

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN  
LT. GOVERNOR  
STATE OF HAWAII



WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.  
CHAIRMAN  
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

TYLER I. GOMES  
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS**

P. O. BOX 1879  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM J. AILA, JR, CHAIRMAN  
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION  
BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
HEARING ON MARCH 15, 2022 AT 9:00AM VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

IN SUPPORT OF

**SB 3195, SD2, RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS**

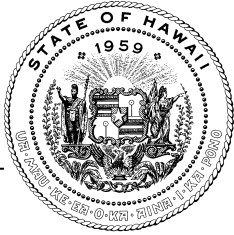
March 15, 2022

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten and members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) supports this bill that appropriates moneys for the investigation, exploration, and identification of geothermal resources on Hawaiian home lands.

One of the five objectives of DHHL's Energy Policy is to facilitate the use of diverse renewable energy resources. Specific activities noted in the policy is to identify properties in DHHL's land inventory that have potential for renewable energy projects and pursue the leasing of those lands that are identified as suitable for renewable energy projects. The policy explicitly notes that first priority should be given to entities that would provide "firm" renewable energy power such as garbage-to-energy (mass-burn), geothermal, pump-storage hydropower, solar-thermal and second priority to "as-available" renewable energy power such as wind, solar-photovoltaic, and wave. Since this bill is in line with DHHL's Energy Policy, the Department asks that the Committees pass this measure.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.



# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

SCOTT J. GLENN  
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

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Testimony of  
**SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer**

before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Tuesday, March 15, 2022  
9:00 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325 & Via Videoconference

**SUPPORT  
SB 3195 SD2  
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS.**

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports SB 3195, SD2, which appropriates funding to the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) for the investigation, exploration, and identification of geothermal resources on Hawaiian Home Lands.

HSEO believes geothermal energy can play a significant role in achieving 100% renewable energy generation statewide and supports incentives for its development. HSEO supports the exploration of geothermal resources on DHHL lands as geothermal can provide long-term revenues and resources to DHHL. Geothermal investigation, exploration, and identification requires upfront capital; it can be costly to confirm the viability of a geothermal resource for energy and hydrogen production. Support for geothermal resource exploration can help attract private capital for potential development. Certain exploratory activities can also indicate the existence of geothermal for other uses such as direct use of steam from the ground. Data and knowledge gained from exploration can also inform the on-site potential of other resources such as groundwater and soil composition.

HSEO defers to the appropriate agencies for comment on the fiscal, administrative, and regulatory impacts of this proposal.

HSEO supports this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Supplemental Budget.

HSEO's comments are guided by its mission to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation to help achieve a resilient, clean energy, decarbonized economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI  
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND  
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE**  
P.O. BOX 150  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE  
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND  
MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION  
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

**WRITTEN ONLY**  
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
ON  
SENATE BILL NO. 3195, S.D. 2

**March 15, 2022**  
**9:00 a.m.**  
**Room 325 and Videoconference**

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

Senate Bill No. 3195, S.D. 2, provides start-up funds to investigate, explore, and identify geothermal resources on Hawaiian home lands, and appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds for FY 23 to be expended by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands for this purpose.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

**SB-3195-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/13/2022 5:52:45 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/15/2022 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alice Kim	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Geothermal energy production on the Hawaiian home lands can benefit the people of Hawaii including Native Hawaiians because geothermal energy can offer the following:

- Lower the cost of electricity
- Greatly reduce carbon emissions involved with creating energy
- Generate revenues for the betterment of Native Hawaiians
- Increase the self-sustainability of the Hawaiian islands and reduce the import of oil
- Create local professional jobs

Historically, native Hawaiians have used volcanic heat directly for bathing and cooking as reported by native folklore and Western explorers in the 1800s. Hawaiians bathed in the warm waters of Waiwelawela, a warm pond at Cape Kumukahi, for health. At Sulphur Banks, Kilauea Iki, and the Napau Crater Trail, Hawaiians cooked food wrapped in leaves underground and above steam cracks.

Similarly, New Zealand, another group of Pacific islands, has a long, extensive history of using geothermal. Before European contact, the Maoris usually lived in volcanically heated areas. The Maoris used thermal pools for cooking, bathing, healing, cleaning, dyeing, childbirth, and burial. Continuing on the Maori's traditions of using volcanic heat directly, today, New Zealand uses geothermal directly for drying timber, raising fish, tourism, drying milk, and heating space.

Geothermal energy now provides more than 17 percent of New Zealand's energy and serves as one of New Zealand's cheapest energy sources. Indigenous Maori tribes are benefitting from the geothermal power plants on their tribal lands. The Te Ahi O Maui geothermal plant resulted from a partnership between Eastland Generation and the Kawerau A8D Ahu Whenua Trust. It operates in the trust's land in Kawerau geothermal field.

New Zealand has demonstrated that geothermal energy can be produced while improving the quality of life for its residents including Maoris, respecting the Maori culture, and caring for the environment. Hawaii can do the same for the betterment of the native Hawaiians.





## Sustainable Energy Hawai'i

1143 Kukuau St., Hilo, HI 96720

[sustainableenergyhawaii.org](http://sustainableenergyhawaii.org)

March 13, 2022

### **STRONG SUPPORT** for **SB3195 SD2** RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS.

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Marten, and members of the Energy and Environmental Protection Committee,

I am Richard Ha, Chair of Sustainable Energy Hawai'i, a coalition of concerned citizens dedicated to improving the quality of life of Hawaii residents through affordable renewable energy.

### **Sustainable Energy Hawai'i is in strong support of SB3195 SD2.**

We have always believed that we should allocate more money to investigate the geothermal resources throughout the Hawaiian Islands. This bill will appropriate funds to explore this valued resource on Hawaiian Homelands.

It is only fitting that the people of Hawaiian ancestry benefit through lower costs for their electrical needs and generate revenues to help sustain DHHL and the beneficiaries while reducing the importation of fossil fuels.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Richard Ha  
Chair  
Sustainable Energy Hawai'i

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**Sustainable Energy Hawaii** is an all-volunteer, 501(c)3 dedicated to furthering energy self-sufficiency for Hawaii Island. For more information, visit [sustainableenergyhawaii.org](http://sustainableenergyhawaii.org).



**SB-3195-SD-2**

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 8:19:26 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/15/2022 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Noel Morin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Marten, and members of the EEP Committee,

I support SB3195 SD2 as it will enable additional research into geothermal energy. This will help us diversify geothermal energy production sites and pave the path to arrangements that benefit Hawaiian Home Land beneficiaries.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Noel Morin

Climate Action Advocate - Hilo