



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Higher Education
February 1, 2018 at 2:10 p.m.

By
John Morton
Vice President for Community Colleges
University of Hawai'i System

HB 1805 – RELATING TO ENERGY TRAINING

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Hashem, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1805. This measure would require the University of Hawai'i community colleges to, among other things, establish energy systems and technology training courses for county officers and employees responsible for permitting, inspecting, licensing, and approving construction projects that contain renewable energy systems and related technology.

Honolulu Community College is the leader of the construction and trades related training on the island of Oahu and mandated by law to provide construction and trades apprenticeship training. The College has experience in delivering curriculum around new energy system technologies and equipment. The electrical installation and maintenance technology program and the Pacific Center for Advanced Training and Technology (both Honolulu CC programs), have partnered to create new green technology training, including solar installation and maintenance. These customized programs have been geared for active duty military personnel and veterans, and have been offered on our military bases. They have also been offered to business organizations and is available through open enrollment. The community colleges also have a unique partnership with Johnson Controls Inc. through a performance based contract to lower the campus energy costs, waste, and implementation of new energy systems. This performance based contract includes an educational component where resources are provided for curriculum development, short-term instructional classes, and professional energy management consultation.

Honolulu Community College is poised to implement HB 1805 to provide the necessary training for county officers and employees responsible for permitting, inspecting, licensing, and approving projects, including officers and employees at county public works departments, planning and permitting departments, and fire departments. The College has years of experience in offering long-term and short-term training programs for specific energy related industries.

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of HB 1805 on the condition that any funds do not supplant any portion of the University's Supplemental Budget Request.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
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Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION
Thursday, February 1, 2018
2:10 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

in consideration of
HB1805
RELATING TO ENERGY TRAINING.

Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Hashem, and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) supports Bill No. 1805, which requires the University of Hawaii (UH) community colleges to, amongst other things, establish energy systems and technology training courses for county officers and employees responsible for permitting, inspecting, licensing, and approving construction projects that contain renewable energy systems and related technology.

We support the intent of this measure as we believe that such training to be developed by UH community colleges will be helpful in our state's achievement of 100% Renewable Portfolio Standard by 2045. We defer to the UH community colleges on the impact of this measure on their budget and curriculum planning.

It is our understanding that the Pacific Center for Advanced Technology Training and Continuing Education and Lifelong Learning (PCATT) at the Honolulu Community College has experience working with industry and the public sector to develop and deploy energy-related curriculum. Hence, there is already helpful precedence that could be leveraged in establishing the program under this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments in support of HB1805.

LATE

HB-1805

Submitted on: 2/1/2018 6:44:34 AM

Testimony for HED on 2/1/2018 2:10:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities	Support	No

Comments:

**PRESENTATION OF THE
OAHU COUNTY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII

TO THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION OF 2018

Thursday, February 1, 2018

2:10 p.m.

Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 309

RE: Testimony in Support of SB 1805, RELATING TO ENERGY TRAINING

To the Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair; the Honorable Mark J. Hashem, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Higher Education:

Good afternoon. My name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") Legislative Priorities Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on House Bill No. 1805, relating to training on energy systems and technology to County officers and employees. The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of House Bill No. 1805 and support its passage.

House Bill No. 1805, is in accord with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it requires UH community colleges to establish energy

systems and technology training courses for county officers and employees responsible for permitting, inspecting, licensing, and approving construction projects that contain renewable energy systems and related technology. It further requires the establishment of a committee of industry stakeholders to collaborate with UH community colleges in developing appropriate training courses and that the UH community colleges are to submit a report to the legislature detailing its progress prior to the convening of the regular session of 2020.

Specifically, the DPH Platform states, “[w]e seek to achieve energy sustainability based on renewable energy sources. We must encourage the use of clean alternative fuel sources. . . . We must also urgently develop the use of a variety of cost-effective energy providing systems, encourage transit-oriented development, and support tax incentives that encourage renewable energy initiatives.

We support energy independence, self-sufficiency, affordability and reliability for Hawai’i through the development of renewable alternative energy sources. Specifically, we need to support policies that foster the development of energy production methods and de-emphasize carbon-based fuels and promote renewable sources such as wind, solar, wave, geothermal and Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC).

Electric rates in Hawaii are among the highest in the nation despite the fact that we enjoy an abundance of sunshine year-round. Electric utility companies and cooperatives must open the grid to alternative power sources including solar panels and geothermal energy. We support the effort of our government officials to require utilities to provide for the maximum, comprehensive, integrated use of renewable energy and associated technologies such as storage and smart grid technologies.” (Platform of the DPH, P. 7, Lines 355-358 (2016)).

Given that House Bill No. 1805 provides for training on energy systems and technology to County officers and employees by the University of Hawaii Community Colleges, it is the position of the OCC Legislative Priorities Committee to support this measure.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s / **Melodie Aduja**

Melodie Aduja, Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

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