



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

MIKE MCCARTNEY  
DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804  
Web site: [dbedt.hawaii.gov](http://dbedt.hawaii.gov)

Telephone: (808) 586-2355  
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of  
**MIKE MCCARTNEY**  
Director  
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM**

February 4, 2019  
3:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

in consideration of  
**SB 1461**  
**RELATED TO SCIENCE.**

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Taniguchi, and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) supports SB 1461, which requires the Governor to enter into negotiations with the United States Department of Energy (US DOE) to establish a national laboratory in Hawaii and to report to the legislature on the status of the negotiations twenty days prior to the convening of the 2020-2024 regular legislative sessions.

Establishing a US DOE national laboratory in Hawaii would diversify our State by strengthening our innovation economy. The laboratory would help to attract and retain talent in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) sectors and serve as a hub for public and private sectors to encourage collaboration.

As we strive for 100% renewable energy by 2045, the discovery and development of clean energy technologies will help to achieve our goals. Hawaii was the first state in the nation to pass a bill for 100% renewable energy and we should be the State that leads the innovation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

# TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

## **S.B. 1461 Relating to Science**

Monday, February 4, 2019  
3:00 p.m., Agenda Item #2  
State Capitol, Conference Room 414

Darren Ishimura, P.E.  
Director, Grid Technologies  
Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Taniguchi, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Darren Ishimura and I am testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Electric, Hawai'i Electric Light, and Maui Electric (collectively, the Hawaiian Electric Companies) in support of S.B. 1461, Relating to Science.

The Hawaiian Electric Companies support efforts to establish a national laboratory in Hawai'i that can strengthen the State's ability to evaluate, demonstrate, and deploy new technologies. With increasing utilization of variable renewable energy and industry-leading levels of distributed energy resources in Hawai'i, the Hawaiian Electric Companies proactively seek opportunities to advance its planning and operational capabilities to modernize its grids to integrate more renewable energy, achieve the State's 100% renewable energy goal by 2045, while providing safe, reliable, and resilient power to the State.

The Hawaiian Electric Companies continue to engage in collaborative partnerships, including projects with various U.S. national laboratories, to leverage expertise and resources that can accelerate the evaluation and adoption of advanced technologies. Case in point: Hawaiian Electric Companies has leveraged nearly \$32 million of funding since 2009, including grants from the U.S. Department of Energy, to advance its development, testing, and deployment of new technologies on its grid. A national laboratory in Hawai'i could help increase local technical expertise and create further opportunities for funding in energy-related research beneficial to the State.

Accordingly, the Hawaiian Electric Companies support S.B. 1461. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**SB-1461**

Submitted on: 1/31/2019 4:00:17 PM

Testimony for EET on 2/4/2019 3:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Len                 | Individual          | Support                   | No                        |

Comments:

Aloha,

I see positive risk in approving this Bill and appreciate your moving it forward.

Mahalo, Len Gambla

**SB-1461**

Submitted on: 2/1/2019 8:51:34 PM

Testimony for EET on 2/4/2019 3:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Present at Hearing</b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Anonymous           | Individual          | Comments                  | No                        |

Comments:

I support bill SB1461 but have concerns with the location and ease of access as well as to have a added language to have a minimum of 90% local scientists working there, a required school fied trip for students and higher access for STEM students. We are already made up of different cultures and come from all over the world.

I would like it to be on Big Island to decentralize Honolulu as the main focal point. Perhaps it can be a lab with its own port for boats by the sea.