

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
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JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

NADINE Y. ANDO
DIRECTOR | KA LUNA HO'OKELE

DEAN I HAZAMA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR | KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

**Before the
House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
Wednesday, February 19, 2025
2:00 p.m.
Conference Room 329**

**On the following measure:
H.B. 1051, H.D. 1, RELATING TO ENERGY-EFFICIENCY PORTFOLIO STANDARDS**

Chair Matayoshi 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 supports this administration bill.

The purpose of this bill is to: (1) extend the State's deadline to achieve its energy-efficiency portfolio standards from 2030 to 2045 and updates the standards; (2) require the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) to establish additional interim standards for electricity use reduction to be achieved by 2035 and 2040; and (3) authorize the Commission to adjust the 2030 and 2045 standards and interim standards.

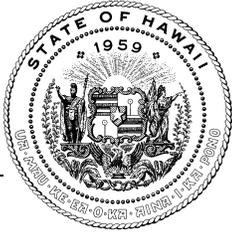
The Department believes that energy efficiency can and should play an important role in Hawaii's efforts to transition to clean energy and recognizes that energy efficiency is viewed often as the most cost-effective means to contribute to the State's clean energy goals. The cost-effectiveness of energy efficiency measures to reduce emissions was confirmed in a December 2023 study conducted by the Hawaii State Energy Office

pursuant to Act 238, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022.¹ Accordingly, the Department supports the intent to modify the energy efficiency portfolio standards and has engaged in discussions with other stakeholders in the technical advisory group convened to discuss the work done by the Public Benefits Administrator as well as the vendor responsible for fulfilling energy efficiency portfolio standards, Hawaii Energy, regarding possible changes to the portfolio standards. The Department is committed to continuing its work with stakeholders to help coordinate efforts regarding energy efficiency and towards policies and goals that are cost-effective as possible.

The Department views energy efficiency efforts as an important tool for cost-effectively reducing the State's need for generating resources and providing a means for individual customers to lower their energy bills. The Department believes that this bill solidifies Hawaii's commitment to energy efficiency by realigning the energy efficiency portfolio standards with the timeline for the State's renewable portfolio standards and allowing the Commission set interim standards to maximize cost-effective energy-efficiency programs and technologies to meet the State's clean energy goals.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this administration bill.

¹ Hawaii Pathways to Decarbonization (December 2023) at page 4.



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

MARK B. GLICK
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

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Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Wednesday, February 19, 2025
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 329 and Videoconference

In Support of
HB 1051, HD1

RELATING TO ENERGY-EFFICIENCY PORTFOLIO STANDARDS.

Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Chun, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports HB 1051, HD1, which extends the State's energy efficiency portfolio standards (EEPS) from 2030 to 2045 while updating the standards. It also authorizes the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to adjust the 2045 and interim standards.

HSEO serves on the PUC's EEPS Technical Working Group of energy stakeholders that review and address the State's progress in meeting the State's energy efficiency goals. The EEPS goal of 4300 GWh of electricity use reduction statewide by 2030 is focused on reducing electricity consumption. The PUC establishes the EEPS that maximizes cost-effective energy efficiency programs and technologies. Hawaii Energy (as the energy efficiency implementer for Hawaiian Electric), the GEMS loans programs, Kauai Island Utility Cooperative's energy efficiency programs, codes and standards, and other contributing entities are primary contributors to the EEPS. Innovative approaches and collective actions such as those noted in Governor Green's [Executive Order No. 25-01](#), including building performance standards for large existing commercial buildings and zero energy codes for new single-family homes, will increase

energy efficiency in buildings and homes and decrease energy burdens for low- and moderate-income residents.

There is consensus amongst the EEPS Technical Working Group that energy efficiency provides a solid foundation for cost-effective decarbonization. HSEO prepared and submitted the [Hawai'i Pathways to Decarbonization Report](#) to the 2024 Hawai'i State Legislature. It summarizes the challenges and opportunities involved in meeting Hawai'i's decarbonization goals and presents pathways, including a specific recommendation to update and extend the EEPS. The EEPS sets a long-term goal as a target for accelerating the deployment of energy efficiency resources and programs throughout the state. Extending the EEPS date to 2045, consistent with the target year of the renewable portfolio standard (RPS) of 100% RPS by 2045 and net zero decarbonization policies that also target and align with 2045, is reasonable and advisable.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION & ADAPTATION
COMMISSION
POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Co-Chairs:
Chair, DLNR
Director, OPSD

Commissioners:
Chair, Senate AEN
Chair, Senate WTL
Chair, House EEP
Chair, House WAL
Chairperson, HTA
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CEO, OHA
Chairperson, DHHL
Director, DBEDT
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Director, DOH
Chairperson, DOE
Director, C+C DPP
Director, Maui DP
Director, Hawaii DP
Director, Kauai DP
The Adjutant General
Manager, CZM

Testimony of
LEAH LARAMEE
Climate Change Coordinator on behalf of
Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission Co-Chair Mary Alice Evans and
Co-Chair Dawn N.S. Chang

Before the House Committee on
CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Wednesday, February 19, 2025
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 329 & Videoconference

In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1051 HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO ENERGY-EFFICIENCY PORTFOLIO STANDARDS

House Bill 1051 House Draft 1 extends the State's deadline to achieve its energy-efficiency portfolio standards target from 2030 to 2045 and updates the standards, requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish interim goals for electricity use reduction to be achieved by 2025, 2035, and 2040 and authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to adjust the 2030 and 2045 standard and interim standards. **The Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (Commission) supports this measure.**

The Commission is a multi-jurisdictional effort between 20 different State and county departments, and Legislative committees. As Hawai'i progresses toward achieving its 100% renewable energy and decarbonization goals, energy efficiency remains the quickest, cheapest, and cleanest way to reduce emissions from the electricity sector, while also providing financial benefits to Hawai'i residents and businesses.

In 2009, Hawai'i established a long-term goal known as the "Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standards" (or EEPS) to reduce statewide electricity use by 4,300 gigawatt-hours by 2030. Since then, Hawai'i has made impressive progress towards clean energy and established a new mandate to achieve 100% "Renewable Portfolio Standards" by 2045. Energy efficiency is a key strategy to achieving our Renewable Portfolio Standards by reducing energy demand. We have yet to extend the EEPS goal beyond 2030. This bill will do so enabling us to continue our progress and align planning across the sector.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT GOVERNOR



Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority

An Agency of the State of Hawaii

JAMES KUNANE TOKIOKA
CHAIR

GWEN S YAMAMOTO LAU
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Testimony of
Gwen Yamamoto Lau
Executive Director
Hawai'i Green Infrastructure Authority
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE
Wednesday, February 19, 2025, 2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 329
in consideration of
House Bill No. 1051, HD1
RELATING TO ENERGY-EFFICIENCY PORTFOLIO STANDARDS

Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Chun, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB1051, HD1 relating to energy-efficiency portfolio standards. The Hawai'i Green Infrastructure Authority (HGIA) **supports** this bill which extends the state's energy-efficiency portfolio standards from 2030 to 2045, updates the 2045 energy-efficiency portfolio standard and authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to establish interim goals.

Achievement of the state's bold goal of 100% clean energy in the electricity sector by 2045 requires strategic tactics, which includes a portfolio of tools and solutions. Similar to renewable technologies and projects (e.g., solar, wind, geothermal, etc.), the energy efficiency portfolio standard is also a critical tool towards goal achievement, which should be aligned with the 2045 clean energy deadline.

Energy efficiency measures can also reduce energy consumption in a cost-effective manner, resulting in electric utility bill savings for ratepayers.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide comments and testify in support of HB1051, HD1.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
465 S. KING STREET, #103
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LEODOLOFF R. ASUNCION, JR.
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NAOMI U. KUWAYE
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Testimony of the Public Utilities Commission

To the
House Committee on
Consumer Protection & Commerce

Wednesday, February 19, 2025
2:00 p.m.

Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Chun, and Members of the Committee:

MEASURE: H.B. 1051, H.D. 1

TITLE: RELATING TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY PORTFOLIO STANDARDS

POSITION: The Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) supports this measure and offers the following comments for consideration.

COMMENTS: The Commission appreciates the intent of this measure to extend and further develop the energy-efficiency portfolio standard (“EEPS”) as established in Act 155, Session Laws of Hawaii 2009, and set into law as HRS § 269-96. EEPS has been a successful policy for our state, serving as a critical component in support of our state’s clean energy and decarbonization goals. In the sixteen years since establishment, the impact of the EEPS target has generated many successful energy-saving programs for Hawaii’s residents and businesses, including those offered by Hawaii Energy (the energy efficiency implementer for Hawaiian Electric’s customers), the Green Energy Market Securitization (GEMS) loan programs, Kauai Island Utility Cooperative’s energy efficiency efforts, and other implementation initiatives throughout the state. As reported in the Commission’s EEPS Report to the 2024 Legislature¹, it is estimated that Hawaii’s EEPS target has helped local businesses and residents save more than \$5 billion in electricity costs, and over 3,000 GWh of energy savings.

¹ See PUC 2024 EEPS Report to the Legislature <https://puc.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/2024-PUC-Report-EEPS-12.28.23-FINAL.pdf>

The most recent Energy Efficiency Market Potential Study² indicates that Hawaii is on track to meet and exceed the established 2030 target of 4,300 GWh of energy savings. The Commission supports the proposed 2045 target of 6,000 GWh of energy savings, which was derived from current projections based on the 2020 Market Potential Study applied to the original EEPS methodology. The next Market Potential Study will occur in calendar years 2025-2026 and will provide further data and updated analyses to inform a revised target beyond 2030.

The Commission, in collaboration with the EEPS Technical Working Group³ and Hawaii Energy, will continue to utilize energy efficiency programs, services, and policies to achieve the near-term 2030 target, while ensuring the long-term continued impact of programming benefits through meeting new EEPS targets for 2045, which would also align with our state's Renewable Portfolio Standard target date.

The Commission notes the significant importance of energy efficiency as a lowest-cost and non-emitting resource during this critical time, as highlighted in Hawaiian Electric's Integrated Grid Planning process, and the Hawaii State Energy Office's Decarbonization Report.⁴ Governor Green's recently published Executive Order⁵ to accelerate Hawaii's clean energy transition also affirms the critical need to prioritize continued support for our state's important and successful energy efficiency initiatives.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

² Applied Energy Group (2020). *State of Hawaii Market Potential Study*. <https://www.hawaiiieeps.org/8-5-2020-market-potential-study-rel>

³ The EEPS Technical Working Group was established in 2010 and meet several times per year regarding EEPS initiatives. Participants include Hawaii State Energy Office, the Consumer Advocate's Office, Hawaiian Electric Companies, Kauai Island Utility Cooperative, Hawaii Energy, City and County of Honolulu, Maui County, Hawaii County, Kauai County, and many others. More information can be found at the www.HawaiiEEPS.org website.

⁴ See Hawaii State Energy Office Report: *Hawai'i Pathways to Decarbonization* https://energy.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Act-238_HSEO_Decarbonization_FinalReport_2023.pdf

⁵ See Governor Green Executive Order No. 25-01, released January 28, 2025. [2501085_Executive-Order-No.-25-01.pdf](https://www.hawaii.gov/governor/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/2501085_Executive-Order-No.-25-01.pdf)

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

NALANI BRUN, DIRECTOR



DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR
REIKO MATSUYAMA, MANAGING DIRECTOR

Testimony of Christina Kaser

Energy Coordinator, Office of Economic Development, County of Kaua'i

Before the

House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce

February 19, 2025; 2:00 p.m.

Conference Room 329 & Via Videoconference

In consideration of

House Bill 1051 HD1

Relating to Energy-Efficiency Portfolio Standards

Honorable Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Chun, and Members of the Committee:

The County of Kaua'i is in **support** of House Bill 1051 HD1, which extends the State's deadline to achieve its energy-efficiency portfolio standards target from 2030 to 2045 and updates the standards; Requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish interim goals for electricity use reduction to be achieved by 2025, 2035, and 2040; and Authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to adjust the 2030 and 2045 standard and interim standards.

The County of Kaua'i is supportive of energy efficiency measures to both reduce our electricity consumption and dependence on the grid, as well as provide opportunity for our residents and businesses to save money on electricity bills. The impact of the existing EEPS target has been evident with KIUC's creation of successful energy-saving rebate programs for our community, which the County itself has been fortunate to utilize for facilities upgrades. This past year, the County partnered with KIUC and the Kauai Economic Development Board to launch the Small Business Energy Efficiency Program, filling in a gap by providing a grant covering a percentage of labor costs associated with energy efficiency upgrades, while KIUC pays for a percentage of materials costs. The grant program was eligible to small businesses who often carry a greater burden facing spikes in electricity bills, as well as approaching retrofits.

Since 2009, Hawai'i has made substantive progress towards its clean energy goals to achieve 100% renewable energy by 2045, with KIUC having nearly reached 70% RPS in 2021. To meet our Statewide goal, it is important not to just transition our energy sources, but to also reduce our pull from the grid and overall usage.

Extending the target date of our EEPS to 2045 and updating the savings target to 6,000 GWh of energy savings would ensure continued impact of energy efficiency programming benefits, as well as aligning with our state's Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard target date.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of HB1051 HD1.

LATE *Testimony submitted late may not be considered by the Committee for decision making purposes.

OFFICE OF CLIMATE CHANGE SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY
KE KE'ENA LOLI ANIAU MĀLAMA 'ĀINA A ME KE OLA LOA
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA



BENJAMIN SULLIVAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR &
CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER
PO'O HO'OKŌ & KAHU OLA LOA

KEALOHA FOX
DEPUTY DIRECTOR &
CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER
HOPE PO'O & HOPE KAHU OLA LOA

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2025, 2:00 P.M.

STATE OF HAWAII
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1051, HD1
RELATING TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY PORTFOLIO STANDARDS**

BY,

BENJAMIN SULLIVAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER
OFFICE OF CLIMATE CHANGE, SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY

Dear Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Chun, and Members of the Committee:

The City and County of Honolulu (“City”) Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency (“Resilience Office”) **strongly supports** HB1051, HD1, which extends the state’s energy efficiency portfolio standards to 2045.

The City’s climate action policy sets a target to achieve 100 percent renewable energy and net-negative carbon emissions no later than 2045. The City’s Climate Action Plan recognizes that efforts to increase energy efficiency are critical tools for cost-effectively reducing carbon emissions while simultaneously lowering energy bills. As such, the City continues to advance energy efficiency within our own operations through the implementation of energy savings performance contracts. Additionally, the Resilience Office administers the City’s Better Buildings Benchmarking Program, which supports building owners and managers in identifying opportunities for increased efficiency to drive greater savings across the built environment.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB1051, HD1 to ensure our state-wide energy efficiency targets are aligned with our renewable energy and clean economy goals.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND COMMERCE
Wednesday, February 19, 2025 — 2:00 p.m.

Ulupono Initiative supports HB 1051 HD 1, Relating to Energy-Efficiency Portfolio Standards.

Dear Chair Matayoshi and Members of the Committee:

My name is Mariah Yoshizu and I am the Government Affairs Associate 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, clean transportation choices, and better management of freshwater resources.

Ulupono supports HB 1051 HD 1, which extends the State's deadline to achieve its energy-efficiency portfolio standards target from 2030 to 2045 and updates the standards. This bill also requires the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to establish interim goals for electricity use reduction to be achieved by 2035 and 2040 and also authorizes the PUC to adjust the 2030 and 2045 standards and interim standards.

Ulupono is supportive of energy efficiency measures to lower electricity consumption across the state. Notably, the Hawai'i State Energy Office recently published its Hawai'i Pathways to Decarbonization Report, which identifies, among other things, the crucial role that energy efficiency will play as one of the most important actions in the reduction of energy demand, even *before* implementing other measures such as developing new renewable generation, reducing vehicle miles traveled, converting to electric transport, and deploying carbon capture technologies.¹ As Hawai'i's electricity costs are expected to rise in the near-term², Ulupono sees the value of measuring and tracking energy usage as a first step to reduce energy consumption, lower overall electricity costs, and eliminate energy "waste." Hawai'i's energy issues remain increasingly complex and challenging. We appreciate the State's efforts to look at policies that reduce the overall demand, which in return will result in lower utility bills, thus mitigating the high cost of living and doing business in Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,
Mariah Yoshizu
Government Affairs Associate

¹Hawai'i Pathways to Decarbonization Act 238, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2022, Report to the 2024 Hawai'i State Legislature December 2023. <https://energy.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Act-238-HSEO-Decarbonization-Report.pdf>

² See Hawaiian Electric Newsroom, "Driven up by Russian invasion, oil prices will push electric bills higher in coming months," March 10, 2022. <https://www.hawaiianelectric.com/driven-up-by-russian-invasion-oil-prices-will-push-electric-bills-higher-in-coming-months>

February 19, 2025

Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi
House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

RE: HB 1051 HD1 – Relating to Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standards
Hearing: Wednesday February 19, 2:00 p.m.
Position: **SUPPORT**

Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Chun, and members of the committee:

My name is Will Giese. I am the Senior Director of Government Affairs of The 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 **SUPPORTS HB1051 HD1** relating to Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standards.

This bill extends the State's deadline to achieve its energy-efficiency portfolio standards from 2030 to 2045 and updates the standards. Requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish additional interim standards for electricity use reduction to be achieved by 2035 and 2040. Authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to adjust the 2030 and 2045 standards and interim standards.

COMMENTS

Energy Efficiency standards and renewable portfolio standards go hand in hand in helping Hawaii meet its energy transition goals. The state is at a critical inflection point, where the resiliency of the grid and the ability of its utility to meet both current and expected generation and load requirements are in question. The legislature is tasked with setting policy goals to meet the moment, and this bill helps to align those goals to save thousands of Hawaii residents money, time, and stress by allowing energy efficiency measures to be properly aligned with clean energy deployment.

Hawaii as a state has long led the way on implementing cutting-edge energy efficiency standards through organizations like Hawaii Energy that help support the local installation and

development community. Our company alone has helped manufacture and distribute enough solar water heaters under Hawaii Energy's various programs to save enough energy to power hundreds of thousands of additional homes. Our company's ability to thrive is, in part, tied to goals set forth in the EEPS.

As a local, employee-owned solar business owned and operated in Hawaii for 50 years, we **SUPPORT HB 1051 HD1** and urge the committee to incorporate our suggested amendments to this measure.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Will Giese
Senior Director, Government Affairs
Inter-Island Solar Supply



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

FEBRUARY 19, 2025

HB 1051, HD1, RELATING TO ENERGY-EFFICIENCY PORTFOLIO STANDARDS

POSITION: SUPPORT

Coalition Earth **supports** HB 1051, HD1, relating to Energy-Efficiency Portfolio Standards, which extends the state's deadline to achieve its energy-efficiency portfolio standards from 2030 to 2045 and updates the standards; requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish additional interim standards for electricity use reduction by 2035 and 2040; and authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to adjust the 2030 and 2045 standards and interim standards.

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 extending the state's energy efficiency portfolio standards from 2030 to 2045.** As Hawai'i progresses toward achieving its 100 percent renewable energy and carbon-negative decarbonization goals, energy efficiency

remains the most cost-effective way to reduce emissions associated with electricity generation and consumption, while providing financial benefits to Hawai'i residents and businesses during the transition. In 2009, the legislature codified the goals of the Hawai'i Clean Energy Initiative, which included a goal to reduce electricity use by 4,300 gigawatt-hours by 2030. This goal—known as the Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standards (or EEPS)—has helped to maximize cost-effective energy efficiency programs and technologies in the state.

Since 2009, Hawai'i has made impressive gains toward its clean energy goal and established a new goal to achieve 100 percent renewable electricity by 2045. **Although the renewable portfolio standard was updated in 2015, there has not been an extension of the EEPS goal beyond 2030 to align with the 2045 planning target for renewable energy.** Extending the EEPS goal beyond 2030 is an important step to ensure energy efficiency is factored into future grid planning efforts. The cheapest and cleanest energy is the energy that we don't use.

In December of 2023, the Hawai'i State Energy Office released its Statewide Decarbonization Strategy pursuant to Act 238 (2022). The report highlights how Hawai'i can achieve its statewide goals for a 50 percent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and net-negative emissions by 2045, which would align the state with global targets that scientists say we need to meet in order to avoid the worst impacts of climate change.

The 350-page report laid bare the harsh reality for Hawai'i's transition—more aggressive action must be taken in all economic sectors to meet the state's mandate to cut its carbon emissions to net-zero. Under the current “business-as-usual” scenario, which already assumes we meet our 100 percent clean energy goals, Hawai'i will fall short and only reach a 54 percent decline in economy-wide emissions by 2045. Notably, the report reaffirms how critical energy efficiency and energy conservation is to achieve our decarbonization goals.

As the executive summary states (on page 4): “The results of the quantitative analysis in this report indicate and reaffirm that **demand or load reductions** resulting from **aggressive energy efficiency measures are the most cost-effective measures to reduce emissions**; with the second scenario which focused on demand reduction showing net-savings, compared to the reference scenario. While this may not be the most glamorous path forward, the results are clear – energy efficiency saves people money and provides the foundation for substantial emissions reduction potential.”

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.

**Buildings and Sequestration Task Force
Hawai'i Environmental Change Agents**

HawaiiChangeAgents@gmail.com
hawaiichangeagents.org

February 17, 2025

SUPPORT FOR HB1051 HD1 – Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standards

Aloha Chair Matayoshi and Members of the CPC Committee,

The Buildings and Sequestration Task Force of the Hawai'i Environmental Change Agents strongly supports HB1051 HD1, which “Extends the State's energy-efficiency portfolio standards from 2030 to 2045 and updates the standards. Authorizes the public utilities commission to adjust the 2045 and interim standards.”

Hawai'i Environmental Change Agents (HECA) consists of seven task forces; one of which is the Decarbonization Task Force. This task force supports HB1051 HD1 for the following reasons:

- As Hawai'i progresses toward achieving its 100% renewable energy and decarbonization goals, energy efficiency remains the quickest, cheapest, and cleanest way to reduce emissions from the electricity sector, while also providing financial benefits to Hawai'i residents and businesses. The HSEO's December 2023 Hawaii Pathways to Decarbonization study found energy efficiency measures to be cost-effective.
- As the State moves to electrify transportation, energy efficiency efforts are an important tool for cost-effectively reducing the State's need for additional generating resources to meet this growing demand.
- The recent Market Potential Study (2020) indicates that Hawaii is on track to meet and exceed the established 2030 target of 4,300 GWh of energy savings (Applied Energy Group (2020). State of Hawaii Market Potential Study. <https://www.hawaiieeps.org/8-5-2020-market-potential-study-re>). Creating new targets through 2045 would ensure continued impact of energy efficiency programming benefits, as well as aligning with our state's Renewable Portfolio Standard target date.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Please pas HB1051 HD1 out of your committee.

Mahalo,
Building Decarbonization Task Force of HECA (by Paul Bernstein)



To: The House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
From: Sherry Pollack, Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Wednesday, February 19, 2025, 2pm

In support of HB1051 HD1

Aloha Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Chun, and Consumer Protection & Commerce Committee members,

I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii.org **supports HB1051 HD1** which extends the State's deadline to achieve its energy-efficiency portfolio standards from 2030 to 2045 and updates the standards. This measure further requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish additional interim standards for electricity use reduction to be achieved by 2035 and 2040, and authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to adjust the 2030 and 2045 standards and interim standards.

It is important to extend our energy efficiency goals and ensure that the public utilities commission may continue its work developing and overseeing the State's energy-efficiency portfolio standards beyond 2030. If Hawaii is to achieve our clean energy goals, we must align state planning directed at reducing carbon emissions across the energy sector. This measure would help accomplish this.

Energy efficiency is essential in reducing fossil fuel consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. With the climate crisis we are facing, it is critical that dedicated efforts be made to lower consumption and conserve our precious resources. In addition, reducing energy use saves consumer dollars. Hawaii residents and businesses currently pay the highest electricity rates in the country. Energy efficiency is an important tool that will help reduce electricity use and save millions on customer utility bills.

Simply put, the cleanest, cheapest and safest energy is the energy we don't use.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Sherry Pollack
Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org



Before the House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce
Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

Testimony in Support of HB 1051 HD1: Relating to Energy-Efficiency Portfolio Standards

Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Chun, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support and provide comments on House Bill 1051 HD1.

Hawai'i Energy works to empower island families and businesses on behalf of the Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to make smart energy choices to reduce energy consumption, save money, and pursue a 100% clean energy future. Energy efficiency – the energy we do not use – is the cheapest option to help us achieve our 100% clean energy goal by eliminating waste and being more efficient.

Hawai'i Energy applauds the legislature's efforts to support energy efficiency's continued impact on Hawai'i's residents and businesses as an integral component of the State's Clean Energy Initiative, which calls for Hawai'i to achieve 100% clean energy by 2045.

This bill extends the target date of the energy-efficiency portfolio standard (EEPS), as established in Act 155, SLH 2009, and set into law as HRS §269-96, to 2045, which aligns EEPS with the state's Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard target date. The bill further develops EEPS to increase its energy savings goal from 4,300 GWh by 2030 to 6,000 GWh by 2045.

Already, Hawai'i Energy, along with its partners, has been able to implement enough programs and initiatives throughout the state to generate confidence that the established EEPS goal of 4,300 GWh of energy savings by 2030 is on track. The revised goal of 6,000 GWh by 2045 set forth in HB1051 reflects that confidence, and Hawai'i Energy is well positioned to continue helping the state's utility ratepayers save electricity and money as we strive for this new target together. We also look forward to continuing to work with the PUC as it explores EEPS impacts on Hawai'i's ratepayers and electrical grid through stakeholder workshops.

Given Hawai'i still has the highest electricity rates in the country, energy efficiency remains a highly effective avenue to deliver significant cost savings to Hawai'i's families and businesses, especially during these challenging budgetary times. We appreciate the ongoing efforts by the State Legislature to ensure that energy efficiency rightly plays a crucial role in pursuing Hawai'i's 100% clean energy future.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of House Bill 1051 HD1.

Sincerely,
Caroline Carl
Executive Director
Hawai'i Energy



Hawaii Solar Energy Association
Serving Hawaii Since 1977

Testimony of The Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA) Regarding HB1051 HD1, Relating to Energy-Efficiency Portfolio Standards, Before the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

Aloha Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Chun, and committee members:

The Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA) **supports HB1051 hD1**, which extends Hawaii's Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard (EEPS) program in alignment with Hawaii's overall renewable energy goals.

HSEA members include the majority of locally owned and operated solar and renewable energy companies doing business in the state of Hawaii along with leading global cleantech manufacturers and service providers that invest and sell in our market. We employ thousands of residents in diverse green economy jobs and advocate for policies that help Hawaii achieve critical climate and resilience goals by enabling residents and businesses to invest in and benefit from the transition to clean energy.

In addition to solar PV and energy storage, HSEA members manufacture, distribute, and install highly efficient and affordable solar thermal hot water systems and other measures that contribute to Hawaii's energy efficiency programs and goals. Hawaii's EEPS and other energy efficiency programs under the leadership of the Public Utilities Commission and Hawaii Energy have been highly effective in achieving their stated purpose and goals and should be extended to align with Hawaii's overall goals.

Thank you for providing the opportunity to testify in **support of HB1051 HD1**.

Respectfully,

/s/ Rocky Mould

Rocky Mould
Executive Director



**Hawaiian
Electric**

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE**

**HB 1051, HD1
Relating to Energy-Efficiency Portfolio Standards**

Tuesday, February 19, 2025
2:00pm
State Capitol, Conference Room 329

Jennifer Baker
Senior Program Manager, Customer Energy Resources
Hawaiian Electric

Dear Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Chun, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jennifer Baker and I am testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Electric in **support** of HB 1051, HD1, Relating to Energy-Efficiency Portfolio Standards.

HB 1051, HD1 extends the State’s Energy-Efficiency Portfolio Standards (“EEPS”) from 2030 to 2045, and authorizes the Public Utilities Commission (“PUC”) to establish interim goals. Hawaiian Electric supports this measure because widespread adoption of energy conservation and energy efficiency measures will be required to meet the State’s 2030 and 2045 decarbonization goals. Extending the target date of the EEPS to 2045 would ensure continued focus on energy efficiency as a critical resource to meet our clean energy goals, and align with the 2045 target for the State’s decarbonization and Renewable Portfolio Standards goals.

Hawaiian Electric is part of the PUC’s Technical Working Group of energy stakeholders that review and assess the State’s progress towards meeting the EEPS. Hawaiian Electric looks forward to continued collaboration with the PUC, the State’s third-party Public Benefits Fee Administrator, Hawai’i Energy, and other energy stakeholders to ensure continued progress towards achievement of the EEPS.

Accordingly, Hawaiian Electric supports HB 1051, HD1. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

HB-1051-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 11:57:42 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ted Bohlen	Climate Protectors Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SUPPORT!

LATE

HB-1051-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/19/2025 1:54:25 PM

Testimony for CPC on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Helen Cox	Kauai Climate Action Coalition	Support	Written Testimony Only

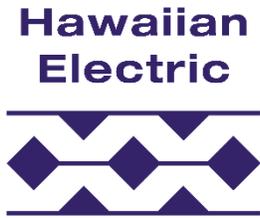
Comments:

Aloha Chairs and Committee Members,

I am writing to support HB1051 on behalf of Kauai Climate Action Coalition, a group of more than 170 Kauai residents. Appropriate energy-efficient portfolio standards are necessary for the state's goal to reach 100% renewable energy. Please pass HB1051



TRANSFORMATIVE
COLLABORATION



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE
February 19, 2025, 2:00 p.m., Room 329

Testimony in strong support of HB 1051 HD1

Aloha Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Chun, and members of the Consumer Protection & Commerce Committee:

As partners of Climate Hawaii, an initiative of the Hawaii Executive Collaborative (HEC), we strongly support HB 1051 HD1, which helps to ensure that Hawaii continues to grow its cleanest, largest, and lowest-cost energy resource: energy efficiency. This measure extends the state's Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standards (EEPS) from 2030 to 2045 while updating interim targets and authorizing the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to adjust future standards. Energy efficiency remains the most cost-effective, scalable, and immediate tool for achieving Hawaii's clean energy goals, reducing electricity costs for consumers, and enhancing statewide energy security.

Why Energy Efficiency is Essential to Hawaii's Climate Goals

Hawaii has long been a leader in renewable energy, but reducing electricity demand through energy efficiency is as critical as expanding clean generation. The cleanest and cheapest energy is the energy we don't need to use. Since its establishment in 2009, EEPS has played a pivotal role in lowering energy consumption and consumer costs, delivering over \$5 billion in savings and reducing energy demand by more than 3,000 GWh statewide.

Updating Hawai'i's EEPS ensures continued progress in:

- *Reducing consumer electricity costs:* Hawai'i has the highest electricity rates in the nation. Energy efficiency programs like those run by Hawai'i Energy and KIUC have already saved businesses and households hundreds of millions of dollars in avoided energy costs.
- *Aligning with the state's 100% renewable energy and decarbonization targets:* Extending EEPS to 2045 ensures energy efficiency continues to play a key role in our state's climate and energy planning.
- *Expanding energy equity:* Lower-income families, renters, and small businesses face disproportionate energy burdens. Energy efficiency policies provide critical cost relief and accessibility to cleaner energy solutions.
- *Reducing grid stress and enhancing resilience:* With extreme weather events on the rise, improved energy efficiency reduces strain on the grid, helping to avoid blackouts and stabilize energy costs.

Key Provisions and Benefits of HB 1051

- Extends EEPS targets from 2030 to 2045, aligning with the state's 100% Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) goal and net-zero decarbonization policies.
- Increases Hawai'i's cumulative energy savings goal from 4,300 GWh (2030) to 6,000 GWh (2045), ensuring continued progress.
- Authorizes the PUC to adjust EEPS targets in response to market conditions and technological advancements, ensuring efficiency remains a cost-effective resource.
- Establishes interim goals for 2025, 2035, and 2040 to track progress and enable proactive planning.

Energy Efficiency as a Cornerstone of Hawai'i's Climate Resilience

As we continue to see rising global temperatures and more frequent extreme weather events, energy efficiency is an essential tool for reducing fossil fuel dependency, cutting emissions, and increasing economic and energy resilience. The Hawai'i Pathways to Decarbonization Report by the Hawai'i State Energy Office in 2023 reaffirmed that aggressive energy efficiency measures deliver the highest return on investment in emissions reductions, saving both money and carbon.

At Climate Hawai'i, we believe that energy efficiency is one of the most underutilized climate solutions, and we urge the legislature to adopt and strengthen policies that will accelerate its adoption. House Bill 1051 represents a commonsense, cost-saving approach that will ensure Hawai'i remains a leader in sustainable energy while directly benefiting its residents and businesses.

Mahalo for your leadership and the opportunity to testify.

About the Hawai'i Executive Collaborative

The Hawai'i Executive Collaborative (HEC) is a nonprofit organization that serves as a convener and provides backbone support to leaders from different sectors who want to help build a more resilient economy and state. HEC members believe in the power of acting collectively and focus their energies and resources on areas where immediate and systemic changes will benefit Hawai'i

and the world. For more information on Climate Hawai'i's real-world, high-impact solutions, please visit climatehawaii.earth.

Climate Hawai'i partners supporting this testimony:

- Hawaiian Electric
- Kauai County
- Bowers + Kubota
- Chaminade University
- Zephyr Insurance
- Huanani Partners
- Blue Planet Foundation

HB-1051-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:51:48 AM

Testimony for CPC on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Virginia Tincher	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong support for HB1051

- As Hawai‘i progresses toward achieving its 100% renewable energy and decarbonization goals, energy efficiency remains the quickest, cheapest, and cleanest way to reduce emissions from the electricity sector, while also providing financial benefits to Hawai‘i residents and businesses. The HSEO’s December 2023 Hawaii Pathways to Decarbonization study found energy efficiency measures to be cost-effective.
- As the State moves to electrify transportation, energy efficiency efforts are an important tool for cost-effectively reducing the State’s need for additional generating resources to meet this growing demand.
- The recent Market Potential Study (2020) indicates that Hawaii is on track to meet and exceed the established 2030 target of 4,300 GWh of energy savings (Applied Energy Group (2020). State of Hawaii Market Potential Study. <https://www.hawaiieeps.org/8-5-2020-market-potential-study-re>). Extending the target date to 2045 would ensure continued impact of energy efficiency programming benefits, as well as aligning with our state’s Renewable Portfolio Standard target date.