



Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

Feb.5th 20023

TO: COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
Rep. Elle Cochran, Vice Chair

CONCERNING: HB1326 (Environment), **HB179** (Deposit Beverage Container materials)
HB949 (Renewable Energy), **HB1252** (Energy), **HB347** (Electric Vehicle
Charging Systems), **HB419** (Residential photovoltaic Energy Generating
Systems), **HB1200** (Conservation and Resources Enforcement)

POSITION: Strong Support

The Environmental Caucus enthusiastically supports the bills listed above. Our state has suffered for decades under increasing waste production and paid out a fortune to find places to ship it to or dumping miscellaneous and questionable refuse into landfills without proper concerns for any residual and permanent contamination of the ground or what lies beneath. Recent implementation of rules concerning plastic products, recyclable packaging and collections, together with the public's increasing awareness of their roles in limiting waste have improved the situation, but not enough. We need more action now and the businesses who create waste products should take the lead in remedying the situation. Any bills which help that to happen are overdue and should be passed.

We are also late in providing electric vehicle infrastructure support for which there is no excuse. We have had the technology for many years. Hawaii is a state uniquely suited for electric vehicle use and any bills which promote the purchase and infrastructure development for them will go further to reduce our dependence on gasoline and the air pollution it causes than any other measures currently being discussed.

Finally bills may be passed and laws put on the books but violations and abuses by ignorant or greedy individuals, or corporate entities are prevalent and the responsible enforcement agencies are overwhelmed and short staffed. We are fortunate to have comparatively inexpensive technology available now to help those agencies do their job. Laws protecting fragile resources are useless if we cannot enforce them.

Please pass the bills through this year, because as time passes the results of not passing them now will be more difficult to deal with,

Martha E Randolph
DPH Environmental Caucus SCC Representative
Member of DPH Legislative Priorities Committee
Precinct 2 Rep, District 27 Council

HB-419

Submitted on: 2/5/2023 10:56:55 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/7/2023 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ted Bohlen	Climate Protectors Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong support!

HB-419

Submitted on: 2/7/2023 12:57:46 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/7/2023 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alex Cornell du Houx	Elected Officials to Protect America	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Date: Tuesday, February 7, 2023

Subject: On HB419 RELATING TO RESIDENTIAL PHOTOVOLTAIC ENERGY GENERATING SYSTEMS.

Imagine producing and refining our own hydrocarbons from air, water, and sunlight, waste gases, or plants grown locally in an appropriate way, rather than importing fossil fuels from hostile and unpredictable nations? This is what we are looking to do in Hawaii.

According to the US Energy Information Administration, in 2021, over [60% of the electricity produced](#) in the United States was generated by carbon-emitting fossil fuels. At the same time, only 20% of US electricity was generated from renewable resources such as wind, hydro, and solar. By reducing the amount of carbon and other pollutants entering the atmosphere, cleaner air brought forth by solar energy adoption can decrease the risks of heart disease, asthma attacks, and premature deaths, which are major health issues globally.

Hawaii is one of the leading states for solar energy in the country, thanks to its abundance of sunshine. The Aloha State has invested \$ 4 billion in solar projects, with just over 17% of the state's electricity coming from solar sources. Solar adoption continues to increase across the state as more homeowners look to spend less on energy and live a more eco-friendly lifestyle. We are looking at a growth projection of 772 MWs in the next five years for the Aloha State.

Addressing climate change is an enormous job creator, across many economic sectors and in every part of the world. Fossil fuels lie at the core of the issue, and fossil fuels are replaceable by other forms of energy that also require human planning, engineering, and labor. The solar energy initiative is also a job creator that has brought many jobs to the residents of Hawaii. Currently there are 109 solar companies are operating in Hawaii with over 2400 jobs created and producing enough solar energy to power 395,900 homes and it is expected that this number will rise by 1000 more jobs by 2025.

Additionally, energy is derived from limited resources such as coal and natural gas and the more solar power we produce, the lesser the United States will depend on foreign oil and gas and hence this also helps with improving our national security.

Hawaii was the first state to set a deadline for having 100% of its electricity sales come from renewable energy, which is required to be achieved by 2045. This is achievable by installing and utilizing more solar power to significantly reduce its dependence on fossil fuels.

This is why it is imperative that we live up to our principles and promises and remove burdensome red-tape. This legislation will help Hawaii become more energy secure, protect its health and energize economic prosperity.

HB-419

Submitted on: 2/1/2023 11:06:29 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/7/2023 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB419

HB-419

Submitted on: 2/3/2023 10:16:08 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/7/2023 8:45:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Crossland	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this Bill.