



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

LATE

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Thursday, March 28, 2024
1:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

Providing Comments on
SCR 134 / SR 116

REQUESTING THE HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE DIFFERENT ENERGY CONSUMPTION SECTORS TO DETERMINE WHICH MAY BE MOST QUICKLY AND COST-EFFECTIVELY DECARBONIZED THROUGH ADDITIONAL PUBLIC INVESTMENTS IN COMBUSTION-FREE ALTERNATIVES.

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports the intent and offers comments on SCR 134 / SR 116, which requests the HSEO to conduct a study of the different energy consumption sectors to determine which may be most quickly and cost-effectively decarbonized through additional public investments in combustion-free alternatives.

While HSEO strongly supports the intent of this resolution to assess energy consumption sectors and the decarbonization efficiency potential of each, HSEO has already prepared and submitted to the Legislature in December of 2023 a detailed report addressing the desired deliverables of this resolution <https://energy.hawaii.gov/what-we-do/clean-energy-vision/decarbonization-strategy/> pursuant to Act 238 (2022). HSEO acknowledges that updates to the Act 238 Decarbonization Report consistent with the objectives of this resolution may be relevant at some future date beyond the Regular Session of 2026.

HSEO's statutory purpose and duties include tracking and analyzing energy consumption sectors and providing insight into the most rapid and cost-effective

decarbonization strategies through additional public investments in less carbon intensive and ultimately combustion-free alternatives. Accordingly, HSEO will continue to focus efforts on analysis and supporting deployment of proven technologies. For the foreseeable future, HSEO will also accomplish these objectives by seeking and securing funding and capital investments for energy efficiency, renewable energy and clean transportation projects vis-a-vis grants and other funding opportunities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



TESTIMONY FROM THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM

MARCH 28, 2024

SRI16/SCRI34 REQUESTING THE HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE TO CONDUCT A STUDY OF THE DIFFERENT ENERGY CONSUMPTION SECTORS TO DETERMINE WHICH MAY BE MOST QUICKLY AND COST-EFFECTIVELY DECARBONIZED THROUGH ADDITIONAL PUBLIC INVESTMENTS IN COMBUSTION-FREE ALTERNATIVES.

POSITION: SUPPORT

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

The Democratic Party of Hawai'i supports SR116/SCR134 requesting the Hawai'i State Energy Office to conduct a study of the different energy consumption sectors to determine which may be most quickly and cost-effectively decarbonized through additional public investments in combustion-free alternatives.

Our Party Platform states under "Environment and Energy":

"We believe that all people have the right to live in a clean, healthy and safe environment. We believe that the preservation of our natural environment and its ecological well being is essential to ensuring a safe, healthy, bountiful life for future generations in Hawai'i. We support policies that create a more sustainable society. We support the restoration, preservation, and protection of native ecosystems."

Please support this measure.

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration.

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Comments before
March 28, 2024 Senate Committee on Energy,
Economic Development, and Tourism

SUPPORTING
Senate Concurrent Resolution 134 &
Senate Resolution 116

Relating to Studying Clean Fuels

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Aloha Honorable Committee members. Energy Justice Network is a national organization supporting grassroots groups working to transition their communities from polluting and harmful energy and waste management practices to clean energy and zero waste solutions. In Hawai'i, we've been working with residents who first sought our support in 2015. Since mid-2022, we have supported residents in forming the Hawai'i Clean Power Task Force and Kokua na Aina to address numerous energy and waste issues in the state.

We emphatically support SCR 134 and SR 116. These resolutions ask the Hawaii State Energy Office to research the most cost-effective ways to quickly decarbonize our energy system, looking at all sectors of consumption.

There are three broad sectors of energy consumption, as organized by the U.S. Energy Information Administration. These break down further into subcategories as follows:

Electricity

- Residential
- Commercial/Institutional
- Industrial

Heating

- Residential (cooking, water heating, and space heating)
- Commercial/Institutional
- Industrial

Transportation

- Air (inter-island and intercontinental)
- Land (private vehicles and mass transit)
- Sea

It is becoming well-accepted that the best way to decarbonize all the sectors is to electrify the heating and transportation sectors and then have the electricity sector addressed through the following hierarchy: conservation, efficiency, solar, wind, and energy storage.

Some of these sectors are easier to electrify than others, with intercontinental air travel and select industrial heating applications being the only sectors where the technology does not yet exist to simply electrify them so that they can run on clean, non-combustion sources.

The question is whether it makes sense to invest state taxpayer funds in subsidizing burnable fuels in sectors that are hardest to solve without first investing in cleaning up the sectors where the technology exists and is increasingly cost-effective.

A good study of this will help inform the legislature so that future policies might focus where taxpayer dollars can be best spent speeding up the clean energy transition, instead of risking them on experimental and polluting combustion sources.

Mahalo for your support for this important resolution.