For example, Hawai'i Green Infrastructure Authority and the utility have been working on an on-bill repayment mechanism for GEMS funding and \$9.6 million has been committed towards a project to allow homeowners on Molokai to obtain solar hot water heaters. This pilot will leverage the new on-bill repayment mechanism to more effectively reach low and moderate-income homeowners and renters.

This legislation to use the GEMS funding to loan moneys to the DOE for energy efficiency

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

upgrades and to solve a heat abatement problem that our schools have been fighting for decades. The energy savings from these investments will be used to payback the GEMS loans, which creates a replenished funding cycle to further invest in reducing imported fossil fuels. Hawai'i's public schools are some of the largest consumers of energy in the State and the energy efficiency measures adopted through this mechanism will help the State to achieve its ambitious 100 percent renewable portfolio standards goals. This legislation can create a win-win situation by tackling two challenges for the State.

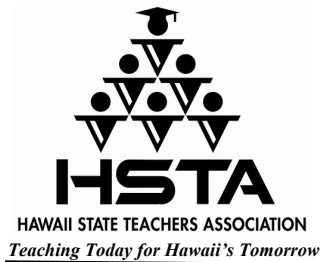
While Ulupono is in strong support of this bill, we would recommend adding in Section 6 that while the intent is to repay from energy savings, the repayment is mandatory and a minimum repayment schedule should be established at the time the loan is made. This will help to ensure that funding for renewable energy and energy efficiency can be used on other worthy projects in the future, especially as more projects will need to be implemented for the State to meet its energy goals.

As Hawai'i's energy issues become more complex and challenging, we appreciate this committee's efforts to look at policies that support renewable energy production.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Murray Clay
Managing Partner



1200 Ala Kapuna Street ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
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Corey Rosenlee
President
Justin Hughey
Vice President
Amy Perruso
Secretary-Treasurer
Wilbert Holck
Executive Director

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS

RE: HB 957, HD 1, SD 1 - RELATING TO HEAT ABATEMENT.

TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2017

COREY ROSENLEE, PRESIDENT
HAWAII STATE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Chair Tokuda and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii State Teachers Association **supports and suggests amendments for HB 957, HD 1, SD 1**, relating to heat abatement.

It's hot in Hawai'i. According to the National Weather Service, our state set over 50 high temperature records in the summer of 2015, with the heat and humidity lingering well into the start of fall. In our schools, children and teachers alike became ill from the blistering conditions. Kalaheo High School science teacher Micah Pregitzer recorded temperatures as high as 108 degrees inside his classroom last August, telling reporters, "You're dripping in sweat when you're just sitting there grading papers by yourself with no students in the room. You get the room packed with 36, 38, sometimes 40 students, and it just boosts that temperature up even higher."

A recent study conducted by University of California at Los Angeles researchers showed that the percentile gap between students learning in air conditioned and non-air-conditioned environments can reach as much as 17 percent on achievement tests, clearly evincing the impact of a comfortable classroom environment on student success. In a longitudinal analysis contained in "Effects of the Physical Environment on Student Learning," moreover, Glen I. Earthman of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University found that students between 4th and 9th grade at demographically similar schools showed increased gains in reading vocabulary, total math, problem solving, math procedures, pre-writing, and editing at schools with air conditioning, as compared with peers from non-cooled schools.



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Vice President

Amy Perruso
Secretary-Treasurer

Wilbert Holck
Executive Director

Earthman demonstrated that the longer and more consistently students are exposed to classroom cooling, the better and more stable their performance gains tend to be. Conversely, students exposed to thermal conditioning for only short or intermittent periods of time achieved less than their peers. These findings are supported by U.S. Department of Education sponsored research, which claims that proper cooling systems lead to better attitudes toward learning, fewer disciplinary problems, and sustained achievement.

Last year, lawmakers answered Gov. David Ige's call to cool 1,000 classrooms by appropriating \$100 million for heat abatement. At the same time, policymakers required the Hawaii State Department of Education to set a goal of achieving net-zero energy usage by 2035. While we had hoped that the \$100 million would extend cooling technology to thousands of classrooms throughout the state, unexpectedly high procurement bids have limited the reach of the state's funding. Currently, the DOE expects to cool only 1,064 classrooms with the \$100 million appropriation, an average cost of \$93,985 per classroom. This is unacceptable. Last April, NextEra Energy Hawai'i donated 33 hybrid solar air-conditioning units to Kaunakakai Elementary and Kilohana Elementary schools on Moloka'i. Greenpath Technologies Inc., a Honolulu-based renewable energy company, performed the installations at a cost of \$20,000 per classroom, verifying that classroom cooling could be accomplished sustainably and at significant cost savings.

We believe that the current measure presents an opportunity to fund the renewable energy requirements enacted last year, while working to find innovative ways to lower the cost of future classroom cooling efforts. Given that Gov. Ige's approximately \$62 million budget request for the department's heat abatement program appears to have been cut back to \$1.5 million for two schools, however, we urge lawmakers to ensure that savings produced by the \$46.4 million in energy efficiency upgrades provided by this measure are recycled into the DOE's heat abatement program. We further request that all references to "heat abatement" in this proposal be changed to "heat abatement and air conditioning" to reinforce air conditioning as the department's priority heat abatement strategy.

School should be cool. To make our classrooms more suitable for student learning, the Hawaii State Teachers Association asks your committee to **support** this bill.



46-063 Emepela Pl. #U101 Kaneohe, HI 96744 · (808) 679-7454 · Kris Coffield · Co-founder/Executive Director

**TESTIMONY FOR HOUSE BILL 957, HOUSE DRAFT 1, RELATING TO HEAT
ABATEMENT**

**Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Hon. Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Hon. Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair**

**Tuesday, April 4, 2017, 9:35 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211**

Honorable Chair Tokuda and committee members:

I am Kris Coffield, representing IMU Alliance, a nonpartisan political advocacy organization that boasts over 350 members. On behalf of our members, we offer this testimony in strong support of, with proposed amendments for House Bill 957, HD 1, SD 1, relating to heat abatement.

If school is cool, then our classrooms should be, too. Yet, last year, classroom temperatures regularly exceeded 90 degrees, reaching as high as 108 degrees in one Kalaheo High School classroom. Studies show that the achievement gap between cooled and non-cooled classroom environments can reach 17 percent on standardized tests. While local schools' outdated electrical infrastructure often cannot support traditional air conditioning technology, experiments in renewable energy cooling systems have lowered departmental projections for comprehensive cooling. We continue to believe that using available energy efficient technology—including on-grid, off-grid, microgrid, and photovoltaic technology—*should* reduce the cost of classroom cooling to \$20,000, or a total of \$140 million for the approximately 7,000 classrooms currently in need.

Therefore, we strongly support passage of this measure, which allows the Hawai'i State Department of Education and Department of Budget and Finance to borrow funds from the Hawai'i green infrastructure loan program to expand energy-efficient heat abatement in public schools. During the 2016 legislative session, lawmakers appropriated \$100 million for heat abatement, heeding Gov. David Ige's call to cool 1,000 classrooms by the end of the 2016-2017 school year. Available estimates of \$20,000 per classroom indicated, at the time, that \$100 million would cover heat abatement for thousands of classrooms beyond the governor's call. Unfortunately, contractor bids have been higher than expected. During the initial round of bidding, the "highest low bid," meaning the highest bid on a project that was also lower than all bids on the same project, was \$135,000. Other bids were even higher. Contech Engineering submitted a bid

of \$360,770, for example, to install solar-powered air conditioning in one portable at Ewa Beach Elementary, a project for which the lowest initial bid was \$102,000.

DOE officials subsequently rejected all exorbitant bids and expanded their pool of pre-qualified applicants. Since that time, the average cost of heat abatement projects has declined, with projects now running \$60,000 to \$70,000 per classroom. Contractors cite labor shortages and the cost of upgrading energy efficiency infrastructure as reasons for the extra expense, noting that policymakers also required the DOE, last year, to set a goal of becoming net-zero with regard to energy use by 2035. Today, the department officials plan to cool only 1,064 classrooms with the \$100 million appropriated last session, an average cost of \$93,985 per classroom. Last April, however, after NextEra Energy Hawai'i donated 33 hybrid solar air-conditioning units to Kaunakakai Elementary and Kilohana Elementary schools on Moloka'i, Greenpath Technologies Inc., a Honolulu-based renewable energy company, performed the installations at a cost of \$20,000 per classroom, verifying that classroom cooling could be accomplished sustainably and at significant cost savings. Thus, we believe the DOE's current cost projections are excessive. That said, the process of awarding contracts for heat abatement work during a booming construction market, along with the need to maximize renewable energy reliance throughout the state, clearly demonstrate the need for an additional, dedicated, and recurrent funding mechanism for the DOE's heat abatement program. Allowing green funds to be used for classroom cooling, as the original version of this measure proposed, would not only provide comfort to thousands of children at risk of heat exhaustion, but ensures that future cooling upgrades will comport with the state's goal of reducing carbon emissions.

While the current measure presents an opportunity to fund the renewable energy requirements enacted last year, we note that Gov. Ige's approximately \$62 million budget request for the department's heat abatement program has been trimmed to \$1.5 million for two schools. Thus, if this measure is move forward in a form that funds \$46.4 million in energy efficiency upgrades identified through the DOE's Ka Hei program, we urge lawmakers to ensure that savings generated by the upgrades are recycled into the DOE's heat abatement program. We further request that all references to "heat abatement" in this proposal be changed to "heat abatement and air conditioning" to emphasize air conditioning as the department's priority heat abatement strategy.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify **in support** of this bill.

Sincerely,
Kris Coffield
Executive Director
IMUAlliance

Hawaii Retail Services, LLC
DBA: Hawaii Unified Services
84-1170 Farrington Hwy., Suite C-1
Waianae, HI 96792
808.695.8685 ph. 808.356.1992 fx.



**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 957 HD1 SD1, RELATING TO HEAT ABATEMENT BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON WAYS AND MEANS ON TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2017**

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

I am Michael Baldwin, representing Hawaii Retail Services, LLC, a local contractor with operations on Oahu, Maui, Kauai, Molokai and the Big Island and I am in support of HB 957 HD1 SD1.

This bill allows the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority to loan \$46.4 million to the Department of Education (DOE) to finance the installation of energy-efficient lighting and other energy-efficiency measures related to heat abatement at public schools.

These funds will go a long way in stimulating the economy by way of local job creation. The majority of contractors hired to work on the DOE's Ka Hei program are local firms like ours. Not only will these funds go toward supporting locally owned and operated businesses, but the trickle-down effect of \$46.4 million into the local economy will be huge.

We have previously worked on the DOE's Ka Hei program and have witnessed first-hand the benefits to the schools in energy cost savings. Not only does this bill help move the DOE closer to its net-zero energy goal by 2035, but it also brings our State much closer to its Renewable Portfolio Standard target of 100% by 2045.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.,

Michael Baldwin President
Hawaii Retail Services, LLC
DBA: HAWAII UNIFIED SERVICES
808-798-3476 ph.
808-442-9998 fx.
Michael.Baldwin@HawaiiUnified.com

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 957 HD1 SD1, RELATING TO HEAT
ABATEMENT BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS ON
MONDAY, APRIL 3, 2017**

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

I am Van Matsushige, representing Lumenal Lighting a local contractor with operations throughout Hawaii. I am in support of HB 957 HD1 SD1.

This bill allows the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority to loan \$46.4 million to the Department of Education (DOE) to finance the installation of energy-efficient lighting and other energy-efficiency measures related to heat abatement at public schools.

These funds will go a long way in stimulating the economy by way of local job creation. The majority of contractors hired to work on the DOE's Ka Hei program are local firms like ours. Not only will these funds go toward supporting locally owned and operated businesses, but the trickle-down effect of \$46.4 million into the local economy will be huge.

We have previously worked on the DOE's Ka Hei program and have witnessed first-hand the benefits to the schools in energy cost savings. Not only does this bill help move the DOE closer to its net-zero energy goal by 2035, but it also brings our State much closer to its Renewable Portfolio Standard target of 100% by 2045.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Van Matsushige

Email: ✉ vmatsushige@lumenal.com

Cell: 📞 (808.798.8761)

2045 Lauwiliwili Street, Suite 201, Kapolei, HI 96707



**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 957 HD1 SD1, RELATING TO HEAT ABATEMENT BEFORE THE SENATE
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS ON TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2017**

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

I am Dante Aragon, representing Energy Management Consulting & Construction, LLC, a local contractor with operations on Oahu, Big Island, Maui, Kauai, Molokai and Lanai and I am in support of HB 957 HD1 SD1.

This bill allows the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority to loan \$46.4 million to the Department of Education (DOE) to finance the installation of energy-efficient lighting and other energy-efficiency measures related to heat abatement at public schools.

These funds will go a long way in stimulating the economy by way of local job creation. The majority of contractors hired to work on the DOE's Ka Hei program are local firms like ours. Not only will these funds go toward supporting locally owned and operated businesses, but the trickle-down effect of \$46.4 million into the local economy will be huge.

We have previously worked on the DOE's Ka Hei program and have witnessed first-hand the benefits to the schools in energy cost savings. Not only does this bill help move the DOE closer to its net-zero energy goal by 2035, but it also brings our State much closer to its Renewable Portfolio Standard target of 100% by 2045.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Dante Aragon
President
EMCC Hawaii, LLC
1633 Kahai St
Honolulu, HI 96819



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OAHU | HAWAII ISLAND | GUAM

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 957 HD1 SD1, RELATING TO HEAT ABATEMENT BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE
ON WAYS AND MEANS ON TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2017**

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

I am Erik Ahrens, representing Hawaii Energy Systems, LLC, a local contractor with physical offices on Oahu and Hawai'i Island and operating on Oahu, Hawai'i Island, Maui, Kauai, Lanai and Molokai and I am in support of HB 957 HD1 SD1.

This bill allows the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority to loan \$46.4 million to the Department of Education (DOE) to finance the installation of energy-efficient lighting and other energy-efficiency measures related to heat abatement at public schools.

These funds will go a long way in stimulating the economy by way of local job creation. The majority of contractors hired to work on the DOE's Ka Hei program are local firms like ours. Not only will these funds go toward supporting locally owned and operated businesses, but the trickle-down effect of \$46.4 million into the local economy will be huge.

We have previously worked on the DOE's Ka Hei program and have witnessed first-hand the benefits to the schools in energy cost savings. Not only does this bill help move the DOE closer to its net-zero energy goal by 2035, but it also brings our State much closer to its Renewable Portfolio Standard target of 100% by 2045.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Sincerely,

Erik Ahrens

Erik Ahrens
General Manager
Hawaii Energy Systems, LLC



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Waipahu, HI 96797
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Fx: (808)671-1556
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**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 957 HD1 SD1, RELATING TO HEAT ABATEMENT BEFORE
THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS ON TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2017**

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means:

I am Nicklaus Simon, representing Paradise Lighting LLC, a local contractor with operations on Oahu, Kauai, Maui, Molokai & Big Island and I am in support of HB 957 HD1 SD1.

This bill allows the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority to loan \$46.4 million to the Department of Education (DOE) to finance the installation of energy-efficient lighting and other energy-efficiency measures related to heat abatement at public schools.

These funds will go a long way in stimulating the economy by way of local job creation. The majority of contractors hired to work on the DOE's Ka Hei program are local firms like ours. Not only will these funds go toward supporting locally owned and operated businesses, but the trickle-down effect of \$46.4 million into the local economy will be huge.

We have previously worked on the DOE's Ka Hei program and have witnessed first-hand the benefits to the schools in energy cost savings. Not only does this bill help move the DOE closer to its net-zero energy goal by 2035, but it also brings our State much closer to its Renewable Portfolio Standard target of 100% by 2045.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nicklaus Simon", written over a horizontal line.

Nicklaus Simon
President