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Deputy Director
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SYLVIA LUKE
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STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Ka 'Oihana Ho'okō Kānāwai

715 South King Street
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TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2141
RELATING TO ELECTRIC GRID RESILIENCY

Before the Senate Committees on
Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
And
Water and Land

Wednesday, February 7, 2024; 3:00 p.m.

State Capitol Conference Room 225, Via Videoconference

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Chairs Wakai and Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and members of the Committees:

The Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) **supports** Senate Bill 2141 and provides a recommended amendment.

This bill Establishes a Homeland Security and Resiliency Council to assess the resilience of the State's electric grid and other critical infrastructure to natural disasters and other emergencies and make recommendations that the "director of homeland security" on page 3, line 19 be replaced with "director of law enforcement."

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.



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Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

Before the
Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
And
Senate Committee on Water and Land

Wednesday, February 7, 2024
3:00 p.m.
Conference Room 225

On the following measure:
S.B. 2141, RELATING TO ELECTRIC GRID RESILIENCY

Chair Wakai, Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committees:

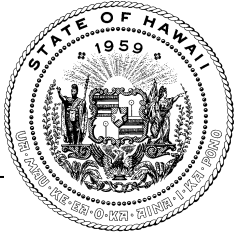
My name is Michael Angelo, and I am the Executive Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (Department) Division of Consumer Advocacy. The Department offers comments on this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to: (1) establish a Homeland Security and Resiliency Council (Council) to assess the resilience of the State's electric grid and other critical infrastructure to natural disasters and other emergencies and make recommendations; and (2) require the Council to report to Legislature and makes an appropriation.

The Department values resilience of the State's electric grid and other critical infrastructure, much of which are operated by regulated public utilities. The Division of Consumer Advocacy (Consumer Advocate) is tasked with representing, protecting, and advancing "the interests of all consumers, including small businesses, of utility services."

Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) § 269-51(a). Those interests usually concern reasonable costs. Moreover, the Consumer Advocate also advocates for utility customers' interests in the reliable and resilient provision of utility services (see, HRS § 269-54(a)). The Consumer Advocate has an interest, rooted in its statutory mission, in the findings, recommendations, and status of actions to enhance the electric grid and other critical infrastructure sector security and resiliency that the proposed Council would report on to the Governor, Legislature, and Mayor and County Council of each County. Therefore, the Department respectfully requests that, if this measure is advanced, it be amended to add the Executive Director of the Division of Consumer Advocacy to the composition of the proposed Council. Specifically, the Department offers that page 4, line 12 be amended with the addition of following language “(8) The executive director of the division of consumer advocacy.”

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



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Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
**SENATE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS
AND
WATER AND LAND**

Wednesday, February 7, 2024
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225 and Videoconference

Provides Comments on
SB 2141

RELATING TO ELECTRIC GRID RESILIENCY.

Chairs Wakai and Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committees, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) respectfully offers comments on SB 2141 which establishes a Homeland Security and Resiliency Council to assess the resilience of the State's electric grid and other critical infrastructure to natural disasters and other emergencies. The purpose of the Council would be to identify electric grid and other critical infrastructure needs and provide recommendations for enhancing grid and critical infrastructure resiliency throughout the State.

Consistent with Presidential Policy Directive 21 (2013), the State of Hawai'i and HSEO take an "all hazards" approach to resilience. This approach has enabled HSEO to coordinate effectively under Emergency Support Function #12 within the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) National Disaster Recovery Framework and pursue activities with qualified coordinating entities such as that proposed in SB 2141.

For example, HSEO participated from July of 2019 to November 2021 in the Resilience Working Group (RWG) established as part of the Integrated Grid Planning process of Hawaiian Electric Company under the direction of the Hawai'i Public Utilities

Commission (PUC). The RWG gathered a broad cross section of industries, academia, and county, state, and federal governmental agencies that have an interest in grid resilience, including HSEO, branches of the U.S. Department of Defense, and Maui County. Similar to the purpose of SB 2141, the RWG goals were to: 1) Identify and prioritize resilience threat scenarios and potential grid impacts; 2) Identify key customer and infrastructure sector capabilities and needs following a severe event and loss of power; 3) Identify gaps and priorities in grid and customer capabilities following a severe event and loss of power; 4) Provide recommendations and inputs for the Integrated Grid Plan to address resilience needs; 5) Recommend additional grid and customer actions to close gaps in capabilities following severe events; and 6) Identify opportunities and locations to enhance grid resilience that may provide greater public benefits.

HSEO notes that some of the recommendations of the RWG Report are either under development or being pursued using innovative technologies through approved and pending Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Grid Resiliency funding (Sections 40101(d) and 40103(b)), and PUC Docket 2022-0135. These efforts are consistent with Part IX of HRS §269-141 that addresses Electric Reliability, and the capabilities of advanced grid modernization technology to improve the operational capability of the Hawai'i electric system, including but not limited to automatic restoration of electrical service in response to power disturbance events and resilient operation against both physical and cyber-based attacks. HSEO also notes that the Public Utilities Commission has authority under §269-16.1 to establish performance incentive and penalty mechanisms on such topics as electric service reliability.

Given this activity, HSEO believes that this council may not be necessary. If the Legislature, however, were to enact this measure, HSEO would recommend that it be listed as a member, given its statutory duties and recent participation in similar activities and working groups.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**Hawaiian
Electric**

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON
PUBLIC SAFETY & INTERGOVERNMENTAL & MILITARY AFFAIRS
AND
WATER AND LAND**

SB2141

Relating to Electric Grid Resiliency

February 7, 2024
3:00 PM, Agenda Item #1
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

Ken Aramaki
Director, T&D and Interconnection Planning
Hawaiian Electric

Dear Chair Wakai and Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and Members of the Committees,

My name is Ken Aramaki and I am testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Electric providing comments on SB 2141, Relating to Electric Grid Resiliency.

Hawaiian Electric generally supports the intent of the bill, which seeks to (1) Prevent or reduce the severity of damage to the electric grid from a natural disaster or state of emergency; (2) Enable faster recovery of normal grid operations after a grid outage due to a natural disaster or state of emergency; and (3) Maintain critical loads at critical infrastructure, such as hospitals, fire stations, police stations, airports, and seaports during a grid outage due to a natural disaster or state of emergency.

However, Hawaiian Electric has concerns with the bill's language on page 2, lines 5-8. As written, the language "... and that a poorly equipped electrical grid exacerbated the fire. Had the electrical grid on Maui been more fire safe and resilient, it

is likely that the outcome of the fire would have been less severe.” is currently based on speculation. Therefore, should both committees agree to pass out SB 2141, we respectfully request that such language be deleted from the bill. In addition, this bill seeks to establish a Homeland Security and Resiliency Council, which shall among other things provide priorities and recommendations to enhance security and resiliency of the electric grid and other critical infrastructure sectors in the State. Hawaiian Electric requests clarification as to where funding for implementing such recommendations will originate. Should ratepayer funds be utilized for implementing parts of these future recommendations, Hawaiian Electric suggests that recovery of costs be streamlined and not be subject to General Order No. 7 requiring Public Utilities Commission approval.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify with comments on SB 2141.



**Testimony to
The Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs and
Committee on Water and Land**

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

3:00 PM

Conference Room 225 & Videoconference, Hawaii State Capitol

SB 2141

Chairs Wakai and Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and members of the committees,

Hawaii Gas **supports** SB 2141, which establishes a Homeland Security and Resiliency Council to assess the resilience of the State's electric grid and other critical infrastructure to natural disasters and other emergencies and make recommendations. Requires the Council to report to Legislature. Makes an appropriation.

Since 1904, Hawaii Gas has been a pioneer in the gas industry. Hawaii Gas is again at the leading edge of our industry given our integration of both renewable natural gas (RNG) and hydrogen into our fuel supply mix and distributing it through our utility pipeline system. Hawaii Gas plays a vital role in Hawaii's energy portfolio by providing clean, reliable, and cost-effective energy to over 70,000 customers on all islands, all of whom depend on the company for water heating, cooking, drying, and other commercial and industrial applications. Hawaii Gas continues to look towards new, innovative, and economic ways to incorporate renewable energy sources while also reducing our greenhouse gas emissions.

Hawaii Gas serves as a critical infrastructure across the state and is routinely relied upon during natural or manmade disasters, especially when electrical power is out. As such, we request that Hawaii Gas be included on the Council.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.