



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Written Testimony Submitted to the
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
Tuesday, March 21, 2017, 8:30 a.m.

By

Richard Rocheleau, Director
Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute
School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

SB 909 SD2 – RELATING TO ENERGY ASSURANCE

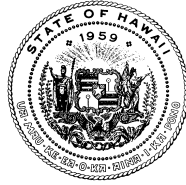
Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen, and members of the committee:

My name is Richard Rocheleau, Director of the Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute (HNEI) at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. While we spend much time in the design of innovative solutions for energy policy and technology necessary to drive Hawaii's clean energy transformation agenda, an often understated objective is to ensure the resiliency, safety and security of Hawaii's critical energy infrastructure. Energy assurance planning for natural and man-made disasters and disturbances remains one of the most important tasks of key energy stakeholders. HNEI supports SB 909 SD2 because it appropriately addresses a number of housekeeping and substantive improvements to Hawaii's statutes regarding fuel storage and response and energy emergency management.

SB 909 SD2 effectively establishes chapter 125C to clarify the State's roles in energy assurance for overseeing all forms of energy shortage, disruption and emergencies. While the existing plan is heavily focused on petroleum, SB 909 provides a broader view that affords residents and critical energy consumers with greater coverage and protection potential.

Also addressed in SB 909 SD2 is a greater alignment of state policies on energy assurance with applicable federal, state, county and private sector energy resources, emergency management and energy assurance plans and programs. It brings stark attention to access and confidentiality of crucial energy data essential for energy assurance and response teams to effectively perform, particularly those with Emergency Support Function #12 (energy) responsibilities. The bill also incorporates recommendations found in the most recent federal Quadrennial Energy Review and other federal and state strategic and operational guidance documents.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 909 SD2.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB909 SD2
RELATING TO ENERGY ASSURANCE.**

REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS LEE, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Hearing Date: March 21, 2017 Room Number: 325

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None for the Department of Health.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health supports SB909 SD2, which is part of the
3 Governor's Administration Package.

4 This measure addresses deficiencies in Hawaii's fuel shortage response and energy emergency
5 (energy assurance) statutes. It is critical that the the Department of Business, Economic
6 Development, and Tourism has clear policy guidance on preparing for, responding to, recovering
7 from, and mitigating against any actual or potential energy supply disruption or shortage to
8 preserve the State's energy security and to ensure that fuel products and energy resources are
9 made available to emergency services and the public in an orderly, efficient, and safe manner.

10 **Offered Amendments:** N/A.

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STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 909, SD2
A BILL RELATING TO ENERGY ASSURANCE

PRESENTATION TO
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (EEP)

BY

VERN T. MIYAGI
Administrator, Hawaii Emergency Management Agency

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

Aloha, I am Vern T. Miyagi, Administrator of Hawaii Emergency Management Agency and am testifying in **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 909, SD2.

Energy resilience continues to be a critical factor in the preparation for, response to, and recovery from any major disaster striking the state of Hawaii. Responding to energy shortfalls after a major disaster in Hawaii is greatly handicapped by our remote location in the Pacific. Restoring and sustaining energy requirements post disaster is a key to response and recovery. This was definitely the case in our response to Hurricane Iniki in 1992. Once sustained power was finally restored and distributed on Kauai, the emergency conditions were significantly mitigated.

This measure will address deficiencies in Hawaii's fuel shortage response and energy emergency (energy assurance) statutes. It shares our objectives of providing policy guidance to DBEDT on preparing for, responding to, recovering from, and mitigating against any actual or potential energy supply disruption or shortage to preserve the State's energy security and to ensure that fuel products and energy resources are made available to emergency services and the public in an orderly, efficient, and safe manner."

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony in **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 909, HD2.

Vern T. Miyagi; vern.t.miyagi@hawaii.gov; 808-733-4300



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
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DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Tuesday, March 21, 2017
8:30 am.
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of
SB 909 SD2
RELATING TO ENERGY ASSURANCE.

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

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) **strongly supports** SB 909 SD2, an Administration bill which updates Hawaii's petroleum shortage and energy emergency management (Energy Assurance) statutes, in order to strengthen the State's ability under a Governor-declared state of emergency to reduce or prevent shortages of energy that can cause significant adverse impacts on the economy, environment, public health, and the safety and welfare of the people of Hawaii.

Under current emergency plans, DBEDT is responsible for administering the State's Energy Assurance program and plans. This includes planning, training, and exercising to prepare for, and respond to, energy shortage and disaster events to ensure delivery of the energy needed for critical public services.

The primary authoritative guidance for these functions are the decades-old petroleum shortage statutes. However, these provisions no longer align with government and industry energy emergency best practices. Nor do they adequately enable the State to successfully develop the technical and analytic perspective necessary for situational awareness of the State's energy resources under a state of emergency – a requirement for an effective response.

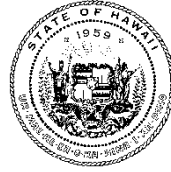
DBEDT believes that clarity of functional roles and clearly delineated authority for implementation is essential. SB 909 SD2's amendments provide policy guidance to better address exposure to energy supply disruption risk over the next decade.

These changes support better informed decision making and implementation of any government or industry resource requests and response actions for a faster and more resilient recovery.

DBEDT takes these roles and responsibilities seriously. As such, we believe that these amendments are a critical component to effectively plan for and respond to the variety and complexity of the threats, hazards, and risks that face Hawaii's energy systems and resources today, to better ensure that fuel products and energy resources are made available to emergency services and critical public needs in a safe, orderly, and efficient manner.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer support on SB 909 SD2.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



RODERICK K. BECKER
Comptroller

AUDREY HIDANO
Deputy Comptroller

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES

P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

TESTIMONY OF
RODERICK K. BECKER, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
ON
TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2017
8:30 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 325

S.B. 909, S.D. 2

RELATING TO ENERGY ASSURANCE

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on S.B. 909, S.D. 2. The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports the measure.

We support this measure as it addresses deficiencies in Hawaii's fuel shortage response and energy emergency (energy assurance) statutes. This updated policy guidance addresses preparing for, responding to, recovering from, and mitigating against any actual or potential energy supply disruption or shortage to preserve the State's energy security and to ensure that fuel products and energy resources are made available to emergency services and the public in an orderly, efficient, and safe manner.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY
HAWAII STATE FUSION CENTER

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 909 SD2
A BILL RELATING TO ENERGY ASSURANCE

PRESENTATION TO
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

BY
PAUL EPSTEIN

OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY HAWAII STATE FUSION CENTER
MARCH 20, 2017

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

I am Paul Epstein, Director of the Hawaii State Fusion Center, Office of Homeland Security, State of Hawaii Department of Defense. I am testifying in **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 909 SD2.

This bill establishes chapter 125C, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as the enabling statute for the State's DBEDT energy assurance program's coverage of all forms of energy shortage, disruption, or emergency, in line with the hazards, threats, and risks to the State's energy security and resilience of its energy ecosystem.

Senate Bill 909 is necessary to provide authoritative policy support and functional guidance to meet the state's energy needs. Please support this important initiative.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 909 SD2.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



Testimony by:
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
JADE T. BUTAY
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DARRELL T. YOUNG

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 21, 2017
8:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Room 325

IN REPLY REFER TO:

LATE

S.B. 909, S.D. 2
RELATING TO ENERGY ASSURANCE

House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** this Administration measure to address deficiencies in Hawaii's fuel shortage response and energy emergency (energy assurance) statutes. We appreciate the objectives of providing policy guidance to the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism on preparing for, responding to, recovering from, and mitigating against any actual or potential energy supply disruption or shortage to preserve the State's energy security and to ensure that fuel products and energy resources are made available to emergency services and the public in an orderly, efficient, and safe manner.

Transportation and energy are tightly linked. We believe it is prudent that we analyze and review our energy supply to strengthen our resiliency during emergencies.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 723-8960 • FAX: (808) 524-3439

LATE

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



MELVIN N. KAKU
DIRECTOR

PETER J.S. HIRAI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

March 21, 2017

The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair
The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair
Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

State House of Representatives
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Le, Vice Chair Lowen, and Members:

SUBJECT: SUPPORT OF S.B. 909 SD2 RELATING TO ENERGY ASSURANCE

I am Melvin Kaku, Director of the Department of Emergency Management (DEM), City and County of Honolulu (City).

DEM strongly supports S.B. 909 SD2 which addresses deficiencies in Hawaii's fuel shortage response and energy emergency (energy assurance) statutes. We appreciate the objectives of providing policy guidance to DBEDT on preparing for, responding to, recovering from, and mitigating against any actual or potential energy supply disruption or shortage to preserve the State's energy security and to ensure that fuel products and energy resources are made available to emergency services and the public in an orderly, efficient, and safe manner.

I urge your committee to pass S.B. 909 SD2. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Melvin N. Kaku". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Melvin" being the most prominent.

Melvin N. Kaku
Director



COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
HAWAII ENERGY POLICY FORUM
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MĀNOA

Hawaii Energy Policy Forum

Jeanne Schultz Afuvai, Hawaii Inst. for Public Affairs
Hajime Alabanza, Hawaii Solar Energy Association
John Antonio, US Dept of Agriculture
Karlie Asato, Hawaii Government Employees Assn
David Bissell, Kauai Island Utility Cooperative
Joseph Boivin, Hawaii Gas
Warren Bollmeier, Hawaii Renewable Energy Alliance
Michael Brittain, IBEW, Local Union 1260
Albert Chee, Island Energy Services
Elizabeth Cole, The Kohala Center
Kyle Datta, Ulupono Initiative
Mitch Ewan, UH Hawaii Natural Energy Institute
Jay Fidell, ThinkTech Hawaii
Carl Freedman, Hailu Design & Analysis
Matthias Fripp, REIS at University of Hawaii
Ford Fuchigami, Hawaii Dept of Transportation
Justin Gruenstein, City & County of Honolulu
Dale Hahn, Ofc of US Senator Brian Schatz
Michael Hamnett, SSRI at University of Hawaii
Senator Lorraine Inouye, Hawaii State Legislature
Randy Iwase, Public Utilities Commission
Brian Kealoha, Hawaii Energy
Darren Kimura, Energy Industries
Kelly King, Sustainable Biodiesel Alliance
Kal Kobayashi, Maui County Energy Office
Representative Chris Lee, Hawaii State Legislature
Gladys Marrone, Building Industry Assn of Hawaii
Stephen Meder, UH Facilities and Planning
Joshua Michaels, Ofc of US Rep. Colleen Hanabusa
Sharon Moriwaki, UH Public Policy Center
Ron Nelson, US Pacific Command Energy Office
Denise Oda, US Department of Agriculture
Jeffrey Ono, Division of Consumer Advocacy, DCCA
Stan Osseman, HCATT
Darren Pai, Hawaiian Electric Companies
Melissa Pavlicek, Hawaii Public Policy Advocates
Randy Perreira, Hawaii Government Employees Assn
Fredrick Redell, Maui County Energy Office
Rick Rocheleau, UH Hawaii Natural Energy Institute
Ross Roley, PACOM
Will Rolston, Hawaii County, Research & Development
Peter Rosegg, Hawaiian Electric Companies
Riley Saito, SunPower Systems
Scott Seu, Hawaiian Electric Companies
Joelle Simonpietri, UH Applied Research Lab
Ben Sullivan, Kauai County
Terry Surles, Hawaii State Energy Office, DBEDT
Lance Tanaka, Par Hawaii
Maria Tome, Public Utilities Commission
Kirsten Turner, Ofc of US Representative Tulsi Gabbard
Alan Yamamoto, Ofc of US Senator Mazie Hirono

Testimony of
Hawaii Energy Policy Forum
To the
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair
The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair

March 21, 2017 at 8:30 am in Conference Room 325

IN SUPPORT OF SB 909, SD2, WITH AMENDMENTS
Relating to Energy Assurance

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

I am Lance Tanaka, Chair of the Hydrocarbon Future & Energy Security Working Group of the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum ("Forum"). The Forum, created in 2002, is comprised of more than 40 representatives from Hawaii's electric utilities, oil and natural gas suppliers, environmental and community groups, renewable energy industry, and federal, state and local government, including representatives from the neighbor islands. Our vision and mission, and comprehensive "10 Point Action Plan" serve as a guide to move Hawaii toward its preferred energy goals.

The purpose of SB 909, SD 2 is to address deficiencies in Hawaii's fuel shortage response and energy emergency statutes.

The Forum supports the need for data-driven policy decisions based on valid and reliable data and, in particular, for preparing and responding to energy supply disruptions or shortages, and for preparing and updating an energy assurance plan to ensure Hawaii's energy security.

However, the bill prescribes provisions in Section 1, § 125C- Confidential information (page 3, beginning with line 11) for protecting information collected by state agencies that differ from existing statute, specifically, §486J-6 and 486J-7, HRS. These provisions were adopted by the Legislature when it created a new reporting requirement at the time it placed a moratorium on the pricing cap on wholesale gasoline, the Petroleum Industry Monitoring and Reporting (PIMAR) program. These provisions were the result of the collaborative work of the petroleum industry, the Hawaii Attorney General's Office and the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission, to protect the industry's information from unwarranted disclosure. SB 909 SD2 should honor those same protections by deleting the provision on confidential information (page 3, line 11-21 through page 4, line 19) and replacing it with the following provisions of §486J-6 and 486J-7, HRS, as follows:

§486J-6- Confidential information. (a) Statements provided to the department pursuant to section 486J-3 and the data contained therein shall be deemed confidential and exempt from public disclosure under chapter 92F.

(b) No data or information submitted to the department shall be deemed confidential if it is shown that the person submitting the information or data has made it public.

(c) Unless otherwise provided by law, with respect to data that the commission or department obtained or was provided pursuant to this chapter, neither the commission or department nor any employee of the commission or department may do any of the following:

(1) Use the information furnished or obtained for any purpose other than the purposes for which it is supplied;

(2) Make any publication whereby the data furnished by any person can be identified; or

(3) Permit any person other than the commission, the department of taxation, the attorney general, the consumer advocate, the department of business, economic development, and tourism, and the authorized representatives and employees of each to examine the individual reports or statements provided.



COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
HAWAII ENERGY POLICY FORUM
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MĀNOA

Hawaii Energy Policy Forum

Jeanne Schultz Afuvai, Hawaii Inst. for Public Affairs
Hajime Alabanza, Hawaii Solar Energy Association
John Antonio, US Dept of Agriculture
Karlie Asato, Hawaii Government Employees Assn
David Bissell, Kauai Island Utility Cooperative
Joseph Boivin, Hawaii Gas
Warren Bollmeier, Hawaii Renewable Energy Alliance
Michael Brittain, IBEW, Local Union 1260
Albert Chee, Island Energy Services
Elizabeth Cole, The Kohala Center
Kyle Datta, Ulupono Initiative
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Jay Fidell, ThinkTech Hawaii
Carl Freedman, Hailu Design & Analysis
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Rick Rocheleau, UH Hawaii Natural Energy Institute
Ross Roley, PACOM
Will Rolston, Hawaii County, Research & Development
Peter Rosegg, Hawaiian Electric Companies
Riley Saito, SunPower Systems
Scott Seu, Hawaiian Electric Companies
Joelle Simonpietri, UH Applied Research Lab
Ben Sullivan, Kauai County
Terry Surles, Hawaii State Energy Office, DBEDT
Lance Tanaka, Par Hawaii
Maria Tome, Public Utilities Commission
Kirsten Turner, Ofc of US Representative Tulsi Gabbard
Alan Yamamoto, Ofc of US Senator Mazie Hirono

Page 2, Testimony on SB909 SD2

[§486J-7 Confidential information obtained by another state agency. Any confidential information pertinent to the responsibilities of the commission or the department specified in this chapter that is obtained by another state agency, including the department of taxation, the attorney general, and the consumer advocate, shall be available only to the attorney general, the attorney general's authorized representatives, the department of business, economic development, and tourism, and the commission and shall be treated in a confidential manner.](#)

The Forum appreciates the Committee's consideration of these revisions and, therefore, urges passage of SB 909 SD2 with amendments.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

This testimony reflects the position of the Forum as a whole and not necessarily of the individual Forum members or their companies.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Saturday, March 18, 2017 3:02 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB909 on Mar 21, 2017 08:30AM*

SB909

Submitted on: 3/18/2017

Testimony for EEP on Mar 21, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	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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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Friday, March 17, 2017 8:00 PM
To: EEPtestimony
Cc: tika_bean@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB909 on Mar 21, 2017 08:30AM*

SB909

Submitted on: 3/17/2017

Testimony for EEP on Mar 21, 2017 08:30AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Erica Scott	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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LATE

TO: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Representative Chris Lee, Chair
Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair

FROM: Richard Parry
President of Hawaii Petroleum Marketers Association

HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, March 21, 2017
TIME: 8:30 a.m.
PLACE: State Capitol, Conference Room 325
RE: Testimony on S.B. No. 909 SD2 Relating to Energy Assurance

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen, and Members of the Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection, I am Richard Parry, President of the Hawaii Petroleum Marketers Association (“HPMA”). HPMA is a non-profit trade association comprised of members who directly market liquid motor fuel products across the Hawaiian Islands. Our membership includes individuals and companies who operate as independent marketers, jobbers or distributors of petroleum products and who buy liquid motor fuel products at the wholesale level and sell or distribute products to retail customers, other wholesalers, and other bulk consumers. HPMA’s primary purpose is to protect and advance its members’ legislative and regulatory interests in the Hawaiian Islands and Washington, D.C.

HPMA would like to comment on S. B. No. 909 SD2 which seeks to address deficiencies in Hawaii's fuel shortage response and energy emergency (energy assurance) statutes; provides policy guidance on preparing for, responding to, recovering from, and mitigating against any actual or potential energy supply disruption or shortage to preserve the State's energy security and to ensure that fuel products and energy resources are made available to emergency services and the public in an orderly, efficient, and safe manner.

HPMA is concerned about the ambiguity in the confidentiality provisions currently in S.B. 909 SD2. However, HPMA would support the intent of S.B. 909 SD2 if it adopts the approach for confidentiality found in the Energy Industry Information Reporting Act, in Chapter 486J of the Hawaii Revised Statutes. Specifically, the confidentiality provisions in the existing law read as follows:

Testimony of
Hawaii Petroleum Marketers Association

S.B. No. 909 SD 2

Hearing Date:

Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 8:30 a.m.

“§486J-6 Confidential information. (a) Statements provided to the department pursuant to section 486J-3 and the data contained therein shall be deemed confidential and exempt from public disclosure under chapter 92F.

(b) No data or information submitted to the department shall be deemed confidential if it is shown that the person submitting the information or data has made it public.

(c) Unless otherwise provided by law, with respect to data that the commission or department obtained or was provided pursuant to this chapter, neither the commission or department nor any employee of the commission or department may do any of the following:

(1) Use the information furnished or obtained for any purpose other than the purposes for which it is supplied;

(2) Make any publication whereby the data furnished by any person can be identified; or

(3) Permit any person other than the commission, the department of taxation, the attorney general, the consumer advocate, the department of business, economic development, and tourism, and the authorized representatives and employees of each to examine the individual reports or statements provided.

§486J-7 Confidential information obtained by another state agency. Any confidential information pertinent to the responsibilities of the commission or the department specified in this chapter that is obtained by another state agency, including the department of taxation, the attorney general, and the consumer advocate, shall be available only to the attorney general, the attorney general's authorized representatives, the department of business, economic development, and tourism, and the commission and shall be treated in a confidential manner.”

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and provide our concerns regarding
S.B. No. 909 SD 2.



HOUSE COMMITTEE ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

March 21, 2017, 8:30 AM

Room 325

(Testimony is 1 page long)

LATE

COMMENTS ON SB 909 SD2

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen, and Committee Members:

Blue Planet Foundation **supports the intent** of this bill, which is to increase the state's energy security. For example, the bill takes the sensible step of shifting the focus from "petroleum" fuels and energy security, and instead focusing energy on a broader spectrum of energy resources.

This transition to away from fossil fuels is Hawai'i's foremost protection against supply disruptions in the global petroleum markets. Thus, the transition to renewable energy should be reflected in the bill. As currently drafted, the bill directs DBEDT to:

- "Develop an understanding of the causes and effects of transitional issues and trends related to changes in the state's energy resources, systems, and markets."
- "Establish and maintain baseline data and information on Hawaii's statewide energy resources, systems, and markets, and their relationships to energy investment decisions and the economy in support of measures to increase energy resiliency, reduce vulnerabilities, and preserve Hawaii's energy security."
- "Produce other relevant energy analyses that the director deems necessary to administer the energy planning, energy emergency planning, energy assurance planning, and energy security policies" in relevant laws.

These steps, if implemented in a vacuum of over-arching policy on the transition to more secure renewable energy, would potentially be a waste of resources. Even more troubling, taking these steps in the absence of such policy could potentially be misguided and ultimately harm the state's energy security. Thus, for SB 909 to have its intended effect, state law must set the policy vision for the transition away from fossil fuels.

For our electricity sector, there is already a state planning target for transitioning to more secure renewable energy (by 2045). **For ground transportation, however, there is no such policy target. In support of the intent of SB 909, we propose that the bill should be amended to revise the State Planning Act and set 2045 as the planning target for a ground transportation sector powered by renewable energy.**

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments.