

March 28, 2016

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2231

Dear Senators on the Ways and Means Committee:

I am a director and spokesperson for the Hawaii Island Energy Cooperative, a registered Hawaii 421C cooperative.

I am writing in support of this bill and urge the committee to approve it.

HIEC is a grassroots organization that has made substantial progress to-date. We, along with our friends at KIUC, have elevated the dialogue on the benefits and advantages of the energy coop ownership model here in Hawaii.

Assuming a willing seller, the opportunity to tap into a special purpose revenue bond would be very helpful for our efforts.

Respectfully,

Marco G. Margosdor

Marco Mangelsdorf

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Hawaii Solar Energy Association Serving Hawaii Since 1977

TESTIMONY OF THE HAWAII SOLAR ENERGY ASSOCIATION IN REGARD TO HB 2231 HD 1, RELATING TO ENERGY COOPERATIVES BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2016

Chair Tokuda, Vice-Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the committee, my name is Hajime Alabanza, and I represent the Hawaii Solar Energy Association, Inc. (HSEA)

HSEA supports HB 2231 HD 1. This measure includes language that clarifies part VI of chapter 39A, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to include publicly owned energy cooperatives when issuing special purpose revenue bonds.

HSEA is in support of exploring several different utility models, including energy cooperatives, as part of the energy economy in Hawaii. In the same fashion, HSEA supports equal competitive market standing for all types of energy generating entities. HB 2231 HD 1 allows this equal standing to be applied to energy cooperatives wishing to participate as a public utility.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

<u>HB2231</u>

Submitted on: 3/28/2016 Testimony for WAM on Mar 30, 2016 09:00AM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Energy Co-ops represent the most viable way for Hawaii to move toward its goat of 100% renewable energy, as well as to lower energy costs for consumers.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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