



**STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I**  
**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR**  
**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**  
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DEPUTY DIRECTOR | KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

**Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs**

**Before the**  
**House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection**  
**Tuesday, March 11, 2025**  
**9:00 a.m.**  
**Conference Room 325**

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

Chair Lowen 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) authorize retail wheeling of renewable energy and requires the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) to establish policies and procedures to implement retail wheeling and microgrid service tariffs; and (2) ensure that fair compensation is provided for solar and energy storage exports.

The Department appreciates the bill's intent to support the State's ability to install renewable energy facilities, ensure fair compensation for renewable energy facilities in the form of distributed energy resources (DERs) and facilitate DER participation in the grid to the full extent of their capabilities.

The Department appreciates that the amended language of S.D. 1 of this bill takes into account Hawaiian Electric's established goal of installing fifty thousand customer-

sited DERs in the State by 2030 and requires that fair compensation for solar and energy exports and grid services to be credited at a rate to be established by the Commission. The Department notes that the issues of fair compensation and developing tariffs to maximize the participation of DERs into the grid are a currently an on-going and active component of the Commission's Docket No. 2019-0323.

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 No. 2024-0200.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE  
LT. GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII  
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## Testimony of the Public Utilities Commission

To the  
House Committee on  
Energy and Environmental Protection

March 11, 2025  
9:00 a.m.

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee:

**Measure:** S.B. No. 589, S.D. 1  
**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 collaborative process with the utility, the consumer advocate, and other stakeholders that relies on extensive 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 a retail wheeling tariff, 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 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 Hawaii and will determine whether intragovernmental wheeling, as part of the initial stage, is in the public interest. This would be followed by a report to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular 2026 Legislative session. Authorizing retail wheeling in statute prior to closing the Commission's open investigation regarding electricity wheeling, may conflict with the intent of this measure to provide fair compensation mechanisms for distributed energy resource exports while enhancing grid reliability and resilience.

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.



**Hawaiian  
Electric**

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**SB 589, SD1  
Relating to Renewable Energy**

Tuesday, March 11, 2025  
9:00 am  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Kaiulani Shinsato  
Director, Customer Energy Resources  
Hawaiian Electric

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

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

SB 589, SD1 authorizes retail wheeling of renewable energy and requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish policies and procedures to implement retail wheeling and microgrid service tariffs.

Hawaiian Electric supports programs that aid renewable energy by enabling customers to use their renewable energy systems more effectively; however, the utility also recognizes the importance of equity and ensuring that the benefits of wheeling are balanced with any additional costs or burdens that may be placed on non-wheeling customers. It is critical to address these equity concerns to protect non-wheeling customers from detrimental cost shifting before any type of wheeling is implemented.

However, Hawaiian Electric believes that this bill is unnecessary because it seeks to require a process that is already underway. The Public Utilities Commission has an ongoing docket to examine wheeling in Hawai'i (Docket No. 2024-0200), which has

involved various public and private stakeholders. In 2024, the Commission conducted outreach to various State, county, and federal governmental agencies to gauge interest in intragovernmental wheeling. On December 9, 2024, the Commission hosted the first Stakeholder Meeting, which was attended by approximately 85 attendees. The primary goals of this initial meeting were to (1) allow attendees to gain a clear understanding of the docket's goals and objectives; (2) discuss the working definition of wheeling; (3) address stakeholder feedback; and (4) have Hawaiian Electric present on the technical feasibility for wheeling. The Commission has scheduled four more Stakeholder Meetings in February, April, June, and August, and stated that it plans to come to a decision on whether wheeling among governmental agencies is in the public interest by November 2025. If the Public Utilities Commission determines intragovernmental wheeling to be in the public interest pursuant to their investigation, it stated that the next step is to implement intragovernmental wheeling policies and procedures and then conduct a similar review specific to retail wheeling.

Accordingly, Hawaiian Electric recommends that these important and complex matters get fully vetted and determined with the right stakeholders through the ongoing regulatory process before the Commission.

For these reasons, Hawaiian Electric opposes SB589, SD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Representative Nicole E. Lowen, Chair

Representative Amy A. Perruso, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, March 11, 2025

TIME: 9:00am

PLACE: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE & Conference Room 325

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

RE: SB 589 SD1 RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY.

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso and Members of the Committees

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 as rentals (low income and market) and condominium developments.

I am in strong support of this measure, but want to address a single issue highlighted in this bill. 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.

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](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



P.O. Box 37158, Honolulu, Hawai`i 96837-0158  
Phone: 927-0709 [henry.lifeoftheland@gmail.com](mailto:henry.lifeoftheland@gmail.com)

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Chair

Rep. Amy A. Perruso, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, March 11, 2025

TIME: 9:00 AM

Conference Room 325

RE: SSB 589, SD1 RENEWABLE ENERGY

OPPOSE

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, 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 PUC has an open and ongoing electric wheeling investigation. This bill jumps the gun by imposing a deadline for the PUC to implement retail wheeling for everyone.

The bill uses a common, but slightly misleading definition of retail wheeling: "The transmission of electric power from a storage or energy generation system through the utility meter for consumption by a separate utility account holder."

Retail wheeling is an accounting scheme whereby electricity generated in one place at one time, and consumed in another place at the same or different time, is consolidated onto one electric bill.

Shared solar, a.k.a. Community-Based Renewable Energy (CBRE) could be considered wheeling. CBRE was passed by the 2015 State Legislature and currently has been implemented at miniscule levels.

The PUC opened a microgrid tariff docket, 2018-0163. A complex microgrid involves both private and utility lines. In the event of a utility grid failure, the operator of a non-utility-owned microgrid could wheel power on the utility lines within the microgrid.

The University of Hawaii proposed a solar farm in Ewa to offset their energy bill at UH Manoa. The PUC opened docket number 2020-0204. HECO, the Consumer Advocate, UH, and Life of the Land participated. In the end, UH could not be guaranteed a sufficient economic gain without a cost shift from non-participants, and the idea quietly died.

The 2024 Legislature considered wheeling bills but deferred to the PUC to address the issue. The PUC opened docket 2024-0200 an "investigation to determine what role wheeling should play in Hawaii for the benefit of the renewable energy transition, starting with intragovernmental wheeling." Several entities are formally or informally following the proceeding, but few have expressed any interest in intragovernmental wheeling, should it be approved by the PUC.

The PUC's cost causing principle requires that costs borne by those who wheel to be paid by the wheelers. Non-participants should not be harmed. In fact, it would be better if all participants and non-participants gained from the process.

The current PUC process needs to play out before it can be determined that intragovernmental wheeling makes sense, and that must occur before retail wheeling is considered.

Mahalo  
Henry Curtis  
Executive Director



# INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF ELECTRICAL WORKERS LOCAL UNION 1260 EMPOWERING THE PACIFIC

**THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2025, Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection**

**HEARING DATE:** Tuesday, March 11, 2025

**TIME:** 09:00 a.m.

**PLACE:** Committee Room 325

**RE:** Senate Bill 589 SD1- **IN OPPOSITION**

Aloha Honorable Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Perruso, and Committee Members;

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260 (IBEW 1260) offers the following testimony in OPPOSITION of Senate Bill 589 SD1.

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 authorizes retail wheeling of renewable energy and requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish policies and procedures to implement retail wheeling and microgrid service tariffs.

**SB589 SD1 reduces economies of scale and increases the cost of electricity to those who can least afford it and reduces 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 have not been fully vetted. SB589 SD1 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 become compromised.** In addition to overall cost implications and equity concerns to the 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 on Ways and Means **HOLD** this measure. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.



**Hawaii Solar Energy Association**  
*Serving Hawaii Since 1977*

**Testimony of the Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA) Regarding SB589 SD1, Relating to Renewable Energy, Before the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection  
Tuesday, March 11, 2025**

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA) **supports SB589 SD1**, which directs the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to design programs with sufficiently calibrated incentives and mechanisms to accelerate distributed energy resource (DER) (i.e., customer-cited solar and energy storage) adoption. **While we support this version of the bill, we note our preference for maintaining the original installation target and the requirement for one-to-one crediting for grid service exports.** These provisions would strengthen policy signals and ensure programs that are viable for customers, ratepayers, and the grid. Despite these changes, SB589 SD1 still addresses the urgent need to accelerate DER installations to support grid resilience and stability, lower energy burdens, and drive economic growth.

**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



**Hawaii Solar Energy Association**  
*Serving Hawaii Since 1977*

invested in DER construction generates 1.47-2.12 additional dollars in direct economic output.<sup>1</sup>

- 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.<sup>2</sup>
- 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.<sup>3</sup>
- State investments are highly leveraged, attracting an additional \$3.44 in private and federal funding for every state dollar.<sup>4</sup>

**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 or Bring-You-Own-Device (BYOD) programs 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 harness new opportunities for Hawaii’s future economy.

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<sup>1</sup> 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/](https://dbedt.hawaii.gov/economic/reports_studies/2017-io/))

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> [Solar Foundation National Solar Jobs Census 2020](#); [SEIA Solar Market Insight Report 2020](#); and Bill Nussey, [Freeing Energy.](#)

<sup>4</sup> 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.



**Hawaii Solar Energy Association**  
*Serving Hawaii Since 1977*

**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. 25-01<sup>5</sup> underscores this urgency by calling for the acceleration of DER installations with a goal of 50,000 in five years. This bill aligns with that directive and ensures affordable and accessible clean energy solutions for residents.

**Conclusion**

Despite the removal of the installation target and one-to-one crediting for grid service exports, the bill still represents a step in the right direction to accelerate adoption of customer-sited distributed energy resources.

HSEA urges this committee to **advance SB589 SD1**. 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

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<sup>5</sup> See EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 25-01 here: [https://governor.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/2501085\\_Executive-Order-No.-25-01.pdf](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/>





**Hawaii Solar Energy Association**  
*Serving Hawaii Since 1977*

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. These achievements underscore Hawaii's role as a pioneer in clean energy transformation.

**SB-589-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 9:26:05 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/11/2025 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kathryn Troyan	Alternate Energy Inc.	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and committee members,

I strongly support SB589 SD1, which will accelerate the adoption of distributed energy resources (DERs), such as rooftop solar and battery storage, by ensuring programs that fairly compensate customers and provide the right incentives for participation. Expanding DERs is critical for lowering energy costs, increasing resilience against grid disruptions, and reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels.

Hawaii’s energy future depends on robust DER adoption to stabilize the grid and achieve our 100% renewable energy goals. Investing in these technologies also strengthens our economy by creating jobs and leveraging private and federal funding. I urge you to pass SB589 SD1 to ensure Hawaii continues to lead the way in clean energy innovation.

Mahalo for your leadership and consideration.

Kathryn Troyan  
Project Manager

**SB-589-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 10:25:56 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/11/2025 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Julian Kahumana	Alternate Energy	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and committee members,

I am writing on behalf of Alternate Energy Hawaii in support of SB589 SD1. This bill, which ensures fair compensation for renewable energy exports, is an important step toward creating a more resilient and sustainable energy future for Hawaii.

At Alternate Energy Hawaii, we see firsthand how local families and businesses are eager to contribute to our clean energy goals by investing in solar and storage solutions. Fair compensation for the energy they produce is not just a financial incentive—it’s a matter of equity and community empowerment. When people know they will be fairly compensated, they are more likely to make the switch to renewables, benefiting everyone with lower energy costs and a stronger, more resilient grid.

This bill also reinforces the idea that every rooftop and battery in our community is a valuable resource. By recognizing the role of distributed energy systems, we can harness the power of our homes and businesses to support the grid, particularly in times of need. Whether it’s during extreme weather or simply balancing supply and demand, allowing local energy producers to contribute to the grid strengthens our community and moves us closer to energy independence.

We believe that SB589 SD1 represents a balanced and forward-thinking approach to achieving Hawaii’s clean energy goals while supporting the individuals and families who are leading the way. I respectfully ask for your support of this measure.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Julian Kahumana

**SB-589-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 11:37:43 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/11/2025 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Scott Saville	LegaSea Energy	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and committee members,

I strongly support SB589 SD1, which will accelerate the adoption of distributed energy resources (DERs), such as rooftop solar and battery storage, by ensuring programs that fairly compensate customers and provide the right incentives for participation. Expanding DERs is critical for lowering energy costs, increasing resilience against grid disruptions, and reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels.

Hawaii's energy future depends on robust DER adoption to stabilize the grid and achieve our 100% renewable energy goals. Investing in these technologies also strengthens our economy by creating jobs and leveraging private and federal funding. I urge you to pass SB589 SD1 to ensure Hawaii continues to lead the way in clean energy innovation.

Mahalo for your leadership and consideration.

Scott Saville

LegaSea Energy



Email: [communications@ulupono.com](mailto:communications@ulupono.com)

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
Tuesday, March 11, 2025 — 9:00 a.m.

**Ulupono Initiative offers comments on SB 589 SD1, Relating to Renewable Energy.**

Dear Chair Lowen 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 with concerns on SB 589 SD1.** While we commend the Legislature's continued efforts to explore policies that support Hawai'i's transition to 100% renewable energy, we have significant concerns regarding this bill's potential effects on grid stability, market equity, and long-term renewable energy investment in our state.

We also note that the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has already initiated an in-depth investigation into wheeling under Docket No. 2024-0200, with a structured process that includes extensive stakeholder engagement and regulatory review. Given that this proceeding is set to continue through at least 2025, we recommend that legislative action on retail wheeling be deferred at least until the PUC has had the opportunity to thoroughly evaluate the issue and determine whether implementing such policies would serve the public interest.

That said, we maintain that retail wheeling is NOT a good fit for Hawai'i because of the following reasons:

**Concerns Regarding Retail Wheeling in Hawai'i's Unique Energy Landscape**

As an island state with isolated electrical grids, Hawai'i faces unique challenges that make the concept of retail wheeling particularly complex and potentially detrimental. Unlike interconnected mainland grids, Hawai'i's limited geography and high land costs constrain opportunities for broad-based competitive energy supply. Retail wheeling, as proposed in this bill, risks unintentionally undermining the very policies that have been designed to ensure fair and equitable access to renewable energy for all residents.

*Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i*

### **Potential for Market Inequity and Increased Costs**

A major concern with retail wheeling is the disproportionate benefit it provides to select customers who are fortunate enough to enter into private power agreements, while others—particularly the most vulnerable—are left to shoulder an increasing share of the fixed costs associated with remaining grid infrastructure. For example, if large energy consumers are allowed to procure energy through private arrangements, remaining utility customers, including low-income households, will bear a greater burden of legacy grid costs, further exacerbating inequities in our energy system.

### **Grid Stability and Operational Challenges**

The introduction of retail wheeling would also introduce additional operational complexities for grid management. Increased electricity movement across different areas of the grid could lead to congestion and difficulties in balancing supply and demand in real time. Without significant and costly upgrades to Hawai'i's grid infrastructure, the risks associated with unstable power distribution could increase, potentially compromising reliability for all ratepayers. Modifying the energy market without first addressing the significant need for energy infrastructure upgrades, is a risky endeavor.

### **Slippery Slope to Reduced Renewable Energy Investment**

Another critical issue is the long-term impact of retail wheeling on investment in renewable energy projects. If large customers are allowed to bypass the utility and procure energy from private sources, fewer and fewer renewable projects may be developed to serve the broader grid. This could ultimately hinder the state's ability to meet its renewable energy and carbon reduction goals in a way that benefits all residents rather than just a select few.

### **A More Cautious Approach: Limited Intergovernmental Wheeling**

If wheeling is to be considered at all, we urge that it be strictly limited to intergovernmental arrangements—where state and county facilities can share renewable resources—rather than allowing private entities to engage in open retail wheeling. While still presenting challenges, intergovernmental wheeling is the “least worst” option, as it maintains some level of control over grid impacts and limits the risk of exacerbating energy inequities.

We strongly encourage the Legislature to prioritize policies that ensure a fair, stable, and sustainable energy system for all residents. Retail wheeling, as proposed, risks creating market inequities, increasing grid instability, and diverting renewable energy investment away from the broader public good. We urge the Committee to defer SB589 SD1 and allow the ongoing PUC investigation to proceed before making any statutory changes.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata  
Director of Government Affairs

**SB-589-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 12:16:06 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/11/2025 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jeffrey Kaemmerlen	Sunspear Energy	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and committee members,*

*I strongly support SB589 SD1, which will accelerate the adoption of distributed energy resources (DERs), such as rooftop solar and battery storage, by ensuring programs that fairly compensate customers and provide the right incentives for participation. Expanding DERs is critical for lowering energy costs, increasing resilience against grid disruptions, and reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels.*

*Hawaii's energy future depends on robust DER adoption to stabilize the grid and achieve our 100% renewable energy goals. Investing in these technologies also strengthens our economy by creating jobs and leveraging private and federal funding. I urge you to pass SB589 SD1 to ensure Hawaii continues to lead the way in clean energy innovation.*

*Mahalo for your leadership and consideration.*

*Jeffrey Kaemmerlen*

*President*

*Sunspear Energy*



**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

March 11, 2025, 9:00 A.M.

Conference Room 325 and videoconference

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 589 SD1**

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

Blue Planet Foundation **strongly supports SB 589**, a measure specifically directing the public utilities commission (PUC) to develop a retail wheeling policy. 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 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.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**SB-589-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 2:21:41 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/11/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
PAUL OREM	Photonworks Engineering	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and committee members,*

*I strongly support SB589 SD1, which will accelerate the adoption of distributed energy resources (DERs), such as rooftop solar and battery storage, by ensuring programs that fairly compensate customers and provide the right incentives for participation. Expanding DERs is critical for lowering energy costs, increasing resilience against grid disruptions, and reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels.*

*Hawaii's energy future depends on robust DER adoption to stabilize the grid and achieve our 100% renewable energy goals. Investing in these technologies also strengthens our economy by creating jobs and leveraging private and federal funding. I urge you to pass SB589 SD1 to ensure Hawaii continues to lead the way in clean energy innovation.*

*Mahalo for your leadership and consideration.*

Paul ORem

CEO - Photonworks Engineering LLP

**SB-589-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 2:24:15 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/11/2025 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jackie Moore-Andresen, PHR	Fair Wind Inc	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwake, and Members of the Committee,

As a Hawaii family owned and operated company since 1971, we are 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. This bill sends a clear policy directive to create viable programs to ensure the expansion of grid services capabilities, microgrids, and other innovative solutions. These measures will help Hawaii meet urgent energy needs and achieve policy goals in a balanced manner by increasing access to affordable energy, stabilizing grid costs, and driving economic growth and job creation.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to testify in support of SB589 SD1.

Sincerely,

Jackie Moore-Andresen, PHR on behalf of Fair Wind Cruises

78-6775 Makenawai St Box A

Kailua Kona, HI 96740

**SB-589-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 4:38:08 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/11/2025 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rachel Ah Sue	Malama Solar	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and committee members,

My name is Rachel Ah Sue, and I am writing in strong support of SB589 SD1, which aims to accelerate the adoption of distributed energy resources (DERs), such as rooftop solar and battery storage. As Owner of Malama Solar and a Hawaii resident invested in clean energy, I have seen firsthand how expanded access to DERs can lower energy costs for families, create local jobs, and enhance Hawaii’s grid resilience.

Hawaii has made great strides toward a 100% renewable energy future, but there are still significant challenges. Programs that fairly compensate customers for their contributions to the grid and streamline incentives for solar and battery adoption are essential for making clean energy more accessible and equitable. SB589 SD1 is a step in the right direction, ensuring that more residents and businesses can participate in Hawaii’s clean energy transition.

By supporting this bill, you are reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels, strengthening Hawaii’s economy, and helping ensure a more resilient, sustainable grid. I urge the committee to pass SB589 SD1 and continue prioritizing policies that empower communities to take charge of their energy future.

Mahalo for your leadership and consideration.



Green Power Projects LLC  
Alan Lennard, Managing Director  
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Testimony of Alan Lennard  
Managing Director of Green Power Projects LLC  
e-mail: [alan.lennard@greenpowerprojects.com](mailto:alan.lennard@greenpowerprojects.com)

## IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB589 SD1 – CRITICAL FOR ACCELERATING HAWAII'S ADOPTION OF ROOFTOP SOLAR & ENERGY STORAGE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2025

### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Chair

Rep. Amy A. Perruso, Vice Chair

Rep. Kirstin Kahaloa

Rep. Sean Quinlan

Rep. Matthias Kusch

Rep. Gene Ward

### NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, March 11, 2025  
TIME: 9:00 AM  
PLACE: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE  
Conference Room 325  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and committee members,

My name is Alan Lennard. I am the Managing director of Green Power Projects LLC. Green Power Projects LLC is a Solar project facilitation company working towards 100% Renewable Energy capacity in Hawaii. Our vision is a Hawaiian energy economy based 100% on renewable sources indigenous to Hawaii.

I strongly support SB589 SD1, which will accelerate the adoption of distributed energy resources (DERs), such as rooftop solar and battery storage, by ensuring programs that fairly compensate customers and provide the right incentives for participation. Expanding DERs is critical for lowering energy costs, increasing resilience against grid disruptions, and reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels.

Hawaii's energy future depends on robust DER adoption to stabilize the grid and achieve our 100% renewable energy goals. Investing in these technologies also strengthens our economy by creating jobs and leveraging private and federal funding. I urge you to pass SB589 SD1 to ensure Hawaii continues to lead the way in clean energy innovation.

Mahalo for your leadership and consideration.

Respectfully,

*Alan Lennard -dig signature*

Alan Lennard  
Managing Director  
Green Power Projects LLC  
P.O. Box 818  
Haleiwa, HI 96712-0818



GRAND SOLAR, INC.  
4882-4 Kilauea Ave.  
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**John Grandinetti**  
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Tel: (808) 737-3536  
[www.grandsolarinc.com](http://www.grandsolarinc.com)

## IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB589 SD1 – CRITICAL FOR ACCELERATING HAWAII'S ADOPTION OF ROOFTOP SOLAR & ENERGY STORAGE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2025

### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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### NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, March 11, 2025  
TIME: 9:00 AM  
PLACE: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE  
Conference Room 325  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and committee members,

My name is John Grandinetti. I am President of Grand Solar, Inc. which is a Solar installation company working towards 100% Renewable Energy capacity in Hawaii.

I strongly support SB589 SD1, which will accelerate the adoption of distributed energy resources (DERs), such as rooftop solar and battery storage, by ensuring programs that fairly compensate customers and provide the right incentives for participation. Expanding DERs is critical for lowering energy costs, increasing resilience against grid disruptions, and reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels.

Hawaii's energy future depends on robust DER adoption to stabilize the grid and achieve our 100% renewable energy goals. Investing in these technologies also strengthens our economy by creating jobs and leveraging private and federal funding. I urge you to pass SB589 SD1 to ensure Hawaii continues to lead the way in clean energy innovation.

Mahalo for your leadership and consideration.

Respectfully,

*John Grandinetti* – dig signature

John Grandinetti  
President, Grand Solar Inc.  
4882-4 Kilauea Ave.  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96816  
Tel: (808) 737-3536  
[grandsolar808@gmail.com](mailto:grandsolar808@gmail.com)



**Laurence Ponce**  
Solar Services Hawaii LLP  
98-121 Kihale Pl  
Aiea, HI 96701  
License(s) #C-2834 & #C-2634  
(808) 721-3585

**Testimony of Laurence Ponce**  
**RME of Solar Services Hawaii**  
e-mail: solar.services.hi.testimony@gmail.com

## **IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB589 SD1 – CRITICAL FOR ACCELERATING HAWAII’S ADOPTION OF ROOFTOP SOLAR & ENERGY STORAGE**

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
THE THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2025

### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Chair

Rep. Amy A. Perruso, Vice Chair

Rep. Kirstin Kahaloa

Rep. Sean Quinlan

Rep. Matthias Kusch

Rep. Gene Ward

### NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Tuesday, March 11, 2025  
TIME: 9:00 AM  
PLACE: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE  
Conference Room 325  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and committee members,

My name is Laurence Ponce. I am RME of Solar Services Hawaii LLP, which is a Solar installation company working towards 100% Renewable Energy capacity in Hawaii.

I strongly support SB589 SD1, which will accelerate the adoption of distributed energy resources (DERs), such as rooftop solar and battery storage, by ensuring programs that fairly compensate customers and provide the right incentives for participation. Expanding DERs is critical for lowering energy costs, increasing resilience against grid disruptions, and reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels.

Hawaii’s energy future depends on robust DER adoption to stabilize the grid and achieve our 100% renewable energy goals. Investing in these technologies also strengthens our economy by creating jobs and leveraging private and federal funding. I urge you to pass SB589 SD1 to ensure Hawaii continues to lead the way in clean energy innovation.

Mahalo for your leadership and consideration.

Respectfully,

*Laurence Ponce* – dig signature

Laurence Ponce  
Solar Services Hawaii LLP  
98-121 Kihale Pl., Aiea, HI 96701  
(808) 721-3585  
solar.services.hi.testimony@gmail.com



Legislative Testimony of Sunrun Inc.  
Before the EEP Committee  
March 11, 2025

**IN SUPPORT of SB589 SD1 – Relating to Renewable Energy**

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and distinguished Members of the Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection,

Sunrun is the nation’s leading home solar, battery storage and energy services company, and has a long and proud history in Hawai‘i with office and warehouse locations on O‘ahu, Maui, and Hawai‘i Islands. We employ more than 350 professions across the islands, including sales/marketers, customer experience professionals, and installation team members including electrical inspectors, technicians, forepersons and warehouse personnel.

**Sunrun strongly supports SB589 SD1**, which would help Hawai‘i and its residents achieve critical affordability, reliability, resilience and sustainability goals by ensuring that fair compensation is provided to distributed energy resource (DER) exports as part of grid service programs, and authorizing retail wheeling of renewable energy and requiring the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to establish policies and procedures to implement retail wheeling and microgrid service tariffs.

Accelerating the installation of rooftop solar and energy storage across our state will advance progress towards Governor Green’s recently signed Executive Order 25-01<sup>1</sup> which sets a target of 50,000 new DER installations in Hawai‘i by 2030. Specifically, SB589 SD1 aligns with the Order’s directive to “establish programs and enact policies to expedite these [DER] installations.” This bill sends a clear policy directive to create viable programs to ensure the expansion of grid services capabilities, microgrids, and other innovative solutions. These measures will help Hawai‘i meet urgent energy needs and achieve policy goals in a balanced manner by increasing access to affordable energy, stabilizing grid costs, and driving economic growth and job creation.

Hawai‘i has a 100% renewable portfolio standard (RPS) by 2045,<sup>2</sup> and DER systems are critical to achieving the state’s RPS goals. Hawaiian Electric (HECO) recently reported achieving a 36% consolidated RPS in 2024, largely due to continued DER adoption.<sup>3</sup> Rooftop solar is the leading contributor to Hawai‘i’s clean energy portfolio, generating around 44% of all renewable energy in the state. Continued implementation of rooftop solar has proven to be a strong component of the state’s renewable energy generation and contributes to a more resilient energy system while lowering energy costs for all ratepayers.

Sunrun strongly supports SB589 SD1 and respectfully urges the committee to advance this measure. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this critical legislation. As a national solar, storage and energy services company, Sunrun has a broad view of states’ clean energy policies and stands ready to assist Hawai‘i with its policy goals.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://governor.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/2501085\\_Executive-Order-No.-25-01.pdf](https://governor.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/2501085_Executive-Order-No.-25-01.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> <https://energy.hawaii.gov/what-we-do/clean-energy-vision/>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.hawaiianelectric.com/hawaiian-electric-surges-to-36-renewable-energy-on-grids>



**SB-589-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 9:25:44 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/11/2025 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

*Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and committee members,*

*I strongly support SB589 SD1, which will accelerate the adoption of distributed energy resources (DERs), such as rooftop solar and battery storage, by ensuring programs that fairly compensate customers and provide the right incentives for participation. Expanding DERs is critical for lowering energy costs, increasing resilience against grid disruptions, and reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels.*

*Hawai'i's energy future depends on robust DER adoption to stabilize the grid and achieve our 100% renewable energy goals. Investing in these technologies also strengthens our economy by creating jobs and leveraging private and federal funding. I urge you to pass SB589 SD1 to ensure Hawai'i continues to lead the way in clean energy innovation.*

*Mahalo for your leadership and consideration.*

**SB-589-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/9/2025 7:27:03 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/11/2025 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this important bill. Mahalo.

**SB-589-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 9:29:10 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/11/2025 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

*Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and committee members,*

*I strongly support SB589 SD1, which will accelerate the adoption of distributed energy resources (DERs), such as rooftop solar and battery storage, by ensuring programs that fairly compensate customers and provide the right incentives for participation. Expanding DERs is critical for lowering energy costs, increasing resilience against grid disruptions, and reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels.*

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*Mahalo for your leadership and consideration.*

*Radford Nakamura*

**SB-589-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 9:29:11 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/11/2025 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jim Vasquez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and committee members,

I STRONGLY support SB589 SD1 which will accelerate the adoption of DER's, such as rooftop solar and battery storage by ensuring programs that fairly compensate customers and provide the right incentives for participation. Expanding DER's is critical for lowering energy costs, increasing resilience against grid disruptions and reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels.

Hawaii's energy future depends on robust DER adoption to stabilize the grid and achieve 100% renewable energy goals. Investing in these technologies also strengthens our economy by creating jobs and leveraging private and federal funding. I urge you to pass SB589 SD1 to ensure Hawaii continues to lead the way in clean energy innovation. Mahalo,

**SB-589-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 9:35:50 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/11/2025 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sandrine Libby	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and committee members,*

*I strongly support SB589 SD1, which will accelerate the adoption of distributed energy resources (DERs), such as rooftop solar and battery storage, by ensuring programs that fairly compensate customers and provide the right incentives for participation. Expanding DERs is critical for lowering energy costs, increasing resilience against grid disruptions, and reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels.*

*Hawaii's energy future depends on robust DER adoption to stabilize the grid and achieve our 100% renewable energy goals. Investing in these technologies also strengthens our economy by creating jobs and leveraging private and federal funding. I urge you to pass SB589 SD1 to ensure Hawaii continues to lead the way in clean energy innovation.*

*Mahalo for your leadership and consideration.*

**SB-589-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 9:43:20 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/11/2025 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Yuko Ahina	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and committee members,*

*I strongly support SB589 SD1, which will accelerate the adoption of distributed energy resources (DERs), such as rooftop solar and battery storage, by ensuring programs that fairly compensate customers and provide the right incentives for participation. Expanding DERs is critical for lowering energy costs, increasing resilience against grid disruptions, and reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels.*

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*Mahalo for your leadership and consideration.*

**SB-589-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 9:44:56 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/11/2025 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David Thompson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill.

**SB-589-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 9:52:58 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/11/2025 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

*Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and committee members,*

*I strongly support SB589 SD1, which will accelerate the adoption of distributed energy resources (DERs), such as rooftop solar and battery storage, by ensuring programs that fairly compensate customers and provide the right incentives for participation. Expanding DERs is critical for lowering energy costs, increasing resilience against grid disruptions, and reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels.*

*Hawaii's energy future depends on robust DER adoption to stabilize the grid and achieve our 100% renewable energy goals. Investing in these technologies also strengthens our economy by creating jobs and leveraging private and federal funding. I urge you to pass SB589 SD1 to ensure Hawaii continues to lead the way in clean energy innovation.*

*Mahalo for your leadership and consideration.*

aloha, Jeff Lum



**SB-589-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 9:53:34 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/11/2025 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Faith Texeira	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB589.

Mahalo,

Faith Texeira

**SB-589-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 10:07:11 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/11/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Johnson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and committee members,*

*I'm writing with strong support of SB589 SD1, which will accelerate the adoption of distributed energy resources (DERs), such as rooftop solar and battery storage, by ensuring programs that fairly compensate customers and provide the right incentives for participation. Expanding DERs is critical for lowering energy costs, increasing resilience against grid disruptions, and reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels.*

*Hawaii's energy future depends on robust DER adoption to stabilize the grid and achieve our 100% renewable energy goals. Investing in these technologies also strengthens our economy by creating jobs and leveraging private and federal funding. I urge you to pass SB589 SD1 to ensure Hawaii continues to lead the way in clean energy innovation.*

*Mahalo for your leadership and consideration.*

*Most Sincerely,*

*Michael Johnson*

**SB-589-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 10:36:26 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/11/2025 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kris Foster	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Committee Members,

I am testifying in strong support of SB589 SD1, which will accelerate the adoption of distributed energy resources (DERs). This includes rooftop solar and battery storage system. We must ensure that these programs fairly compensate customers and provide the right incentives for participation. Doing so will lower energy costs, increasing resilience against grid disruptions, and reducing reliance on imported fuels.

Hawaii's energy future depends on robust DER adoption. This adoption aids in stabilizing the grid and allows all of Hawaii to achieve the 100% renewable energy goal. Investing in these technologies also strengthens our economy by creating jobs, like mine, and leveraging private and federal funding.

So, I *sincerely ask you to pass SB589 SD1* to ensure Hawaii continues to lead the way in clean energy innovation.

Mahalo for your leadership, time, and consideration;

Kris Foster

**SB-589-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 12:41:07 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/11/2025 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dason Fujimoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

*Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and committee members,*

*I strongly support SB589 SD1, which will accelerate the adoption of distributed energy resources (DERs), such as rooftop solar and battery storage, by ensuring programs that fairly compensate customers and provide the right incentives for participation. Expanding DERs is critical for lowering energy costs, increasing resilience against grid disruptions, and reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels.*

*Hawaii's energy future depends on robust DER adoption to stabilize the grid and achieve our 100% renewable energy goals. Investing in these technologies also strengthens our economy by creating jobs and leveraging private and federal funding. I urge you to pass SB589 SD1 to ensure Hawaii continues to lead the way in clean energy innovation.*

*Mahalo for your leadership and consideration.*

**SB-589-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/10/2025 3:54:46 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/11/2025 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

*Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and committee members,*

*I strongly support SB589 SD1, which will accelerate the adoption of distributed energy resources (DERs), such as rooftop solar and battery storage, by ensuring programs that fairly compensate customers and provide the right incentives for participation. Expanding DERs is critical for lowering energy costs, increasing resilience against grid disruptions, and reducing reliance on imported fossil fuels.*

*Hawaii's energy future depends on robust DER adoption to stabilize the grid and achieve our 100% renewable energy goals. Investing in these technologies also strengthens our economy by creating jobs and leveraging private and federal funding. I urge you to pass SB589 SD1 to ensure Hawaii continues to lead the way in clean energy innovation.*

*Mahalo for your leadership and consideration.*

*Sincerley,*

Miles Yoshimoto

Project Developer

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