



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Higher Education  
Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy  
Senate Committee on Labor  
March 20, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.

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

### HB 1805 HD1 – RELATING TO ENERGY TRAINING

Chairs Kahele, Inouye, and Tokuda, Vice Chairs Kim, Espero, and English, and members of the committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1805 HD1. 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 O'ahu 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 HD1 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 HD1 on the condition that any funds do not supplant any portion of the University's Supplemental Budget Request.



## DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

DAVID Y. IGE  
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Statement of  
**LUIS P. SALAVERIA**  
Director  
Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEES ON HIGHER EDUCATION, TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY,  
AND LABOR**

Tuesday, March 20, 2018  
1:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224  
in consideration of  
**HB1805, HD1**  
**RELATING TO ENERGY TRAINING.**

Chairs Kahele, Inouye, and Tokuda, Vice Chairs Kim, Espero, and English, and Members of the Committee.

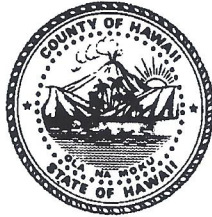
The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) supports HB1805, HD1, which requires the University of Hawaii (UH) community colleges to, amongst other things, establish energy systems and technology training courses for county officers and employees responsible for permitting, 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, HD1.

**VALERIE T. POINDEXTER**  
*Council Chairwoman & Presiding Officer*  
*Council District 1*



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## HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

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March 19, 2018

Senate Committee on Higher Education  
Kaiali'i, Kahele, Chair  
Donna Mercado Kim, Vice Chair

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Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair  
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Senate Committee on Labor  
Jill N. Tokuda, Chair  
J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

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Subject: Testimony Supporting HB1805, HD1 Related to Energy Training  
Hearing: March 20, 1:00 p.m., Room 224

Aloha Honorable Kaiali'i Kahele, Chairperson and Members of the Committee on Higher Education;  
Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chairperson and Members of the Committee on Transportation and Energy;  
Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chairperson and Members of the Committee on Labor:

On behalf of myself and the constituents of Council District 1 in Hāmākua, County of Hawai'i, I would like to express our support of HB1805, HD1, and submit a brief testimony as follows:

This bill 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 and an advisory committee of industry stakeholders and to submit a report to the Legislature, as well as appropriate funds.

I strongly support and urge the enactment of HB1805, HD1.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Valerie T. Poindexter  
Hawai'i County Council Chairwoman  
District 1, Hāmākua



Email: [communications@ulupono.com](mailto:communications@ulupono.com)

SENATE COMMITTEES ON HIGHER EDUCATION, TRANSPORTATION & ENERGY, AND  
LABOR

Tuesday, March 20, 2018 — 1:00 p.m. — Room 224

**Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports HB 1805 HD 1, Relating to Energy Training**

Dear Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Kim, Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Espero, Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair English, and Members of the Committees:

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 better management of waste and fresh water. 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 1805 HD 1**, which requires University of Hawai'i community colleges to establish energy system training courses for county government employees, because it aligns with our goal of increasing the production of clean, renewable energy in Hawai'i.

For the State to meet its ambitious clean energy goals, there needs to be more renewable energy projects approved and developed. Approving projects can often take years, which disincentivizes developers and financiers. If regulators were able to have energy training courses available, this should assist them in analyzing renewable energy project. This should provide all stakeholders with a win-win situation.

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Murray Clay  
Managing Partner

*Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i*

**HB-1805-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2018 12:44:39 PM

Testimony for HRE on 3/20/2018 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

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 **HB1805 HD1**, relating to Energy Systems and Technology; Training; County Officers and Employees; and an appropriation.

The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of **HB1805 HD1** and support its passage.

**HB1805 HD1**, 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 and an advisory committee of industry stakeholders and to submit a report to the Legislature; and appropriates funds.

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 **HB1805 HD1** 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 and an advisory committee of industry stakeholders and to submit a report to the Legislature; and appropriates funds, 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

Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com, Text/Tel.: (808) 258-8889



To: The Senate Committee on Higher Education  
From: Brodie Lockard, 350Hawaii.org, 808-262-1285  
Date: Tuesday, March 20, 2018

**In support of HB1805 HD1**

Dear Chair Kahele, Vice Chair Kim and Committee members—

I am a founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii.org supports HB1805 HD1.

Training on renewable energy systems is a key and necessary component for the success of our state's achievement of a 100% Renewable Portfolio Standard by 2045.

A lack of training could lead to unnecessary delays and hamper us from achieving our renewable portfolio goals.

Thank you for this opportunity to submit testimony.

Brodie Lockard  
Founder, 350Hawaii.org

**HB-1805-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/17/2018 11:18:23 AM

Testimony for HRE on 3/20/2018 1:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John Crouch	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is John Crouch. I support this measure.

One of the biggest problems for those of us in the industry in the past several years has been the lack of available training for officials responsible for the permitting review and approval or proposed projects. The industry has expanded and changed so rapidly, it has been very difficult for review professionals to take the time to source and fund private training to keep up.

This measure is extremely critical to the orderly and safe permitting of the multiple types of renewables being submitted for approvals.

Pls expedite the training programs needed for our county and state officials.

Mahalo, John Crouch

883-9411