



Testimony of
Gwen Yamamoto Lau
Executive Director
Hawai'i Green Infrastructure Authority
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM
Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 1:20 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229
in consideration of
Senate Bill No. 3235
RELATING TO ENERGY

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

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on SB 3235, relating to energy. The Hawai'i Green Infrastructure Authority (HGIA) **supports** this bill which establishes a solar hui program in which multi-family residential property owners are able to co-invest in solar systems for low- and moderate-income (LMI) households.

This program will expand access to residential property owners that do not own their "roof," such as those living in condos, to participate in clean energy while bridging financing gaps to promote equitable clean energy benefits. In 2022, solar PV represented 17%¹ of the total electricity generated in the State of Hawai'i. Additional funding for solar is needed to achieve the State's 100% clean energy in the electricity sector by 2045.

Condominium units represent almost one-third of Hawaii's housing stock. This solar hui fund will complement HGIA's equitable energy goals by providing a venue for multi-family residential property owners to accelerate clean energy adoption by investing in a fund to lower the energy burden for low and moderate-income households by installing solar + storage systems through energy services agreements. In return, said investors can offset their energy or other household expenses through tax credit benefits and excess cash flow generated by the solar systems.

HGIA respectfully requests the following amendments:

1. Add "energy services agreement" to §196-A Definitions as follows:

¹ Electricrate.com, "Hawaii Solar Power Facts in 2024."

"Energy services agreement" means the Green Energy Money Saver Energy Services Participant Agreement, which is similar to a solar lease or solar power purchase agreement.

2. On page 1, lines 13 through 17, add "energy project" referenced in §196-B, as follows:

"Solar energy system" or "energy project" means any identifiable facility, equipment, apparatus, or the like, which may include energy storage system(s), that converts solar energy to useful thermal or electrical energy for heating, cooling, or reducing the use of other types of energy that are dependent on fossil fuel for their generation.

3. On page 2, lines 12 through 16, change the financing vehicle from a loan to an energy services agreement, as follows:

(2) Any income derived from:

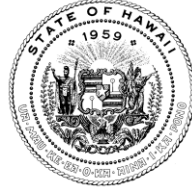
- (A) Repayment of an energy services agreement with the LMI ratepayer [~~loan~~] provided by the solar hui investment fund; or
- (B) Generation of energy from an energy project entered into by the fund manager.

4. On page 3 lines 19 to 20, change financing vehicle from loans to energy services agreements, as follows:

(1) [~~Provide low-interest loans~~]Enter into energy services agreements with [~~to~~] low- and moderate-income households to install a solar energy system;

The funding structure of the solar hui program also supports local economic development, job creation and a greener environment.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments and testify in support of SB 3235.



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

NADINE Y. ANDO
DIRECTOR | KA LUNA HO'OKELE

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA
SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

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cca.hawaii.gov

Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

**Before the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
Tuesday, February 13, 2024
1:20 p.m.
Conference Room 229**

**On the following measure:
S.B. 3235, RELATING TO ENERGY**

Chair DeCoite and Members of the Committee:

My name is Michael Angelo, and I am the Executive Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (Department) Division of Consumer Advocacy. The Department offers comments on this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to: (1) establish the solar hui program to allow multi-family residential property owners to invest into a solar hui investment fund to provide loans to low- and moderate-income households to install solar energy systems; (2) establish the solar hui program fund manager position; and (3) appropriate funds.

The Department appreciates how the proposed 196-C(b)(1) section of this bill would establish and provide funds that would allow low- to moderate-income households to take advantage of renewable energy technology and reduce their disproportionate energy burden. Low- to moderate-income households pay a disproportionately higher percentage of their income towards energy bills and typically do not have the financial means to pursue the installation of renewable energy technologies. The proposed solar

hui investment fund would directly address the financial barrier that has prevented many struggling households from reducing their energy cost burden and support those households in moving toward energy independence.

The Department especially appreciates that, as currently drafted, this measure appears to avoid placing an additional financial burden on low- to moderate-income households because the solar hui investment fund will be funded by the general fund and the multi-family residential property owners who choose to invest in the fund and not through fees assessed on all utility customers through their monthly bills. Additional fees to pay for the loan fund through utility rates would further increase the energy bills that many customers have struggled to pay, especially since the pandemic when significant bill increases occurred.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

TESTIMONY OF
LEODOLOFF R. ASUNCION, JR.
CHAIR, PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
STATE OF HAWAII

TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Tuesday, February 13, 2024
1:20 p.m.

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

MEASURE: S.B. No. 3235
TITLE: RELATING TO ENERGY.

DESCRIPTION: Establishes the solar hui program to allow multi-family residential property owners to invest into a solar hui investment fund to provide loans to low- and moderate-income households to install solar energy systems. Establishes the solar hui program fund manager position. Appropriates funds.

POSITION:

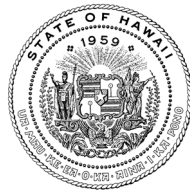
The Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) offers the following comments for consideration.

COMMENTS:

The Commission appreciates the intent of this measure to provide multi-family residential property owners an opportunity to participate in a solar hui investment fund program to be administered by the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority, and which will offer low- and moderate-income households low-interest loans for solar energy system installations.

The Commission recognizes that the proposed solar hui investment fund program aligns with our state’s renewable energy and decarbonization goals, while also aiming to provide equitable opportunities for economically constrained households facing increased financial energy burden to participate in, and benefit from, Hawaii’s clean energy transition.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR
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
Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā
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

WRITTEN ONLY

TESTIMONY BY LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
AND TOURISM
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 3235

February 13, 2024
1:20 p.m.
Room 229 and Videoconference

RELATING TO ENERGY

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

Senate Bill (S.B.) No. 3235 establishes the Solar Hui Program (SHP) and Solar Hui Investment Fund (SHIF) to be administered by the Hawai'i Green Infrastructure Authority (HGIA). The SHP would allow multi-family residential property owners to invest in the SHIF and, in return, be eligible to receive any tax credit associated with the installation of a solar energy system, subject to the requirements of the tax credit, and any income derived from the repayment of a loan provided by the SHIF or from the generation of energy from an energy project under the SHP. This bill also appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds in FY 25 for HGIA to implement the SHP and to establish 1.00 position to manage the SHP.

As a matter of general policy, B&F does not support the creation of any special fund which does not meet the requirements of Section 37-52.3, HRS. Special funds should:

1) serve a need as demonstrated by the purpose, scope of work and an explanation why the program cannot be implemented successfully under the general fund appropriation

process; 2) reflect a clear nexus between the benefits sought and charges made upon the users or beneficiaries or a clear link between the program and the sources of revenue;

3) provide an appropriate means of financing for the program or activity; and

4) demonstrate the capacity to be financially self-sustaining. Regarding S.B. No. 3235, it is difficult to determine whether the proposed special fund would be self-sustaining.

In addition, as the HGIA is primarily special funded, any operating costs, including the salary of a position to administer the SHP, should be appropriated out of the HGIA special fund or the SHIF created by this measure.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

SB-3235

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 1:08:25 PM

Testimony for EET on 2/13/2024 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Dave Mulinix | Testifying for Greenpeace Hawaii | Support | Remotely Via Zoom |

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, & Committee Members,

On behalf of our members and supporters statewide, Greenpeace Hawaii Stands in Support of SB3235 that establishes the solar hui program to allow multi-family residential property owners to invest into a solar hui investment fund to provide loans to low- and moderate-income households to install solar energy systems. It further establishes the solar hui program fund manager position. Finally is also appropriates funds.

As per Climate Scientists worldwide, we are in a growing Climate Crisis, so it is imperative that all of us work together to get our state off of climate killing fossil fuels. One effective ways to do that is to get as many solar panels on rooftops and over parking lots as soon as we can.

This is a common sense practical effort to help get the state of Hawaii to meet our goal to achieve 100% clean energy by 2045.

Please support and pass SB3235.

Mahalo,

Dave Mulinix, Co-Founder & Statewide Organizer

Greenpeace Hawaii



SanHi

GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

DATE: February 13, 2024

TO: Senator Lynnn DeCoite
Chair, Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism

FROM: Mihoko Ito / Tiffany Yajima

RE: **S.B. 3235 – Relating to Energy**
Hearing Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 1:20 p.m.
Conference Room: 229

Dear Chair DeCoite, Vice-Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism:

We submit this testimony on behalf of the Hawaii Bankers Association (HBA). HBA represents seven Hawai'i banks and one bank from the continent with branches in Hawai'i.

HBA **supports the intent** of S.B. 3235, which establishes the solar hui program to allow multi-family residential property owners to invest into a solar hui investment fund to provide loans to low- and moderate-income households to install solar energy systems.

This program will allow for those living in condos to invest in and derive benefits from clean energy programs. It will also provide access to financing for low- and moderate-income households to invest in solar. This is a win-win that will help fill a gap that currently exists for those who are unable to participate in clean energy programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this measure.

SB-3235

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 12:23:34 AM

Testimony for EET on 2/13/2024 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Ted Bohlen | Testifying for Climate Protectors Hawaii | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Support!



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

February 13, 2024, 1:20 PM

Room 229

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 3235

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Committee members:

Blue Planet Foundation **supports SB 3235**, which establishes a Solar Hui Program to help multi-family households, such as families who live in apartment buildings and condos, to gain access to low-interest loans for rooftop solar. Hawai'i's residents face many challenges including a high cost of living, lack of affordable housing, and an increasingly serious climate crisis. This bill will incentivize the adoption of solar energy— helping us meet our climate goals, improve grid resiliency, and provide utility savings to low- and moderate-income homeowners and ratepayers.

The State of Hawai'i has committed to a decisive and irreversible transition away from fossil fuels. The legislature has passed aggressive carbon reduction goals, including a mandate to achieve 100% renewable electricity by 2045 (Act 97 of 2015), and a goal to be carbon-negative by 2045 (Act 15 of 2018). Setting these bold targets is important, but alone it is insufficient. Hawai'i needs equitable and implementation-focused policies, like HB 2685, if we hope to achieve our clean energy and climate goals in a way that uplifts all of Hawai'i's residents.

Hawaiian Electric's current plan for achieving Hawai'i's 100% renewable energy goal includes power generation from the rooftop of nearly every home across the islands. Over 106,000 homes on O'ahu, Maui, and Hawai'i island¹ and 6,000 homes on Kaua'i² have already installed rooftop solar. Residential rooftop solar is a proven tool to help homeowners and renters save money and reduces the need for utility investments in the power grid. When paired with batteries, rooftop solar panels can also increase resiliency in neighborhoods, helping homes keep the lights on and communication powered during a blackout.

Blue Planet supports SB 3235 to expand Hawai'i's existing solar energy loan program to multi-family households to help remove barriers to adopting clean energy solutions. By reducing imports of fossil fuel, decreasing monthly utility bills, and reducing carbon emissions, SB 3235 is

¹ "Cumulative Installed PV - As of December 2023" *Hawaiian Electric Company*. Accessed January 27, 2024. (hawaiianelectric.com/documents/clean_energy_hawaii/clean_energy_facts/pv_summary_4Q_2023.pdf)

² Per KIUC testimony on SB 781 from 2023, page 12, see:

https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2023/Testimony/SB781_TESTIMONY_EET-GVO_02-09-23_.PDF

a smart policy response for Hawai'i's future. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.



To: The Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism (EET)
From: Sherry Pollack, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2024, 1:20pm

In strong support of SB3235

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the EET Committee,

I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii.org **strongly supports SB3235** that establishes the solar hui program to allow multi-family residential property owners to invest into a solar hui investment fund to provide loans to low- and moderate-income households to install solar energy systems.

Hawaii will not be able to reach its carbon reduction goals if we do not enact policies that support these outcomes. 350Hawaii fully supports efforts by the legislature to establish social equity as a foundational principle in the State's efforts to strengthen climate resilience, including low-interest loan programs as described in this measure. This program will enable capital constrained households to switch to lower cost, as well as cleaner sources of electricity. ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) households would directly benefit from a program that helps overcome financial challenges such as high electricity costs and inflation.

A just transition means leaving no one behind. That includes efforts such as SB3235 that help to remove barriers and increase access to affordable renewable energy.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important legislation.

Sherry Pollack
Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org

SB-3235

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 7:47:29 AM

Testimony for EET on 2/13/2024 1:20:00 PM


| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| laurel brier | Testifying for Kauai Climate Action Coalition | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

For the sake of addressing the climate crisis we need to support **all** households in accessing low carbon, clean, renewable energy. Strong support for SB3235 which will incentivize the adoption of solar energy— and by doing so, help us meet our climate goals, improve grid resiliency, and provide utility savings to low and moderate-income homeowners and ratepayers.



 808-733-7060
 808-737-4977

 1259 A'ala Street, Suite 300
Honolulu, HI 96817

February 13, 2024

The Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Chair

Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, & Tourism
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

RE: Senate Bill 3235, Relating to Energy

HEARING: Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 1:20 p.m.

Aloha Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Lyndsey Garcia, Director of Advocacy, testifying on behalf of the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS® ("HAR"), the voice of real estate in Hawai'i and its over 11,000 members. HAR **supports** Senate Bill 3235, which establishes the solar hui program to allow multi-family residential property owners to invest into a solar hui investment fund which will provide repayment of income derived from energy services agreements to low- and moderate-income households to install solar energy systems. Establishes the solar hui program fund manager position. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/3000.

HAR believes this measure is a creative solution to address our state's clean energy goals and assist homeowners. This measure supports multi-family residential property owners, such as condominium owners, who may be unable to take advantage of solar energy systems due to their building's nature, by enabling them to invest in a solar hui investment fund and qualify for benefits from the investment. In turn, the solar hui investment fund extends loans to low- and moderate-income households to install solar energy systems. By doing so, this program also aids homeowners facing financial constraints in affording a solar energy system on their own and helps to reduce their electricity costs as well.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



SB-3235

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 8:59:23 AM

Testimony for EET on 2/13/2024 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Susan B Roberts Emery | Testifying for Green Party of Hawai'i | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Co chair and Committee members ,

My name is Susan RobertsEmery and I am speaking on behalf of the Green Party of Hawai'i. We stand in strong support of SB3235.

Hawaii will not be able to reach its carbon reduction goals if we do not enact policies that support these outcomes. We fully support this measure that will expand access to residential property owners that do not own their “roof,” such as those living in condos, to participate in clean energy, while also bridging financing gaps to promote equitable clean energy benefits.

- Multi-family low and moderate income households could save money by installing solar energy systems, but face financial barriers. This bill would help them overcome those barriers and help Hawaii reach its carbon negative target.

- SB3235 will incentivize the adoption of solar energy– and by doing so, help us meet our climate goals, improve grid resiliency, and provide utility savings to low and moderate-income homeowners and ratepayers.

Strong , yes vote on SB3235.

Mahalo!

Susan RobertsEmery

Co chair GPH



Testimony to the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
Tuesday, February 13, 2024, at 1:20 PM
Conference Room 229

Testimony in Support of SB 335, Relating to Energy

To: The Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Chair
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Vice-Chair
Members of the Committee

My name is Stefanie Sakamoto, and I am testifying on behalf of the Hawaii Credit Union League, the local trade association for 47 Hawaii credit unions, representing over 864,000 credit union members across the state.

HCUL is in support of SB 3235, Relating to Energy. This bill establishes the solar hui program to allow multi-family residential property owners to invest into a solar hui investment fund which will provide repayment of income derived from energy services agreements to low- and moderate-income households to install solar energy systems. Establishes the solar hui program fund manager position, and appropriates funds.

This is an innovative proposed program that would make solar energy products more accessible and affordable to Hawaii residents. Cost has largely been the main obstacle for people interested in “going green”, and this program would help.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this issue.

SB-3235

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 8:26:11 AM

Testimony for EET on 2/13/2024 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Eric Micha'el Leventhal | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha, Representative — I trust this message finds you well.

It goes without saying that Hawaii will not be able to reach its carbon reduction goals if we do not enact policies that support these outcomes. I fully support this measure that will expand access to residential property owners that do not own their “roof,” such as those living in condos, to participate in clean energy, while also bridging financing gaps to promote equitable clean energy benefits. This bill would also reduce solar installation costs for multi-family low and moderate income households, thereby incentivizing the adoption of solar energy to low and moderate-income homeowners and ratepayers.

Mahalo nui for supporting the long-term health of our community!

SB-3235

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 2:45:25 PM

Testimony for EET on 2/13/2024 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Tadia Rice | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

I STRONG SUPPORT SB3235 because:

-**SB3235** establishes the solar hui program to allow multi-family residential property owners to invest into a solar hui investment fund to provide loans to low- and moderate-income households to install solar energy systems.

- Hawaii will not be able to reach its carbon reduction goals if we do not enact policies that support these outcomes. I fully support this measure that will expand access to residential property owners that do not own their “roof,” such as those living in condos, to participate in clean energy, while also bridging financing gaps to promote equitable clean energy benefits.

- Multi-family low and moderate income households could save money by installing solar energy systems, but face financial barriers. This bill would help them overcome those barriers and help Hawaii reach its carbon negative target.

- SB3235 will incentivize the adoption of solar energy– and by doing so, help us meet our climate goals, improve grid resiliency, and provide utility savings to low and moderate-income homeowners and ratepayers.

Mahalo!

Tadia Rice

SB-3235

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 9:55:43 AM

Testimony for EET on 2/13/2024 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Nanea Lo | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Hello,

My name is Nanea Lo. I'm born and raised in the Hawaiian Kingdom. I live in Mō'ili'ili. I'm writing in STRONG SUPPORT SB3235.

- Hawaii will not be able to reach its carbon reduction goals if we do not enact policies that support these outcomes. I fully support this measure that will expand access to residential property owners that do not own their "roof," such as those living in condos, to participate in clean energy, while also bridging financing gaps to promote equitable clean energy benefits.

- Multi-family low and moderate income households could save money by installing solar energy systems, but face financial barriers. This bill would help them overcome those barriers and help Hawaii reach its carbon negative target.

- SB3235 will incentivize the adoption of solar energy– and by doing so, help us meet our climate goals, improve grid resiliency, and provide utility savings to low and moderate-income homeowners and ratepayers.

me ke aloha 'āina,

Nanea Lo, Mō'ili'ili, O'ahu

SB-3235

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 11:24:13 AM

Testimony for EET on 2/13/2024 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Regina Gregory | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

support

SB-3235

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 4:36:12 PM

Testimony for EET on 2/13/2024 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Jotis Russell-Christian | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for SB3235, a crucial measure that addresses the necessity of enacting policies to support Hawaii's carbon reduction goals. This bill is particularly commendable for its focus on expanding access to clean energy for residential property owners who do not own their "roof," such as those living in condos. Furthermore, SB3235 bridges financing gaps, promoting equitable clean energy benefits for all.

Why is SB3235 Important?

- 1. Equitable Access to Clean Energy:** Enabling residential property owners without roofs, including those in condos, to participate in clean energy is a pivotal step towards ensuring equitable access. This measure recognizes the diverse housing landscape in Hawaii and promotes inclusivity in the clean energy transition.
- 2. Overcoming Financial Barriers for Low and Moderate-Income Households:** Multi-family low and moderate-income households often face financial barriers to installing solar energy systems. SB3235 is a crucial intervention that assists in overcoming these barriers, allowing more families to benefit from solar energy, save on utility bills, and contribute to Hawaii's carbon reduction goals.
- 3. Meeting Carbon Reduction Targets:** Hawaii's ability to reach its carbon reduction goals is contingent on implementing policies supporting clean energy outcomes. SB3235 plays a pivotal role in incentivizing the adoption of solar energy, contributing significantly to meeting climate goals, enhancing grid resiliency, and providing much-needed utility savings to low and moderate-income homeowners and ratepayers.

In conclusion, I urge you to support and pass SB3235. This bill is a proactive step towards fostering an inclusive and sustainable clean energy future for Hawaii. By addressing financial barriers and expanding access to clean energy, SB3235 aligns with our state's carbon reduction goals and ensures that the benefits of clean energy are accessible to all residents.

Your consideration of this important measure is highly appreciated, and I trust that your decision will reflect the best interests of our community.

Mahalo for your time and commitment to building a cleaner and more sustainable future.

Sincerely,

Jotis Russell-Christian

(808) 639-1243

SB-3235

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 8:16:37 AM

Testimony for EET on 2/13/2024 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Mike Onofrietti | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

It is difficult for low and moderate income households to afford solar energy systems to reduce their reliance on electric utilities. Additionally, condominium unit owners are unable to benefit from solar energy systems due to the nature of their living arrangements. HB2685 allows both of these groups to participate in clean energy solutions, one as an end-user and the other as an investor. This is an innovative approach benefiting both groups and allows us to move towards Hawai'i's long-term clean energy goals.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

SB-3235

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 4:35:43 PM

Testimony for EET on 2/13/2024 1:20:00 PM

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| michael markrich | Individual | Support | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Michael Markrich,

I am testifying as an individual. Please support SB 3235. This bill

provides support to multi-family residential property owners to participate in

a solar hui investment fund that will lower their electric bills and allow

for more renewable energy in Hawaii.

It is a very valuable bill

Mahalo

Michael Markrich