

SB-2100

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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 TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION OF 2018

Wednesday, January 31, 2018

1:15 p.m.

Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 225

RE: Testimony in Support of SB 2100, RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY

To the Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair; the Honorable Will Espero, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Transportation and Energy:

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 Senate Bill No. 2100, relating to renewable energy, solar and wind energy property tax credit and an appropriation for an energy efficient State building design. The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of Senate Bill No. 2100 and support its passage.

Senate Bill No. 2100, is in accord with the Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i ("DPH"), 2016, as it replaces the current renewable energy technology systems

tax credit with tax credits for solar or wind energy property and energy storage property and is applicable to taxable years beginning after 12/31/2018 and provides for building energy efficiency designs within the Department of Transportation.

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 Senate Bill No. 2100 provides for renewable energy, solar and wind energy property tax credits and an appropriation for an energy efficient State building design, 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, Tel.: (808) 258-8889