



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Thursday, January 25, 2018
8:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of
HB1805
RELATING TO ENERGY TRAINING.

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) supports Bill No. 1805, which requires the University of Hawaii (UH) community colleges to, amongst other things, establish energy systems and technology training courses for county officers and employees responsible for permitting, inspecting, licensing, and approving construction projects that contain renewable energy systems and related technology.

We support the intent of this measure as we believe that such training to be developed by UH community colleges will be helpful in our state's achievement of 100% Renewable Portfolio Standard by 2045. We defer to the UH community colleges on the impact of this measure on their budget and curriculum planning.

It is our understanding that the Pacific Center for Advanced Technology Training and Continuing Education and Lifelong Learning (PCATT) at the Honolulu Community College has experience working with industry and the public sector to develop and deploy energy-related curriculum. Hence, there is already helpful precedence that could be leveraged in establishing the program under this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments in support of HB1805.

HB-1805

Submitted on: 1/24/2018 12:12:37 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/25/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities	Support	Yes

Comments:

PRESENTATION OF THE
OAHU COUNTY COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES
TO THE [COMMITTEE ON ENERGY](#) & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2018

Thursday, January 25, 2018

8:30 a.m.

Conference Room 325

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1805, RELATING TO ENERGY TRAINING

To the Honorable Chris Lee, Chair; the Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Vice Chair; and Members of the Energy & Environmental Protection Committee:

Good morning, my name is Melodie Aduja. I serve as Chair of the Oahu County Committee ("OCC") on Legislative Priorities. Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on House Bill No. 1805, relating to energy at the University of Hawaii. The OCC Legislative Priorities Committee is in favor of House Bill No. 1805.

HB 1805 requires UH community colleges to establish energy systems and technology training courses for county officers and employees responsible for permitting, inspecting, licensing, and approving construction projects that contain renewable energy systems and related technology to eliminate unnecessary delays in the approval or implementation of a project.

The Platform of the Democratic Party of Hawaii, adopted in 2016, provides as follows: "We support energy independence, self-sufficiency, affordability and reliability for Hawai'i through the development of renewable alternative energy

sources. Specifically, we need to support policies that foster the development of energy production methods that de-emphasize carbon-based fuels and promote renewable sources such as wind, solar, wave, geothermal and Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC).

Electricity rates in Hawai'i are among the highest in the nation despite the fact that we enjoy an abundance of sunshine year-round. Electric utility company and cooperatives must open the grid to alternative power sources including solar panels and geothermal energy. We support the effort of our government officials to require utilities to provide for the maximum, comprehensive, integrated use of renewable energy and associated technologies such as storage and smart grid technologies."

The Environmental Caucus favors measures that support renewable sustainable energy projects; therefore, having UH community colleges establish energy systems and technology training courses for county officers and employees responsible for permitting, inspecting, licensing, and approving construction projects containing renewable energy systems and related technology which support energy efficiency, renewable energy, and sustainability projects are highly favored as these projects reduce dependency on fossil fuels which would otherwise increase the carbon footprint and risk greenhouse emissions contributing to climate change.

The Oahu County Legislative Priorities Committee encourages energy efficiency, renewable energy, and sustainability projects; and thus, favors and supports HB1805 relating to energy systems and technology training for County officers and employees.

Thank you very much for your kind consideration.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ **Melodie Aduja**

Melodie Aduja

Chair, OCC Legislative Priorities Committee

Email: legislativepriorities@gmail.com, Tel.: (808) 258-8889



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
January 25, 2018, 8:30 a.m.

By
John Morton
Vice President for Community Colleges
University of Hawai'i System

HB 1805 – RELATING TO ENERGY TRAINING

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 1805. This measure would require the University of Hawai'i community colleges to, among other things, establish energy systems and technology training courses for county officers and employees responsible for permitting, inspecting, licensing, and approving construction projects that contain renewable energy systems and related technology.

Honolulu Community College is the leader of the construction and trades related training on the island of O'ahu and mandated by law to provide construction and trades apprenticeship training. The College has experience in delivering curriculum around new energy system technologies and equipment. The electrical installation and maintenance technology program and the Pacific Center for Advanced Training and Technology (both Honolulu CC programs), have partnered to create new green technology training, including solar installation and maintenance. These customized programs have been geared for active duty military personnel and veterans, and have been offered on our military bases. They have also been offered to business organizations and is available through open enrollment. The community colleges also have a unique partnership with Johnson Controls Inc. through a performance based contract to lower the campus energy costs, waste, and implementation of new energy systems. This performance based contract includes an educational component where resources are provided for curriculum development, short-term instructional classes, and professional energy management consultation.

Honolulu Community College is poised to implement HB 1805 to provide the necessary training for county officers and employees responsible for permitting, inspecting, licensing, and approving projects, including officers and employees at county public works departments, planning and permitting departments, and fire departments. The College has years of experience in offering long-term and short-term training programs for specific energy related industries.

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of HB 1805 on the condition that any funds do not supplant any portion of the University's Supplemental Budget Request.

HB-1805

Submitted on: 1/24/2018 8:50:00 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/25/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Reed		Support	No

Comments:

As our state transitions to clean energy the need for training officials becomes more apparent. While this bill targets ways for our University and Colleges to serve the needs of County officials when considered along with HB 1830 it becomes apparent that University staff responsible for overseeing their Greenfund will also require training. Those students interested in entering the clean energy field will also be interested in such a program. The \$125,000 funding suggests only one class position but if it rotates between the colleges it would be a boon to all.

HB-1805

Submitted on: 1/24/2018 11:28:26 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/25/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Phil Barnes		Support	No

Comments:

As our state undertakes dramatic and essential steps to increase our utilization of renewable energy statewide the burden of implementation falls to the counties. In the rapidly changing field of renewable energy it is a daunting task for all of the county employees involved in energy projects to stay on top of the rapidly evolving technology. It makes perfect sense for training to be undertaken by the UH community college system as the multiple location of the community colleges makes the training accessible to all. Adequate funding is essential as the trainings will need to be modified regularly to reflect changing utility systems.

HB-1805

Submitted on: 1/24/2018 3:22:19 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/25/2018 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez		Support	No

Comments:

HB1805

Support with the exception of Section 5
Testimony Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection hearing
January 25, 2018

I am an independent consultant that processes construction permit applications throughout the State. I work with many of the plan reviewers for the County Municipalities, especially those in the Electrical and Fire Departments that review the designs of the this technologically complicated systems. The Counties and the individual reviewers do not have the financial means to obtain the training and attend the available resources outside of the State. This is a technical field of high and rapid changes. It is very difficult to understand its technicalities and these government agencies and individuals could use the help.

This Bill will assist to having those from outside of Hawaii with higher knowledge and exposure to come to provide the knowledge of Code Compliancy as well as updated safety equipment and precautions necessary to safeguard the public as well as our First Responders.

I believe this bill if approved and funded will help Hawaii attain its goal of 100% renewable by 2045 and the approval of this Bill will help create a means to facilitate this achievement.