JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIAʻĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIAʻĀINA

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKUʻĀINA ʻO HAWAIʻI
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
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Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Before the
House Committee on Finance
Monday, March 31, 2025
3:15 p.m.
Conference Room 308

On the following measure:
S.B. 589, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY

Chair Yamashita 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) stablish an installation goal for customer-sited distributed energy resources in the State; (2) require the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) to use tariffs for grid services programs, microgrids, and community-based renewable energy; (3) ensure that certain levels of compensation are provided for solar and energy storage exports from customer-sited distributed energy resources as part of grid service programs and require the Commission to establish grid service compensation values; (4) clarify when a person who constructs, maintains, or operates a new microgrid is not considered a public utility; (5) authorize intragovernmental wheeling of renewable energy and require the Commission to establish policies and procedures to implement intergovernmental wheeling and microgrid service tariffs.

While the Department appreciates the bill's goal of increasing the deployment of clean renewable resources within the State and seeking to improve grid reliability, the Department strongly recommends that the Commission, which is responsible for protecting the public interest in these types of matters, be allowed to continue its ongoing work in Docket No. 2019-0323, which just recently established updated compensation for distributed energy resources (DERs) and Docket No 2024-0200, which is investigating electricity wheeling in various forms that include intragovernmental wheeling.

At the outset, the Department notes that distributed energy resources (DERs) are and will continue to always be a necessary component of the portfolio of solutions needed to achieve the State's clean energy goals and support the delivery of reliable electricity services. Indeed, society has recognized the value of DER for a significant amount time by offering robust tax incentives at both the federal and State levels in Hawaii that significantly decrease the upfront costs to procure customer-sited renewable energy technologies and thereby significantly facilitate their adoption by customers. The Department also supports compensation for DER based on the value that they deliver to the grid at the time they provide the service so that customers use their DERs to provide services to the grid. However, the types of services delivered, how those services are delivered, the appropriate mechanisms, and amounts of compensation for various types of services are important aspects that are most effectively addressed in open proceedings before the Commission.

With respect to establishing a goal for DER adoption within the current draft of the legislation, the Department notes that Governor's Order. No 25-01, "Accelerating Hawaii's Transition Toward 100 Percent Renewable Energy," states that, "Before 2030, the state shall facilitate the addition of at least 50,000 new distributed renewable energy installations . . . focused on delivering clean energy benefits to low- and moderate-income residents through the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority and its programs." The Department also notes that there are currently stakeholder driven processes in place to determine the most cost-effective mix of resources and technologies to meet Hawaii's Renewable Portfolio Standard goals and maintain grid reliability.

The Department notes that the Commission has initiated Phase 4 of the DER Program in Docket No. 2019-0323 where it is establishing new DER grid-services

programs and recently updated the compensation for DERs. The Department strongly recommends that the regulatory process in Docket No. 2019-0323 continue to be the appropriate forum for evaluating the types of grid services and technical requirements and corresponding customer programs and procurement options for continuing with customers usage of DER and interacting with the electrical grid. The Department emphasizes that this process is critical for several reasons that include, among other things, safety, reliability, affordability, and importantly, ensuring that ratepayers who have challenges with procuring customer-sited DER because of the upfront cost or not owning their home (typically, low- to moderate-income customers) do not have costs shifted to them from paying electricity rates that facilitate adoption of DER for other customers without delivering comparable benefits to everyone.

On the issue of establishing retail wheeling, on July 1, 2024, the Commission opened a proceeding to investigate electricity wheeling policies and procedures (i.e., Docket No. 2024-0200). As set forth in Commission Order No. 40879 initiating the investigation, the first three phases of the docket would involve stakeholder outreach to scope the initial focus for intragovernmental wheeling and specific docket proceedings (including an intervention period) resulting in a decision by November 2025 establishing intragovernmental wheeling policies and procedures if the Commission determines such to be in the public interest. With the lessons learned during these early phases the Commission states that such lessons will be applied to subsequent phases to implement an intragovernmental wheeling policy and explore retail wheeling. In its latest Monthly Status Update, issued on February 13, 2025, the Commission indicated that it is entering the second phase of the proceeding and shared responses provided to its questionnaire regarding Intragovernmental Electricity Wheeling. There are currently three more stakeholder meetings anticipated by September 2025.

In view of the foregoing, the Department respectfully offers that the Commission be allowed to move forward and complete the work set forth in Docket Nos. 2019-0323 and 2024-0200.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

LEODOLOFF R. ASUNCION, JR.
CHAIR

NAOMI U. KUWAYE
COMMISSIONER

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PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
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Testimony of the Public Utilities Commission

To the
House Committee on
Finance

Monday, March 31, 2025
3:15 p.m.

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee:

Measure: S.B. No. 589, S.D. 1, H.D. 2
Title: RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY.

Position:

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

Comments:

The Commission appreciates the intent of this measure to promote increased renewable energy production by encouraging customer investments in distributed energy resources ("DER"), particularly solar plus storage systems. The Commission supports examination of diverse measures that would promote the production of clean electricity and understands that generators of renewable energy play an important role in the State's transition to renewable energy and should be fairly compensated for the energy exports and grid services they provide.

To determine fair compensation, the Commission oversees a process with the utility, the consumer advocate, and other stakeholders that relies on extensive collaboration and analysis to determine the value that distributed energy exports provide to the grid. This process has determined that the value that distributed energy exports provide to the grid is typically lower than the retail rate. The Commission has also explored the value of resiliency, capacity, and ancillary services through this process, but it remains challenging to determine a precise quantitative figure for these benefits. The Commission also notes that the value of distributed energy exports will evolve during the renewable energy transition. For Hawaiian Electric's programs, the Commission has established an 'update framework' that requires regular review of the compensation rate for distributed energy exports and a mechanism to update the program every three years to ensure that the

programs are meeting the above goals and to continue to refine compensation for resiliency and other benefits.

Establishing the compensation rate for distributed energy exports through statute may limit the Commission's ability to investigate the role of distributed energy in the State and design programs to meet the above objectives. Additionally, the Commission emphasizes that it is important to understand the impact of this measure on non-participating ratepayers. A potential increase in export credits may cause non-participating ratepayers to bear a larger energy burden, which is an important consideration for the Commission. The Commission also notes that a definition of "full retail rate" in the context of this measure would need to be clarified, as there could be conflicting interpretations.

Regarding the Commission establishing policies and procedures to implement intragovernmental wheeling, the Commission notes that electricity wheeling requires an examination of many complex and interrelated issues to ensure reliability and cost-effectiveness, such as interconnection, availability of transmission and distribution capacity, appropriate rates and rate design, back-up power requirements, amongst others. As discussed during the 2024 Legislative session, the Commission agreed to open a docket to investigate whether intragovernmental electricity wheeling is in the State's public interest.

In July 2024, the Commission opened Docket No. 2024-0200 to prompt feedback from key stakeholders regarding the feasibility of electricity wheeling in the State and will determine whether intragovernmental wheeling, as part of the initial stage, is in the public interest. Given the unique characteristics of electric utilities in Hawaii, stakeholders are currently reviewing the definition and application of intragovernmental wheeling. At the conclusion of this stage of the proceeding, a report to the Legislature will be submitted no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular 2026 Legislative session.

As detailed above, the Commission welcomes the integration of renewable energy into the built environment, such as parking shade structures and rooftops of State facilities. The following ongoing proceedings have identified and tailored compensation mechanisms for renewable energy generators that State departments and agencies are eligible to pursue:

- Docket No. 2019-0323 is the Commission's docket for distributed energy resources, which has established compensation structures for customer-sited renewable energy generation, such as solar and storage, connected to Hawaiian Electric's grid to help serve customer resilience and meet grid needs. The newest programs remove system size limits and encourage the development of larger renewable energy systems.

- Docket No. 2015-0389 is the Commission's docket focused on developing community-based renewable energy ("CBRE") programs, which allow subscribers to receive benefits for "shared solar" installations that are not

customer-sited. This proceeding has resulted in over 4 megawatts of shared solar installations, with several additional projects under review or construction.

- Docket No. 2018-0163 is the Commission's Microgrid docket, through which the Commission has established a microgrid services tariff containing rules for two types of microgrids: hybrid microgrids, in which customers may combine customer-sited equipment with utility-owned infrastructure, and customer microgrids, where a customer's infrastructure is exclusively used to supply all their own electricity needs during emergencies.

As a result of these ongoing efforts, at this time the Commission offers to file a report with the legislature by the start of the 2026 Legislative session. In this report, the Commission will address the objectives and requirements outlined in this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2025,
House Committee on Finance
HEARING DATE: Monday, March 31, 2025
TIME: 3:15 p.m.
PLACE: Committee Room 308
RE: Senate Bill 589 SD1 HD2- **IN STRONG OPPOSITION**

Aloha Honorable Chair Yamashita, Vice-Chair Takenouchi, and Committee Members;

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260 (IBEW 1260) offers the following testimony in **STRONG OPPOSITION** of Senate Bill 589 SD1 HD2 authorizing retail wheeling.

IBEW Local 1260, is comprised of approximately 3,000 members throughout Hawaii and Guam and consists of a diverse and highly-skilled workforce that supports the electric utility infrastructure across our state as well as government service contracts and broadcasting. We are committed to protecting the well-being of the members we serve and the community at large.

SB589 SD1 HD2 will reduce economies of scale and increase the cost of electricity to those who can least afford it and will reduce overall reliability and accountability. Although we appreciate the intent of this measure, the long-term impacts retail wheeling may have on Hawaii's electric grid is yet to be determined. SB589 SD1 HD2 will allow the integration of intermittent "non-firm" power into the grid from multiple unknown sources reducing the reliability and accountability that a vertically integrated system provides. Further, the fixed-cost of operating and maintaining the system will remain unchanged and passed on to those left in the system, essentially increasing the cost of electricity to those who can least afford it.

Overall long-term grid integrity, reliability, and safety may be compromised. In addition to overall cost implications and equity concerns to ratepayers, the long-term impacts to the overall integrity of the grid that may be caused by the integration of third-party non-utility controlled power generation remain unclear.

The public utilities commission has opened discussions on wheeling between government facilities (Public Utilities Commission Docket No. 2024-0200) but have yet to issue findings. Until such time that the PUC issues its findings on Docket 2024-0200, IBEW Local 1260 believes any legislation to authorize retail wheeling is premature and could adversely affect the electric utility's ability to provide firm, safe, reliable, and *"equitable"* energy to the people of Hawaii.

As such, IBEW1260 respectfully requests that the Committee **HOLD** this measure and allow the PUC to continue to assess the long-term impacts intragovernmental wheeling will have on the overall electrical grid before considering this consequential legislation.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

SB-589-HD-2
Submitted on: 3/29/2025 6:01:29 AM
Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2025 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chris DeBone	Hawaii Energy Connection	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Committee Members,

On behalf of our 50 full time employees that are strugling to continue our mission in the clean energy space, I strongly support SB589 HD2 because it strengthens Hawaii's transition to 100% clean energy by ensuring sufficient incentives for distributed energy resources (DERs) such as rooftop solar and battery storage.

Setting a DER installation goal that is both ambitious and achievable, along with ensuring sufficient incentive levels, will help homeowners and businesses lower their energy costs while contributing to grid stability, creating good paying jobs, and reducing energy costs for all ratepayers. Rooftop solar and energy storage is a good investment for residents, businesses, and taxpayers alike as it drives economic value across the board.

Expanding DERs lowers costs, keeps jobs, creates new jobs, and enhances grid reliability. Please support SB589 HD2.

Mahalo for your leadership.

Chris DeBone

EST. LIFE OF THE LAND 1970
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Phone: 927-0709 henry.lifeoftheland@gmail.com

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair
Rep. Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair

DATE: Monday, March 31, 2025
TIME: 3:15 p.m.
PLACE: Conference Room 308

S.B. NO. 589 SD1 HD2 Renewable Energy Support the Intent

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee

Life of the Land is Hawai`i's own energy, environmental and community action group advocating for the people and `aina for 55 years. Our mission is to preserve and protect the life of the land through sound energy and land use policies and to promote open government through research, education, advocacy and, when necessary, litigation.

The bill established a goal of 50,000 rooftop solar systems by 2030 without any requirement that the installations include systems for renters and those with low-to-moderate income.

The Hawaii Public Utilities Commission opened a wheeling proceeding on July 1, 2024 with initial objectives: (1) Is wheeling in the public interest (2) If so, then implement intragovernmental wheeling policies.

The PUC held a series of meetings with stakeholders, then issued a Draft Wokrplan and asked for comments by last week. Five entities commented: Hawaii State Energy Office (SEO), Hawaiian Electric, Ulupono Initiative, Life of the Land, and Earthjustice on behalf of the solar industry.

SB 589 SD1 HD2 proposes to override the PUC by declaring that the PUC shall establish intragovernmental wheeling even if it isn`t in the public interest, compounding the complexity by co-requiring microgrid services, and imposing a restricted timeline for implementation.

Mahalo

Henry Curtis,
Executive Director

SB-589-HD-2
Submitted on: 3/29/2025 8:47:30 AM
Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2025 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Scott Saville	LegaSea Energy	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Committee Members,

I strongly support SB589 HD2 because it strengthens Hawaii's transition to 100% clean energy by ensuring sufficient incentives for distributed energy resources (DERs) such as rooftop solar and battery storage.

Setting a DER installation goal that is both ambitious and achievable, along with ensuring sufficient incentive levels, will help homeowners and businesses lower their energy costs while contributing to grid stability, creating good paying jobs, and reducing energy costs for all ratepayers. Rooftop solar and energy storage is a good investment for residents, businesses, and taxpayers alike as it drives economic value across the board.

Expanding DERs lowers costs, creates jobs, and enhances grid reliability. Please support SB589 HD2.

Thank you,

Scott Saville

Email: communications@ulupono.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Monday, March 31, 2025 — 3:15 p.m.

Ulupono Initiative offers comments on SB 589 SD 1 HD 2, Relating to Renewable Energy.

Dear Chair Yamashita and Members of the Committee:

My name is Micah Munekata, and I am the Director of Government Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food, renewable energy and clean transportation choices, and better management of freshwater resources.

Ulupono offers comments on SB 589 SD 1 HD 2, which establishes an installation goal for customer-sites distributed energy resources in the State; requires the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to use tariffs for grid service programs, microgrids, and community-based renewable energy; ensures that certain levels of compensation are provided for solar and energy storage exports from customer-sited distributed energy resources as part of grid service programs; requires the PUC to establish grid service compensation values; clarifies when a person who constructs, maintains, or operates a new microgrid is not considered a public utility; authorizes intragovernmental wheeling of renewable energy; and requires the PUC to establish poliucies and procedures to implement intergovernmental wheeling and microgrid service tariffs.

On July 1, 2024, the PUC initiated an investigation (Docket No. 2024-0200) to establish policies and procedures for electricity wheeling within the State's regulated utility system. As outlined in Commission Order No. 40879, the first three phases of this proceeding involve comprehensive stakeholder engagement to define the scope of intragovernmental wheeling, followed by formal proceedings—including an intervention period—to evaluate the issue and determine whether implementing such policies would serve the public interest. A final decision on intragovernmental wheeling policies and procedures is expected by November 2025.

The PUC has also indicated that insights gained from these early phases will inform future considerations, including broader implementation of an intragovernmental wheeling policy and potential exploration of retail wheeling. The most recent Monthly Status Update, issued on Jan. 15, 2025, details the next steps in the investigation, including the release of a proposed workplan with draft definitions, a draft statement of issues, and a procedural schedule.

Additionally, at least four more stakeholder meetings are anticipated by September 2025 to refine key aspects of the investigation.

Given this ongoing regulatory process, we respectfully suggest that the PUC be given the opportunity to complete its work under Docket No. 2024-0200 before additional statutory changes are enacted.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata
Director of Government Affairs

Hawaii Solar Energy Association
Serving Hawaii Since 1977

Testimony of the Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA) Regarding SB589 HD2, Relating to Renewable Energy, Before the House Committee on Finance
Monday, March 31, 2025

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA) **strongly supports SB589 HD2**, which directs the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to establish an ambitious and achievable five-year installation target and design programs with sufficiently calibrated incentives and mechanisms to accelerate the beneficial adoption of customer-sited, distributed solar and energy storage systems.

Why This Bill is Critical

Hawaii's energy future depends on a high level of DER installations to **lower energy costs, stimulate economic growth, enhance resilience, and meet climate goals.** By advancing policies that encourage the deployment of solar and battery storage systems, this bill secures Hawaii's leadership in renewable energy while delivering **broad benefits for all residents**.

Lower Energy Costs: Rooftop solar and battery storage significantly **reduce energy bills** and **shield customers from fossil fuel price volatility**. By producing local energy, DERs ease grid strain and defer costly infrastructure upgrades, saving money for all ratepayers. Fair compensation for energy exports and other values **ensures customers are rewarded equitably, encouraging widespread adoption of beneficial grid services programs.**

Economic Benefits:

- According to the State of Hawaii's Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism's (DBEDT) Research and Economic Analysis Division (READ), **every dollar invested in DER construction generates 1.47-2.12 additional dollars in direct economic output**.[1]

[1] See DBEDT-READ *2017 State Input-Output Study* and *Condensed Input-Output Transactions Table*, 'mining and construction' category. (https://dbedt.hawaii.gov/economic/reports_studies/2017-io/)

- A recent peer-reviewed economic analysis indicates significant economic contributions—residential solar systems installed in Hawaii generate **$66,810 in added economic output**, while commercial systems generate **$8.5 million over their lifetimes**.[2]
- Hawaii's clean energy sector **supports over 2,400 jobs, with thousands more expected as DER adoption grows.** Each added megawatt of residential solar is estimated to add 27 jobs, while each added megawatt for commercial adds 19 jobs.[3]
- State investments are highly leveraged, **attracting an additional $3.44 in private and federal funding for every state dollar**.[4]

Resilience and Reliability: DERs strengthen energy security with battery storage and microgrids, **providing localized power during emergencies and mitigating risks from aging infrastructure.** Virtual Power Plants (VPPs) such as Hawaii's Battery Bonus program or the Bring-You-Own-Device (BYOD) program, ***with modifications promoted by this bill***, aggregate DERs to enhance grid stability by offering peak load reduction and energy adequacy. Events like the 2023 Lahaina wildfires and energy adequacy issues on Oahu and Hawaii Island underscore the urgent need for resilient, decentralized energy systems.

Climate Leadership: DERs are vital to achieving Hawaii's 100% Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) by 2045, **already contributing nearly half of the progress to date**. By reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels, DERs lower greenhouse gas emissions and **improve public health, especially in underserved and frontline communities disproportionately affected by air pollution and climate risks.** Hawaii's leadership also serves as a global model for decarbonizing energy systems, which we can use to harness **new opportunities for Hawaii's future economy**.

State Action is Crucial

With **uncertain federal support and potential tariffs** on solar equipment increasing costs for Hawaii consumers, **bold state-level action is imperative**. The Governor's Executive Order No.

[2] Thomas A. Laudat and Prahlad Kasturi, 2017. "The Economic and Fiscal Impacts of Hawaii's Solar Tax Credit," *International Journal of Energy Economics and Policy*, *Econjournals*, vol.7(1), pages 224-252.
[3] Solar Foundation National Solar Jobs Census 2020; SEIA Solar Market Insight Report 2020; and Bill Nussey, Freeing Energy,)
[4] Based on the refundable tax credit rate of 22.5%, leaving 77.5% from other sources, private and federal. 77.5 divided by 22.5 equals 3.44.

25-01[5] underscores this urgency by calling for the acceleration of DER installations with a goal of 50,000 in five years. This bill aligns with and enhances that directive, ensuring affordable and accessible clean energy solutions for residents.

HSEA urges this committee to **advance SB589 HD2**. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

/s/ Rocky Mould, Executive Director

About HSEA

Since 1977, HSEA has been advocating for policies that help Hawaii achieve critical climate, energy security, and resilience goals by enabling residents and businesses to invest in and benefit from the transition to clean energy. These investments provide reliable and affordable power, reducing energy cost burdens and contributing to Hawaii's economic sustainability as we decarbonize our economy and electric grid.

HSEA's membership includes the majority of locally owned and operated solar and energy storage companies doing business in Hawaii, along with leading global cleantech manufacturers and service providers active in our market. Together, we employ thousands of Hawaii residents in diverse green economy jobs that drive innovation, design, and construction of Hawaii's renewable energy infrastructure.

Hawaii is a global leader in renewable energy deployment, particularly in customer-sited rooftop solar and energy storage. Customer-sited rooftop solar accounts for 47% of renewable energy added to grids in Hawaiian Electric service areas (Oahu, Maui County, and the Big Island) and 21% in the Kauai Island Utility Cooperative area. Additionally, Hawaii leads the nation in pairing rooftop solar with battery storage, with 96% of new residential installations including storage.

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[5] See EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-01 here: https://governor.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/2501085_Executive-Order-No.-25-01.pdf and see *Office of the Governor — News Release — Governor Green Signs Executive Order to Promote and Expedite Renewable Energy, Reducing Energy Costs. January 28/2025 here: https://governor.hawaii.gov/newsroom/office-of-the-governor-news-release-governor-green-signs-executive-order-to-promote-and-expedite-renewable-energy-reducing-energy-costs/*

March 31, 2025

Representative Kyle T. Yamashita
House Committee on Finance

RE: SB589 SD1 HD2 – Relating to Renewable Energy
Hearing: Monday March 31, 2025
Position: **STRONG SUPPORT**

Chair Yamashita and members of the committee:

My name is Brian Gold. I am the President and CEO of Solaray Corporation. Solaray was founded in 1975 and does business in Hawai'i as Inter-Island Solar Supply. Solaray also wholly owns Pacific Panel Cleaners ("PPC"), Generator & Power Systems ("GPS"), both Hawai'i Corporations, SunEarth, Inc., a California Corporation, and Alternate Energy Technologies (AET), a Florida Corporation. SunEarth & AET are domestic manufacturing companies producing American made clean energy products, much of which is installed and operated throughout Hawaii for 50 years. GPS is the Generac Industrial generator distributor for Hawai'i. Solaray Corp., and its wholly owned subsidiaries, are proudly 100% employee owned.

I am testifying **in STRONG SUPPORT of SB589 SD1 HD2** relating to Renewable Energy.

This bill establishes an installation goal for customer-sited distributed energy resources in the State. It requires the Public Utilities Commission to use tariffs for grid services programs, microgrids, and community-based renewable energy. Ensures that certain levels of compensation are provided for solar and energy storage exports from customer-sited distributed energy resources as part of grid service programs and requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish grid service compensation values. Clarifies when a person who constructs, maintains, or operates a new microgrid is not considered a public utility. Authorizes intragovernmental wheeling of renewable energy and requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish policies and procedures to implement intergovernmental wheeling and microgrid service tariffs.

COMMENTS

As an invested stakeholder in Hawaii's clean energy transition, we strongly support efforts to rapidly accelerate the installation of rooftop solar and energy storage across our state, particularly in the near term. New grid services capabilities, microgrids, and other innovative structures will not only help Hawaii achieve critical energy policy goals but will do so in a

balanced manner that increases access to affordable energy, stabilizes grid costs, and drives economic growth and job creation.

Rooftop solar is an essential part of Hawaii's electric grid and currently provides over 1.1 gigawatts of energy able to power over 360,000 homes and businesses across the state, over half of the 568,000 housing units built.[1]

This industry is a major economic driver for the state, generating $4.9 billion in taxable projects which generates income for the state in the form of tax revenue, fees, business licenses, and jobs. The industry directly employes 2,500 people and indirectly employs thousands more, from drivers to installers to warehouse staff, shippers, electricians, sales people, maintenance personnel, engineers, and business owners. Finally, Hawaii's solar industry is one built primarily on the backs of small, local businesses like ours. Aligning the state's goals with a major driver to the state's income is common sense and a win-win for the state and the men and women who live and work in it.

The rooftop solar industry is the primary driver of renewable capacity in the state, one that is largely built through locally owned and operated developers and businesses like ours. However, the state, while acknowledging the importance of rooftop solar in the overall mix of energy, has never set a concrete, future-focused deployment goal to guide regulatory frameworks in building this critically needed asset. This is even more important as the state's primary utility continues to risk financial instability and major developers of large renewable energy projects face a riskier investment climate than before, and are forced to reevaluate their project's long-term viability and the utility's ability to meet its obligations.[2]

Unlike other states, rooftop solar is the foundation upon which Hawaii's renewable energy future is constructed. Setting state policy directives for rooftop solar deployment is essential in creating a stable regulatory environment to allow these resources the ability to meet demands for energy generation and resilience.

Solaray is a local, employee-owned solar business owned and operated in Hawaii for over 50 years, we are testifying in **STRONG SUPPORT of SB589 SD1 HD2** and urge the committee to pass this measure.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Brian Gold
President and CEO
Inter-Island Solar Supply/Solaray

[1] https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/census/popestimate/2022/2022-housing/2022-dbedt-housing-highlights.pdf
[2] https://www.energy-storage.news/clearway-withdraws-solar-plus-storage-from-hawaiian-electric-procurement-citing-utilitys-ongoing-financial-uncertainty/

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

MARCH 31, 2025

SB 589, SD1, HD2, RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY

POSITION: SUPPORT

Coalition Earth **supports** SB 589, SD1, HD2, relating to renewable energy, which establishes an installation goal for customer-sited distributed energy resources in the state; requires the Public Utilities Commission to use tariffs for grid services programs, microgrids, and community-based renewable energy; ensures that certain levels of compensation are provided for solar and energy storage exports from customer-sited distributed energy resources as part of grid service programs and requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish grid service compensation values; clarifies when a person who constructs, maintains, or operates a new microgrid is not considered a public utility; and authorizes intragovernmental wheeling of renewable energy and requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish policies and procedures to implement intergovernmental wheeling and microgrid service tariffs.

According to a report produced by the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission, global sea levels could rise more than three feet by 2100, with more recent projections showing this occurring as early as 2060. In turn, over the next 30 to 70 years, approximately 6,500 structures and 19,800 people statewide will be exposed to chronic flooding. Additionally, an estimated $19 billion in economic loss would result from chronic flooding of land and structures located in exposure areas. Finally, approximately 38 miles of coastal roads and 550 cultural sites would be chronically flooded, on top of the 13 miles of beaches that have already been lost on Kaua'i, O'ahu, and Maui to erosion fronting shoreline armoring.

As we work to reduce carbon emissions and stave off the worst consequences of climate change, we must begin preparing for the adverse impact of sea level rise on our shores. We are now quantifying the speed at which we must act. We cannot continue to develop the 25,800-acre statewide sea level rise exposure area–one-third of which is designated for urban use–without risking massive structural damage and, potentially, great loss of life.

Therefore, **our state should take steps to accelerate our transition to a clean energy economy and continue our fight against climate change, including by expanding customer-sited distributed energy resources and facilitating intergovernmental wheeling.** Governor Josh Green recently issued Executive Order No 25-01, *Accelerating Hawai'i's Transition Toward 100 Percent Renewable Energy*, which states, "Before 2030, the state shall facilitate the addition of at least 50,000 new distributed renewable energy installations…focused on delivering clean energy benefits to low- and moderate-income residents through the Hawai'i Green Infrastructure Authority and its programs."

The upfront costs to procure customer-sited renewable energy technologies are heavily supported by federal and local tax incentives to accelerate their adoption throughout society. As others have noted, this bill establishes a mandate to expand grid service capabilities, microgrids, and other clean energy innovations; facilitate greater public access to affordable renewable energy and a stable power grid; and buttress our commitment to transition to a clean economy.

DER systems–rooftop solar, battery storage, microgrids, and virtual power plants–are vital to achieving the state's 100 percent renewable portfolio target. Photovoltaic systems are currently the leading contributor to Hawai'i's clean energy goals, generating over 40 percent of all renewable energy in the state. This proposal will ensure fair compensation for energy and grid services provided by DERs, foster microgrid development, and align DER integration and regulation with cost-effective clean energy growth.

Finally, we support this measure's focus on intergovernmental wheeling arrangements, which will empower the coordination of state and county partnerships regarding renewable resources at public facilities. To be clear, we believe in decentralizing and democratizing electric utilities in Hawai'i, and in developing the capacity of independent clean energy sources to establish arrangements whereby their power is generated independent of grid management firms that oversee distribution (rather than monopolizing production).

As our state moves toward a distribution manager utility model–under which a utility company would focus on managing the distribution network (wires) of a smart grid, while independent entities (like solar and wind farms) generate and distribute electricity to users–enabling intergovernmental cooperation would be a forward-thinking first step.

Coalition Earth is a nongovernmental organization that works to preserve the well-being of people and our planet. We champion policies that advance climate resilience, clean energy, public health, and economic fairness for working families. ***Contact us at info@coalitionearth.org.***

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
March 31, 2025, 3:15 P.M.
Conference Room 308 and videoconference

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 589 SD1 HD2

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and members of the Finance Committee:

Blue Planet Foundation **strongly supports SB 589 SD1 HD2**, a measure specifically directing the public utilities commission (PUC) to establish a goal of installing fifty thousand new installations of customer-sited distributed energy resources in the State and to develop a wheeling policy. Both are critical elements to achieving our low-cost, low-carbon future.

Blue Planet does, however, prefer the HD 1 version of this measure, which includes provisions for a retail wheeling tariff. Retail wheeling has the potential to democratize renewable energy and open up new markets and innovation to rapidly and equitably decrease Hawai‘i’s significant carbon emissions. This measure will help accelerate Hawai‘i’s transition to a 100% clean energy future by ensuring fair compensation for distributed energy resource (DER) exports and laying the groundwork for expanded energy innovation through retail wheeling and microgrids.

Blue Planet Foundation is a Honolulu-based 501(c)(3) committed to helping Hawai‘i cut its dangerous carbon emissions and avoid the worst impacts of climate change. To that end, we believe that the role of electric utilities in Hawai‘i will shift from a centralized producer-distributor model to a mostly decentralized, distribution manager model—the utility will control and manage the grid network but most of the power will come from independent, clean energy sources.

For example, currently, electricity flows in one direction: from the power plant to your home or business. This is much like television in the 1960s. When you turned on the TV, you watched whatever one of the three networks was broadcasting. You couldn’t store the broadcast and you couldn’t contribute your own content. That’s roughly how our power grid operates today. Our future power grid will resemble today’s Internet—where distributed servers both send and receive packets of information—and less like yesterday’s commercial television. The role of the utility will be similar to an Internet provider, moving the electrons in the most efficient and effective manner.

Retail wheeling is a step toward that new model for the utility, where independent power producers can enter into agreements with end users and effectively “rent” the transmission and

distribution capability from the utility. Such an arrangement would open the doors to innovation and encourage more to invest in clean energy development.

For example, some of Hawai‘i’s existing windfarms are unable to sell all of their power because the electricity grid can’t handle the excess energy—particularly because some of the baseload fossil-based generators must be kept running. If retail wheeling were allowed, windfarms could find a potential customer for their wind energy—perhaps at a much discounted rate. Perhaps a large resort might be interested in purchasing lower cost electricity at night so they could do ice storage—making ice at night and using it for air conditioning during the day. This would have multiple benefits for the grid, clean energy power producers, and customers.

As Hawai‘i faces both urgent climate threats and economic uncertainty, empowering residents, businesses, and public facilities to produce clean, local electricity is a smart, scalable, and equitable strategy. SB 589 SD1 HD2 supports this shift by directing the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to implement policies that expand DER participation, enhance grid resilience, and provide fair compensation for solar and energy storage exports.

We are encouraged that this bill builds upon key state efforts such as Governor Green’s Executive Order 25-01, which calls for 50,000 new DER installations by 2030. Hawai‘i’s distributed energy resources—rooftop solar, battery storage, microgrids, and virtual power plants—are critical to achieving our energy security, decarbonization, and resilience goals. Senate Bill 589 helps to align public policy and regulatory structures with these priorities. Specifically, we support the bill’s provisions to:

- Ensure fair compensation for energy and grid services provided by DERs.
- Enable policies to unlock retail wheeling and microgrid development, opening pathways for energy self-reliance and innovation.
- Reinforce the intent to maximize DER integration without disproportionately impacting non-participating ratepayers, while supporting cost-effective clean energy growth.

This proposed measure will spur job creation, improve energy affordability, enhance resilience for vulnerable communities, and strengthen our local economy. Moreover, it sends a clear signal that Hawai‘i will continue to lead in transforming its energy system—moving beyond centralized fossil-based generation to a more distributed, equitable, and people-powered clean energy future.

Again, Blue Planet prefers the HD 1 version of this measure, which includes provisions for a retail wheeling tariff.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Hawaiian Electric

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

SB 589, SD1, HD2
Relating to Renewable Energy

Monday, March 31, 2025
3:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

Kaiulani Shinsato
Director, Customer Energy Resources
Hawaiian Electric

Dear Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Kaiulani Shinsato and I am testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Electric **in opposition** to SB 589, SD1, HD2.

SB 589, SD1, HD2 requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish a goal of installing fifty thousand new installations of Distributed Energy Resources ("DER") in the State by 2030. Hawaiian Electric supports the intent behind setting this goal that would incentivize additional growth of DERs in Hawai'i. However, Hawaiian Electric has already set this goal of 50,000 new rooftop solar systems by 2030 based on extensive modeling and analysis as a part of its Climate Action Plan and Integrated Grid Plan ("IGP"). The goal in SB 589, SD1, HD2 does not appear to be based in any analysis and seems duplicative and unnecessary given Hawaiian Electric's Climate Action Plan and IGP that already call for growth of DERs by 2030.

Moreover, SB 589, SD1, HD2 requires the Commission to use tariffs for grid services programs and establish grid service compensation values. In addition, this bill authorizes intragovernmental wheeling of renewable energy and requires the Commission to establish policies and procedures to implement intragovernmental

wheeling and microgrid service tariffs. In this regard, this bill seeks to address issues that are already under active consideration in open investigatory proceedings before the Public Utilities Commission -- Distributed Energy Resources (Docket No. 2019-0323) and Intragovernmental Wheeling (Docket No. 2024-0200). The PUC process is specifically designed to ensure transparency, fairness, and thoughtful deliberation. It provides a structured forum where diverse stakeholders, including utilities, Consumer Advocate, environmental organizations, government agencies and technical experts can bring forward evidence, offer testimony (or positions), and have their perspectives meaningfully considered.

By legislating in parallel to these active dockets, the bill risks creating confusion, undermining the integrity of the regulatory process, and potentially preempting a balanced resolution that reflects the full scope of technical, economic, and social considerations. For example, even the definition of intragovernmental wheeling in the bill can be problematic and is currently an issue in the PUC's Intragovernmental Wheeling proceeding.

For these reasons, Hawaiian Electric respectfully urges the Committee to allow the ongoing PUC process to reach a conclusion before taking legislative action in this area. If, after that process concludes, legislative refinements are still necessary, they can be considered at that time with the benefit of a full evidentiary record and perspective from all affected parties

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

SB-589-HD-2
Submitted on: 3/31/2025 7:52:19 AM
Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2025 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julian Kahumana	Alternate Energy Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Committee Members,

I strongly support **SB589 HD2** because it plays a critical role in accelerating Hawaii's transition to **100% clean energy** by ensuring appropriate incentives for **distributed energy resources (DERs)**, such as **rooftop solar and battery storage**.

The bill's approach of establishing a clear installation goal of **50,000 new installations of customer-sited DERs by December 31, 2030**, coupled with the use of tariffs for grid services programs and community-based renewable energy, is both ambitious and practical. These initiatives will empower homeowners and businesses to lower their energy costs, enhance grid reliability, and contribute to a more resilient and environmentally sustainable energy future.

Providing fair compensation for energy exports and grid services will encourage broader participation in distributed energy programs, benefiting everyone by creating **good-paying jobs**, **lowering energy costs**, and enhancing **grid stability**. With Hawaii leading the nation in the integration of solar-plus-storage systems, it's essential to continue fostering growth in this area by establishing equitable compensation mechanisms that reward resiliency, capacity, and other valuable grid services.

Expanding DERs is a sound investment for residents, businesses, and taxpayers alike. It drives economic value, enhances reliability during emergencies, and supports Hawaii's ambitious renewable energy goals. **SB589 HD2** represents a thoughtful step toward ensuring our energy system is resilient, sustainable, and accessible to all.

Please support **SB589 HD2**.

Sincerely,
Julian Kahumana
Alternate Energy Hawaii Inc.

HOLU HOU ENERGY

COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE
Representative Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair

DATE: Monday, March 31, 2025
TIME: 3:15PM
PLACE: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE & Conference Room 308

Theodore (Ted) Peck
President, Holu Hou Energy
99-1026 Iwaena Street
Aiea, HI 96701

RE: SB 589 SD1 HD2 RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY.

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi and Members of the Committee

Thank you for the opportunity to provide supporting testimony on this bill. My name is Ted Peck. I am the former Energy Administrator for the State of Hawaii, and have been working in energy development for the last 14 years. I have over 30 years of experience with energy and technology. My company, Holu Hou Energy, develops solar energy projects in Hawaii, focusing on low income, difficult to serve customers, especially in multi-dwelling projects such a rentals (low income and market) and condominium developments.

My testimony below addresses the third and first stated purposes of the bill, "Ensure that compensation is provided to distributed energy resources exports as part of grid service programs," and "Establish an installation goal for customer—sited distributed energy resources in the State." My testimony does not address retail wheeling.

Much has been made about the discussion around retail compensation during grid services. It has been called a return to NEM, criticized and misunderstood in many corners. What is not understood in these criticisms is that the owner of the system has a choice – deliver the energy against their own load to displace utility energy **purchased at retail rates** during the period of service to the grid (i.e. *"Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, energy exported to the electric grid past a participating customer-generator's point of common coupling from photovoltaic solar systems paired with energy storage as part of a grid service program shall be credited at the full retail rate of electricity for the relevant time period.")* or serve the grid at their opportunity cost. That cost is at retail rate. Note if this is the only compensation, consumers will likely choose to displace their own consumption over serving the grid by exporting energy during the activation period of the grid service. There will need to be some form of value add for the consumer, in the form of an up front payment or additional credit. We have seen that a higher rate of compensation was necessary for the success of Battery Bonus, and that a lower rate of compensation for the original BYOD program made for a failed program in 2024. We believe that a role of the Legislature is defining parameters for the Public Utilities Commission, and this measure does that.

Some operate under the underlying assumption that rooftop energy and the load it serves are the utility's to control. Actually, legally the only obligation a rooftop system owner has is to interconnect safely, if operating in parallel (connected to the grid). The tariff (such as the Smart Renewable Energy Program, defined under HECO Rule 32, approved by the Public Utilities Commission - https://www.hawaiianelectric.com/billing-and-payment/rates-and-regulations/oahu-rules) defines any compensation the Customer receives for exporting energy. The owner paid for the system, so the energy is theirs to use as they see fit. As such, if that home and system owner has a full battery at 5 PM, it is their choice where to deploy that energy for their economic and resilience benefit. If discharging to the grid for grid services does not generate value beyond the value of using that energy to meet their overnight energy needs (displacing retail grid energy), then they won't participate. That's the simple position of HSEA, I believe.

The Governor (https://governor.hawaii.gov/newsroom/office-of-the-governor-news-release-governor-green-signs-executive-order-to-promote-and-expedite-renewable-energy-reducing-energy-costs/) and the PUC (https://puc.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Hawaii-PUC-Energy-Inclinations-White-Paper-FINAL.12.31.24_signed.pdf) have publicly stated a goal for the building solar on 50,000 roofs in the next 5 years. The rooftop solar industry has added an average of 80 MW of solar a year for the last 15 years, and accounts for about half of the renewable energy in the state. Today's systems are significantly different from 15 years ago - with smart inverter functions, they add to grid stability, and since more than 90% that are installed have energy storage, they shift solar energy out of midday exports, making for a more stable grid.

Achieving this goal will mean that almost one quarter of the total energy on the grid will be from rooftop solar. It is imperative that the utility is able to include these assets in their grid services programs. Fair market-based compensation is key to making this happen. If we want consumer energy systems to participate more actively in supporting the grid, it has to be worth their while. Simply put.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and for your time in considering my comments.

Respectfully,
Ted Peck
President, Holu Hou Energy

SB-589-HD-2
Submitted on: 3/29/2025 7:05:19 AM
Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2025 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Isidro Villaflor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Committee Members,
I strongly support SB589 HD2 because it helps us move towards our state goal to be 100% clean energy. To achieve 100% clean energy, we need sufficient incentives for ditributed energy resources (DERs) such as solar and battery storage.

Setting a DER installation goal that is both ambitious and achievable, along with ensuring sufficient incentive levels, will help homeowners and businesses lower their energy costs while contributing to grid stability, creating good paying jobs, and reducing energy costs for all ratepayers. Rooftop solar and energy storage is a good investment for residents, businesses, and taxpayers alike as it drives economic value across the board.

Expanding DERs lowers costs, creates jobs, and enhances grid reliability. Please support SB589 HD2.

Mahalo for your leadership.

SB-589-HD-2
Submitted on: 3/29/2025 10:14:34 AM
Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2025 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Radford Nakamura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Committee Members,
I strongly support SB589 HD2 because it strengthens Hawaii's transition to 100% clean energy by ensuring sufficient incentives for distributed energy resources (DERs) such as rooftop solar and battery storage.

Setting a DER installation goal that is both ambitious and achievable, along with ensuring sufficient incentive levels, will help homeowners and businesses lower their energy costs while contributing to grid stability, creating good paying jobs, and reducing energy costs for all ratepayers. Rooftop solar and energy storage is a good investment for residents, businesses, and taxpayers alike as it drives economic value across the board.

Expanding DERs lowers costs, creates jobs, and enhances grid reliability. Please support SB589 HD2.

Mahalo for your leadership.

Radford Nakamura

SB-589-HD-2
Submitted on: 3/29/2025 12:30:50 PM
Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2025 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeff Lum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Committee Members,
I strongly support SB589 HD2 because it strengthens Hawaii's transition to 100% clean energy by ensuring sufficient incentives for distributed energy resources (DERs) such as rooftop solar and battery storage.

Setting a DER installation goal that is both ambitious and achievable, along with ensuring sufficient incentive levels, will help homeowners and businesses lower their energy costs while contributing to grid stability, creating good paying jobs, and reducing energy costs for all ratepayers. Rooftop solar and energy storage is a good investment for residents, businesses, and taxpayers alike as it drives economic value across the board.

Expanding DERs lowers costs, creates jobs, and enhances grid reliability. Please support SB589 HD2.

Mahalo for your leadership.

aloha, Jeff Lum

SB-589-HD-2
Submitted on: 3/29/2025 1:26:03 PM
Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2025 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kohl Christensen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Committee Members,
I strongly support SB589 HD2 because it strengthens Hawaii's transition to 100% clean energy by ensuring sufficient incentives for distributed energy resources (DERs) such as rooftop solar and battery storage.

Setting a DER installation goal that is both ambitious and achievable, along with ensuring sufficient incentive levels, will help homeowners and businesses lower their energy costs while contributing to grid stability, creating good paying jobs, and reducing energy costs for all ratepayers. Rooftop solar and energy storage is a good investment for residents, businesses, and taxpayers alike as it drives economic value across the board.

Expanding DERs lowers costs, creates jobs, and enhances grid reliability. Please support SB589 HD2.

Kohl Christensen

SB-589-HD-2
Submitted on: 3/29/2025 1:40:40 PM
Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2025 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Faith Texeira	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB589 HD2 because it strengthens Hawaii's transition to 100% clean energy by ensuring sufficient incentives.

Mahalo,

Faith

SB-589-HD-2
Submitted on: 3/30/2025 12:06:10 AM
Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2025 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Randy Castellanos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Committee Members,

I strongly support SB589 HD2 because it strengthens Hawaii's transition to 100% clean energy by ensuring sufficient incentives for distributed energy resources (DERs) such as rooftop solar and battery storage.

Setting a DER installation goal that is both ambitious and achievable, along with ensuring sufficient incentive levels, will help homeowners and businesses lower their energy costs while contributing to grid stability, creating good paying jobs, and reducing energy costs for all ratepayers. Rooftop solar and energy storage is a good investment for residents, businesses, and taxpayers alike as it drives economic value across the board.

Expanding DERs lowers costs, creates jobs, and enhances grid reliability. Please support SB589 HD2.

Mahalo for your leadership.

Randy Castellanos

SB-589-HD-2
Submitted on: 3/31/2025 6:59:06 AM
Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2025 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
wei lian	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Committee Members,
I strongly support SB589 HD2 because it strengthens Hawaii's transition to 100% clean energy by ensuring sufficient incentives for distributed energy resources (DERs) such as rooftop solar and battery storage.

Setting a DER installation goal that is both ambitious and achievable, along with ensuring sufficient incentive levels, will help homeowners and businesses lower their energy costs while contributing to grid stability, creating good paying jobs, and reducing energy costs for all ratepayers. Rooftop solar and energy storage is a good investment for residents, businesses, and taxpayers alike as it drives economic value across the board.

Expanding DERs lowers costs, creates jobs, and enhances grid reliability. Please support SB589 HD2.

Mahalo for your leadership.

SB-589-HD-2
Submitted on: 3/31/2025 11:56:57 AM
Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2025 3:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Miles	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Committee Members,

I strongly support SB589 HD2 because it strengthens Hawaii's transition to 100% clean energy by ensuring sufficient incentives for distributed energy resources (DERs) such as rooftop solar and battery storage.
Setting a DER installation goal that is both ambitious and achievable, along with ensuring sufficient incentive levels, will help homeowners and businesses lower their energy costs while contributing to grid stability, creating good paying jobs, and reducing energy costs for all ratepayers. Rooftop solar and energy storage is a good investment for residents, businesses, and taxpayers alike as it drives economic value across the board.

Expanding DERs lowers costs, creates jobs, and enhances grid reliability. Please support SB589 HD2.
Mahalo for your leadership.

Sincecerly,

Miles Yoshimoto