

**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**  
KA 'OIHANA HO'OMOHALA PĀ'OIHANA, 'IMI WAIWAI  
A HO'OMĀKA'IKĀ'I

**JOSH GREEN, M.D.**  
GOVERNOR

**CHRIS J. SADAYASU**  
DIRECTOR

**DANE K. WICKER**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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Statement of  
**CHRIS J. SADAYASU**  
Director  
**Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism**  
before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Monday, February 27, 2023  
11:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

in consideration of  
**HB 949, HD2**  
**RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY.**

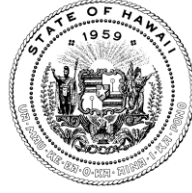
Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism ("DBEDT") **supports** HB949, HD2, which establishes and appropriates funds for a program to provide low and moderate-income households with below market loans to install photovoltaic and energy storage systems.

Additional loan capital for solar+storage investments are necessary to help underserved ratepayers reduce their growing financial energy burdens, facilitate an equitable transition to renewable energy, and enhance the resiliency and stability of electrical grids. Expanding the Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority's ability to finance rooftop solar is a necessary step in helping Hawaii achieve its goal of a 100% renewable portfolio standard in energy production by 2045.

We support this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 949, HD2.



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I  
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
KA 'OIHANA PILI KĀLEPA  
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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 Finance  
Monday, February 27, 2023  
11:30 a.m.  
Conference Room 308

On the following measure:  
**H.B. 949, H.D. 2, RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY**

Chair Yamashita and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dean Nishina and I am the Acting Executive Director for the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' (Department) Division of Consumer Advocacy. The Department supports this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to establish and appropriate funds for: (1) a solar energy storage system loan program to provide asset limited, income constrained, employed households with low-interest loans to purchase and install solar energy storage systems; and (2) a renewable energy system installation loan program to provide low- and moderate-income families with low-interest loans to purchase and install residential photovoltaic and energy storage systems, including battery storage systems.

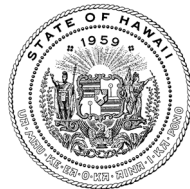
The Department supports this bill since it would establish and provide funds that would allow low to moderate income households to take advantage of renewable energy technology and reduce their energy burden. Low to moderate income households pay a disproportionately higher percentage of their income towards energy bills and do not have

the financial means to pursue the installation of renewable energy technologies. The proposed solar energy system revolving fund would directly address the financial barrier that has prevented many struggling households from reducing their energy burden and moving towards energy independence.

The Department especially appreciates that the solar energy system revolving loan fund will be funded by the general fund and not through fees assessed on utility customers through their monthly bills. Other programs that seek funding through utility rates do not adequately consider that utility rates are regressive and will increase utility bills for all customers, especially low to moderate income households whose energy burden will only increase. Additional fees to pay for the loan fund through utility rates would further increase the energy bills that many customers have struggled to pay, especially during the pandemic and over the last year when significant bill increases occurred. As currently drafted, this measure avoids placing an additional financial burden on those households that this bill attempts to support.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill, and we respectfully ask the Committee to pass this bill.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



LUIS P. SALAVERIA  
DIRECTOR

SABRINA NASIR  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND  
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
*Ka 'Oihana Mālama Mo'ohelu a Kālā*  
P.O. BOX 150  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE  
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION  
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT

**WRITTEN ONLY**  
TESTIMONY BY LUIS P. SALAVERIA  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
ON  
HOUSE BILL NO. 949, H.D. 2

**February 27, 2023**  
**11:30 a.m.**  
**Room 308 and Videoconference**

RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

House Bill (H.B.) No. 949, H.D. 2: 1) establishes the Solar Energy Storage System Loan Program (SESSLP) and the Renewable Energy System Installation Loan Program (RESILP) to be administered by the Hawai'i Green Infrastructure Authority (HGIA) of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism; 2) establishes the Solar Energy System Revolving Loan Fund (SESRLF); 3) appropriates an undetermined amount of general funds for FY 24 to be deposited into the SESRLF; and 4) appropriates an undetermined amount of special funds out of the SESRLF for FY 24 to issue loans as provided for by the SESSLP and RESILP.

As a matter of general policy, B&F does not support the creation of any revolving fund which does not meet the requirements of Section 37-52.4, HRS. Revolving funds should: 1) serve a need as demonstrated by the purpose, scope of work and an explanation why the program cannot be implemented successfully under the general

fund appropriation process; 2) reflect a clear nexus between the benefits sought and charges made upon the users or beneficiaries or a clear link between the program and the sources of revenue; 3) provide an appropriate means of financing for the program or activity; and 4) demonstrate the capacity to be financially self-sustaining. Regarding H.B. No. 949, H.D. 2, it is difficult to determine whether the proposed revolving fund would be self-sustaining as there does not appear to be any significant source of revenues to support the SESRLF aside from appropriations from the Legislature, contributions from public or private partners, and interest earned or accrued on moneys deposited into the fund.

One point of concern is that other sub-accounts and/or sub funds for loan programs administered by the HGIA serve as revolving lines of credit within the HGIA special fund and were funded with proceeds from the HGIA special fund, thus these sub-accounts/sub funds are also special funded. This measure does not make a distinction as to whether the SESRLF will also serve as a special funded revolving line of credit, or if the SESRLF, which will be used for the new SESSLP and RESILP is a separate revolving fund within the HGIA.

Finally, it should be pointed out that H.B. No. 949, H.D. 2, does not include language addressing the deposit of revenues received as repayment for principal and interest of any loans issued under either program.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR

# HAWAII GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AUTHORITY

GWEN S. YAMAMOTO LAU  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, Suite 501, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-3868  
Web site: gems.hawaii.gov

**Testimony of**  
**Gwen Yamamoto Lau**  
Executive Director  
**Hawaii Green Infrastructure Authority**  
before the  
**House Committee on Finance**  
February 27, 2023, 11:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308  
in consideration of  
**House Bill No. 949, HD2**  
**RELATING RENEWABLE TO ENERGY**

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa and Members of the Finance Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and provide comments on House Bill No. 949, HD2, relating to renewable energy. The Hawai'i Green Infrastructure Authority (HGIA) **strongly supports** this bill which establishes and appropriates funds for a program to provide low and moderate-income households with below market loans to install photovoltaic and energy storage systems.

HGIA, Hawai'i's Green Bank, works to advance the State's goals of a 100% renewable portfolio standard in energy production by leveraging innovative financing mechanisms to democratize clean energy by making financing more affordable and accessible to ratepayers previously locked out of solar. The State's efforts to achieve its clean energy goals rely on 100% of residential rooftops bearing solar, which will require an estimated \$15.0 billion in solar + storage investments over the next twenty-two years.

More importantly, with 44% of Hawai'i's families classified as asset limited, income constrained, employed ("ALICE"), our underserved ratepayers are facing disproportionate financial burdens with rising inflation and unprecedented spikes in electricity costs, straining their already tight household budgets. Based on the Federal Reserve Bank's unbanked/underbanked metric, an estimated 75,000 rooftops may not qualify for traditional financing, representing a \$3.75 billion financing gap. This additional loan capital, which will allow HGIA to also finance energy storage systems, will be a game-changer helping underserved ratepayers reduce their energy burden while facilitating an equitable transition to renewable energy, and enhancing resiliency and grid stability. With the launch of Solarize808 campaigns and additional tax incentives for disadvantaged communities in the Inflation Reduction Act, this is a timely opportunity to assist our ALICE families decrease their electric utility bills with long-term savings expected over the life of the system that can be used toward necessary household expenses.

Unlike HGIA's existing GEMS loan funds, with all principal and interest repaid transferred to the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission on an annual basis, appropriations approved under this

bill are intended to capitalize a revolving loan fund, with interest earned providing a revenue stream to become a financially self-sustaining program, and principal repaid to be recycled and re-invested to assist more ALICE families lower their cost of energy.

HGIA intends to also apply for Federal funds under the Inflation Reduction Act's Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds. While matching funds are not required, the EPA has indicated that leveraging Federal funds will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> priority for this highly competitive grant application process, making this bill and appropriations even more important to attract additional Federal funds into Hawaii to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (1<sup>st</sup> priority) and deliver benefits to disadvantaged communities (2<sup>nd</sup> priority).

To address Budget and Finance comments regarding loan repayment, HGIA respectfully requests the following amendment under Section 196-C (3):

- (3) All loan principal and interest repaid and interest earned on  
or accrued to moneys deposited into the revolving loan fund.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify and provide comments in support of HB 949, HD2.

**HB-949-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/24/2023 7:08:59 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2023 11:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
laurel brier	Kaua'i Climate Action Coalition	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It's about environmental and social justice and helping everyone make the transition to clean, affordable energy. As solar energy is currently about one-half the cost of oil-fired electricity, those in the ALICE population would directly benefit from a program that helps them overcome financial challenges such as high electricity costs and inflation.



**HB-949-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/25/2023 3:59:24 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2023 11:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Megan Fox	Malama Kaua'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

A win-win for our self-sustainability and resilience, while making solar accessible to more families. A great investment.



To: The Honorable Chair Kyle Yamashita, the Honorable Vice Chair Lisa Kitagawa,  
and Members of the Committee on Finance  
From: Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)

Re: **Hearing HB949 HD2 RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY**

Hearing: Monday February 27, 2023, 11:30 a.m., room 308

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Lisa Kitagawa, and Members of the Committee  
on Finance

The Climate Protectors Hawai'i seek to educate and engage the local community  
in climate change action, to help Hawai'i show the world the way back to a safe  
and stable climate.

The **Climate Protectors Hawai'i STRONGLY SUPPORTS HB949 HD2!**

The Hawaii Legislature has declared that we are in a climate emergency! One way  
to address that emergency, help the State achieve its net negative carbon clean  
economy target (as soon as practicable but not later than 2045), and democratize  
access to less expensive solar power, is for the State to fund a low interest loan

program for “asset-limited, income-constrained employed” (“ALICE”) working family households to purchase and install residential solar photovoltaic and energy storage systems. This bill would establish such a loan program, make cheaper solar electricity available for lower income households, and help the State reach its energy targets while reducing our carbon footprint and mitigating the climate emergency.

Please pass this bill!

Mahalo!

Climate Protectors Hawaii (by Ted Bohlen)



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

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
Monday, February 27, 2023 — 11:30 a.m.

**Ulupono Initiative supports HB 949 HD2, Relating to Renewable Energy.**

Dear Chair Yamashita 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 supports HB 949 HD2**, which establishes and appropriates funds for a solar energy storage system loan program to provide asset limited, income constrained, employed households with low-interest loans to purchase and install solar energy storage systems; and, establishes and appropriates funds for a renewable energy system installation loan program to provide asset limited, income constrained, employed households with low-interest loans to purchase and install residential photovoltaic and energy storage systems, including battery storage systems.

Ulupono supports the State's commitment to generate 100% of its electricity from renewable energy sources by 2045. The State should consider various innovative financing measures to support renewable energy's equitable adoption island-wide. This bill seeks to solidify that commitment by making solar and energy storage systems affordable and accessible for those in the ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) population. As solar energy is currently about one-half the cost of oil-fired electricity, this population would directly benefit from a program that helps them overcome financial challenges such as high electricity costs and inflation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata  
Director of Government Affairs

*Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i*



To: The House Committee on Finance (FIN)  
From: Sherry Pollack, 350Hawaii.org  
Date: Monday, February 27, 2023, 11:30am

**In strong support of HB949 HD2**

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and members of the FIN Committee,

I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii.org is in **strong support of HB949 HD2** that would establish and appropriate funds for a solar energy storage system loan program to provide asset limited, income constrained, employed households with low-interest loans to purchase and install solar energy storage systems. This measure further establishes and appropriates funds for a renewable energy system installation loan program to provide low- and moderate-income families with low-interest loans to purchase and install residential photovoltaic and energy storage systems, including battery storage systems.

Hawaii will not be able to reach its carbon reduction goals if we do not enact policies that support these outcomes. 350Hawaii fully supports efforts by the legislature to establish social equity as a foundational principle in the State's efforts to strengthen climate resilience. A Just Transition means leaving no one behind. That includes efforts such as HB949 HD2 that help to remove barriers and increase access to affordable renewable energy.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of this important legislation.

Sherry Pollack  
Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org



**Hawaiian  
Electric**

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
FINANCE**

**HB 949, HD 2**

**Relating to Renewable Energy**

Monday, February 27, 2023  
11:30 am, Agenda Item #4  
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE  
Conference Room 308  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street

Ka'iulani Shinsato  
Director, Customer Energy Resources Programs  
Hawaiian Electric

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Committee Members,

My name is Ka'iulani Shinsato and I am testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Electric in support of HB 949, HD2.

HB949, HD2 establishes and appropriates funds for a solar energy storage system loan program to provide asset limited, income constrained, employed ("ALICE") households with low-interest loans to purchase and install solar energy storage systems. It establishes and appropriates funds for a renewable energy system installation loan program to provide low-interest loans to ALICE households for the purchase and installation of residential solar and energy storage systems.

Hawaiian Electric supports HB949, HD2. While Hawai'i already leads the nation in the adoption of customer-sited rooftop solar, the continued growth of customer energy resources, such as rooftop solar and energy storage, is critical to achieving Hawai'i's decarbonization and renewable energy goals. Thus, Hawaiian Electric is continuously seeking ways to expand access of rooftop solar and energy storage

systems to customers -- in particular, ALICE households -- in a way that is fair and sustainable to all customers. HB949, HD2 is aligned with that objective because it would provide a financing mechanism for ALICE households to have access to rooftop solar and energy storage systems. Expanding access to underserved communities will greatly enhance Hawai'i's resilience, sustainability, and equity as we decarbonize our economy and electric grids and transition to clean energy.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of HB 949, HD2.

**HB-949-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/26/2023 8:41:04 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2023 11:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Paul Bernstein	HECA Decarbonization of Buildings Task Force	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitigawa, and Members of the Finance Committee:

I am submitting testimony in **strong support** of HB949 HD2. This Act will do the following:

- Aid the state in an equitable transition to clean energy
- This bill seeks to solidify that commitment to this transition by making solar and energy storage systems affordable and accessible for those in the ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) population.
- Without this programs, capital constrained households will be unable to switch to lower, cleaner sources of electricity.
- As solar energy is currently about one-half the cost of oil-fired electricity, this population would directly benefit from a program that helps them overcome financial challenges such as high electricity costs and inflation.

Please pass this bill out of your committee.

Respectfully,

Paul Bernstein

Chair of HECA's Decarbonization of Buildings Task Force





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

**Testimony of The Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA) Regarding HB949 HD2, Relating to Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standards, Before the House Committee on Finance**

**Monday, February 27, 2023**

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Sayama, and committee members:

The Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA) **supports HB949 HD2**, which establishes and appropriates funds for a solar energy storage loan program and a renewable energy loan program to provide asset limited, income constrained, employed households with low-interest loans to purchase and install residential photovoltaic and energy storage systems.

HSEA members include the majority of locally owned and operated renewable energy companies doing business in the State and leading global cleantech manufacturers and service providers that invest and sell in our market. We employ thousands of residents in diverse green economy jobs that innovate, design, and build our path to a renewable energy future. We 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. These investments provide resilient power that reduces energy burden for all and contributes to energy security and reliability as we decarbonize our economy and electric grid.

HSEA and its members are actively engaged in efforts to remove barriers and increase access to affordable renewable energy. This bill would create a powerful tool to extend the benefits of distributed, rooftop solar and energy storage to underserved market segments and frontline communities, and greatly enhance Hawaii's resilience, sustainability, and equity as we decarbonize our economy and transition to clean energy.

HSEA **supports HB949 HD2** and respectfully urges the committee to advance this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

***/s/ Rocky Mould***

Rocky Mould  
Executive Director

**HB-949-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/26/2023 2:21:14 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2023 11:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Martha Randolph	Environmental Caucus of the DPH	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We apologize to the committee for late testimony but our Caucus strongly supports this bill

HB 949 HD2 will help the state in its transition to clean energy by making solar and energy storage systems affordable and accessible for those in financially challenged households.

Without this program, capital constrained households will be unable to switch to lower, cleaner sources of electricity and they would benefit the most from solar power. It is far less expensive than any form of combustion produced power, whether fossil fuel produced or the misguided bio waste generated.

Remembering that Solar power does not further pollute the air or water, isn't this the best way to go? We believe it is.

Martha E Randolph SCC representative for the Environmental Caucus of the

Democratic Party of Hawaii



February 27, 2023

Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair  
Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair  
Committee on Finance  
Monday, February 23, 2023  
11:30 am  
via Video Conference

RE: **HB949 HD2** Relating to Renewable Energy (**Support**)

Dear Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa & Committee Members,

Chamber of Sustainable Commerce offers this testimony in SUPPORT of HB949 HD2, which establishes and appropriates funds for a solar energy storage system loan program to provide asset limited, income constrained, employed households with low-interest loans to purchase and install solar energy storage systems, and establishes and appropriates funds for a renewable energy system installation loan program to provide asset limited, income constrained, employed households with low-interest loans to purchase and install residential photovoltaic and energy storage systems, including battery storage systems.

As business owners who believe we can strengthen our economy without hurting employees, consumers or the environment, we urge this committee to vote in favor of passing HB949 HD2 because without this program, capital constrained households will be unable to switch to lower, cleaner sources of electricity – and we will not be able to achieve the state’s 2045 carbon emission goals without more households on board.

Furthermore, as solar energy is currently about one-half the cost of oil-fired electricity, ALICE households would directly benefit from a program that helps overcome financial challenges such as high electricity costs and inflation.

**HB-949-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/24/2023 6:54:49 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2023 11:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In order for Hawaii to meet its renewable energy goals, it is important to get all citizens onboard. Many lower-income residents have been unable to invest in rooftop solar due to the high upfront costs of installing a system. HB949 provides a mechanism to finance installations for people who thus far have not been able to afford it. I strongly support HB949.

**HB-949-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/24/2023 8:21:47 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2023 11:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Noel Morin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Committee members,

I'm in STRONG SUPPORT of HB949 HD2.

Sincerely,

Noel Morin

Climate, Sustainability, and Resilience Advocate

Hilo

**HB-949-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/25/2023 7:02:53 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2023 11:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ruta Jordans	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support **HB 949 Solar Energy Storage for Low Income**

- Aid the state in its transition to clean energy
- This bill seeks to solidify that commitment to this transition by making solar and energy storage systems affordable and accessible for those in the ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) population.
- Without this programs, capital constrained households will be unable to switch to lower, cleaner sources of electricity.
- As solar energy is currently about one-half the cost of oil-fired electricity, this population would directly benefit from a program that helps them overcome financial challenges such as high electricity costs and inflation.

Please enable solar for low and moderate income Kauaians!

**HB-949-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/25/2023 7:22:07 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2023 11:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Caroline Azelski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support of HD2. Thank you.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
Hearing on Feb. 27, 2023 at 11:30 am

SUPPORTING HB 949 HD 2

My name is John Kawamoto, and I support HB 949 HD 2.

Hawaii's entire economy must decarbonize if Hawaii is to reach its goal of net-negative emissions by 2045. We are making progress in the installation of rooftop solar systems, and in many cases, rooftop solar is paired with battery storage so that electricity is available during the night.

The transition to a 100% clean, renewable energy future must be equitable. By reducing the cost burden of solar and battery storage to ALICE households, this bill will help ensure equity.



**HB-949-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/25/2023 6:14:18 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2023 11:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Virginia Tincher	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Members of the FIN Committee,

Mahalo to the many representatives who introduced HB949 and who have supported it during 2 previous hearings.

I strongly support HB949 HD2 because it will

- Aid the state in its transition to clean energy
- Solidify the commitment to this transition by making solar and energy storage systems affordable and accessible for those in the ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) population.
- Without this programs, capital constrained households will be unable to switch to lower, cleaner sources of electricity.
- As solar energy is currently about one-half the cost of oil-fired electricity, this population would directly benefit from a program that helps them overcome financial challenges such as high electricity costs and inflation

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Virginia Tincher

Aina Haina, Oahu

**HB-949-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/26/2023 8:11:28 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2023 11:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Keith Neal	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**I support HB 949 HD2 as it will enable the transition to clean energy by making solar and energy storage systems affordable and accessible for those in ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) households. Without this program ALICE households will be unable to switch to lower, cleaner sources of electricity.**

**Solar energy is currently roughly half the cost of fossil fuel generated electricity. ALICE households would directly benefit from a program that overcomes financial challenges such as high electricity costs, high cost of borrowing, and inflation.**

**Keith Neal**

**Waimea**

**HB-949-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/26/2023 8:30:08 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2023 11:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michele Nihipali	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

1. 949 HD2 will help the state in its transition to clean energy by making solar and energy storage systems affordable and accessible for those in ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) households.

-- Without this program, capital constrained households will be unable to switch to lower, cleaner sources of electricity.

--As solar energy is currently about one-half the cost of oil-fired electricity, ALICE households would directly benefit from a program that helps overcome financial challenges such as high electricity costs and inflation.

**Please support HB949 HD2**

Thank you for your consideration,

Michele Nihipali

54-074 A Kam Hwy.

Hauula, HI 96717

**HB-949-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/26/2023 8:40:10 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2023 11:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Matthew Geyer	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Mahalo for your support of this important bill which will help low income families participate in the solar revolution. Solar energy is the least expensive form of electricity available and this bill will help those who need it the most to have their electric bills to be lowered and price-stabilized. By encouraging families to get battery systems, this increases their resilience in the face of natural disasters and improves grid reliability.

**HB-949-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/26/2023 8:43:44 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2023 11:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John Latkiewicz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

--HB 949 HD2 will help the state in its transition to clean energy by making solar and energy storage systems affordable and accessible for those in ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) households.

-- Without this program, capital constrained households will be unable to switch to lower, cleaner sources of electricity.

--As solar energy is currently about one-half the cost of oil-fired electricity, ALICE households would directly benefit from a program that helps overcome financial challenges such as high electricity costs and inflation.

**HB-949-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/26/2023 11:19:06 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2023 11:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dale Jensen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Finance Comittee Members:

As a registered professional engineer with 35+ years of experience in Hawaii and a strong concern for our state's contribution to the worldwide climate crisis. I am writing to ask for your support of HB949 HD2. We need to do everything practical that is within our power to decrease our carbon footprint while allowing all members of society an equitable means to take part.

HB 949 HD2 will help the state in its transition to clean energy by making solar and energy storage systems affordable and accessible for those in ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) households.

Without this program, capital constrained households will be unable to switch to lower, cleaner sources of electricity.

As solar energy is currently about one-half the cost of oil-fired electricity, ALICE households would directly benefit from a program that helps overcome financial challenges such as high electricity costs and inflation. The state will also benefit by providing the means for a sector of society which has been previously unable due to a lack of financial means to access solar energy and reduce their carbon footprint.

Please pass this important bill out of the Finance Committee.

Sincerely,

Dale Jensen

**HB-949-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/26/2023 5:35:28 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2023 11:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Joanna Howard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Without this program, capital constrained households will be unable to switch to lower, cleaner sources of electricity.

**HB-949-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/26/2023 10:07:51 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2023 11:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elizabeth Hansen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha

Please support this bill.

Mahalo

Elizabeth Hansen, Hakalau HI 96710



**HB-949-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/26/2023 10:14:06 PM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2023 11:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rodger Hansen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha

Please support this bill.

Mahalo

Rodger Hansen, Hakalau HI 96710

**HB-949-HD-2**

Submitted on: 2/27/2023 10:34:45 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/27/2023 11:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support