



# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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Testimony of  
**MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer**

before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEES ON  
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
AND  
HIGHER EDUCATION & TECHNOLOGY**

Wednesday, March 13, 2024  
2:30 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 309 and Videoconference

In Support of  
**SB 2504, SD2**

## **RELATING TO STATE PROGRAMS.**

Chairs Lowen and Perruso, Vice Chairs Cochran and Kapela, and members of the Committees, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports SB 2504, SD2, to close out measures that were put into place to support Hawai'i's 2023 application for \$997,375,846 in Federal funding for a Hawaii Pacific Hydrogen Hub.<sup>1</sup>

Although Hawai'i's application was not selected for funding,<sup>2</sup> HSEO appreciates that the Legislature provided much-needed support for Hawai'i's efforts to engage positively with the more than 40 public and private sector Consortium partners to produce the highly competitive proposal to the United States Department of Energy. HSEO and its partners gained considerable knowledge on ways to accelerate the production of green hydrogen in Hawai'i using indigenous resources like geothermal and innovative technologies converting construction and demolition waste through pyrolysis, the latter which continue to be pursued. Viable end uses for hydrogen in

<sup>1</sup> News release, "Integrated Hawai'i Pacific Hydrogen Hub Completes Full Application For Federal Funding." <https://energy.hawaii.gov/integrated-hawaii-pacific-hydrogen-hub-completes-full-application-for-federal-funding/>

<sup>2</sup> United States Department of Energy, "Regional Clean Hydrogen Hubs Selections for Award Negotiations." <https://www.energy.gov/oced/regional-clean-hydrogen-hubs-selections-award-negotiations>

critical energy resilience applications and heavy-duty trucks and buses were also explored. HSEO will continue to support the most promising of these opportunities such as slim hole resource characterization to assess geothermal potential to help Hawai'i become more energy self-sufficient.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Environmental Caucus of  
The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

## Energy & Climate Action Committee

Wednesday, March 13, 2024, 2:30 pm

House Committees on Energy and Environmental Protection and on Higher Education and Technology  
SENATE BILL 2504 SD2 – RELATING TO STATE PROGRAMS  
Position: Support

Me ke Aloha Chairs Lowen and Perruso, Vice-Chairs Cochrane and Kapela, and members of the House Committees on Energy and Environmental Protection and on Higher Education and Technology:

SB2504 SD2 repeals a statutory requirement for DBEDT and UH to cooperate on workforce development activities supporting a Hydrogen Hub, and repeals the appropriation to fund the Hawaii Pacific Hydrogen Hub.

The Energy and Climate Action Committee supports this measure, believing that hydrogen energy is a mirage fancied by fossil fuel companies to extend the life of their investments and fool the public into thinking an unproven and expensive technology is “green” and “sustainable”, when it is very expensive and completely reliant on the use of fossil fuels to power the creation of a secondary product – hydrogen. Hydrogen energy is touted as a mobile solution among renewables, but its cost and reliance on fossil fuels for production make it an untenable part of the need to immediately cut carbon emissions and to save us from more than the already-baked-in climate change circumstances that we still must endure.

Mahalo for providing the opportunity to address this matter.

/s/ Charley Ice, Chair, Energy and Climate Action Committee  
Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party