



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
CURT T. OTAGURO, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2020, 2:45 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 225

S.B. 2453

RELATING TO STATE BUILDINGS.

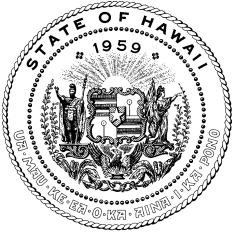
Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Inouye, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 2453.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports the intent of the bill, to decrease energy use by limiting the temperature setpoint in State buildings and offers the following comment for the committee's consideration.

The DAGS has the responsibility for less than 5% of all State-owned facilities (79) and does not have direct jurisdiction or management rights over all other State-owned facilities. Although the responsibility for non-DAGS facilities are assigned to the respective agencies, the Comptroller can remind all State facilities to comply with the minimum temperature setting.

There may be other justified reasons for exception to this requirement. One reason is for equipment installed in facilities that require cooler temperatures for proper operations.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this matter.



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE

STATE OF HAWAII

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DAVID Y. IGE
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Testimony of
SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
Tuesday, January 28, 2020
2:45 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

In consideration of
SB2453
RELATING TO STATE BUILDINGS.

Chair Thielen, Vice Chair Inouye and members of the Committee. The Hawaii State Energy Office respectfully offers comments on this measure that requires the comptroller to cause any building with air conditioning to set the operating temperature at no less than seventy-three degrees Fahrenheit (F), subject to certain exceptions.

Since the Department of Accounting and General Services oversees the maintenance and operation of most State buildings, we defer to them to set the appropriate temperatures, according to the building usage and occupants' activity. Proper temperature control enables the building to operate energy-efficiently and accommodates the comfort level of the building occupants. The American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers Standard 55-2017 is the Thermal Comfort Conditions standard for Human Occupancy. The temperature range varies, depending on clothing, activity level, and humidity.

Non-airconditioned buildings, storage facilities, laboratories and medical facilities have been exempted from this temperature setting requirement in the proposed bill. Another consideration in addition to temperature control, is to engage the behavior of the occupants and their practice of containing the air-conditioned air, i.e. keeping the cool air in and warm, humid air out. Keeping doors and windows to the outside closed enables the air conditioning system to operate in the most energy efficient manner. This practice should be communicated to and practiced by the building occupants. The American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy and the Consortium for Energy Efficiency have conducted studies and behavioral change programs can result in a 3%-12% energy savings. Also, UC Berkeley's Center for the Built Environment cites that increasing the cooling setpoint from 72 degrees F to 77 degrees F, may result in an average of 27% total HVAC energy savings.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.