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Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
**SENATE COMMITTEES ON
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
AND
ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM**

Thursday, March 14, 2024
3:45 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 225 and Videoconference

Providing Comments on
HB 2738, HD2

RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY.

Chairs McKelvey and DeCoite, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Wakai, and members of the Committees, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) offers comments on HB 2738, HD2, which would authorize state agencies to prepare a report assessing the feasibility of installing distributed energy resource systems at each facility and would authorize state agencies to implement and install the distributed energy resource systems detailed in the reports no later than five years from the issue date of the reports.

HSEO appreciates the intent of this proposal to improve the efficiency and energy resilience of state facilities, particularly those of first responders.

HSEO notes the recent passage of Act 239 (SLH 2022), codified as HRS section 196-31, requires state facilities to implement cost-effective energy efficiency measures in addition to maximizing energy and water efficiency and energy generation potential, and is similar in several respects to the requirements of HB 2738, HD2, except that HD2 makes the distributed energy resource assessments and improvements optional.

HSEO notes that solar and storage have always been eligible technologies, included with efficiency, demand management, and on-site generation. HSEO has

requested federal funding for benchmarking of state facilities which is an essential first step in determining cost-effective energy measures. Under this effort, HSEO would also develop a state facility energy strategy to assist departments in scoping, funding and executing facility-specific combined energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

Because the proposed state facility energy strategy project employs the Elective Pay option under the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, allowing government entities to monetize federal tax credits, HSEO suggests removing the language on Pg. 5, lines 11-12 for clarity:

...provided that no entity shall [~~claim tax credits or~~
~~deductions, or~~] depreciate assets under title 14 for
implementing energy efficiency...

HSEO notes that the existing statute, HRS 196-31, there are two priorities: facilities that have not taken steps to improve energy efficiency since 2010, and facilities larger than 10,000 square feet. That differentiation is continued in this bill, which also adds a new priority: facilities used by first responders.

To incorporate the priorities expressed in this bill, HSEO suggests replacing the “since 2010” differentiation on page 5, lines 4-7, with an emphasis on first responder facilities regardless of size, followed by facilities of more than 10,000 square feet.

Also, to avoid a proliferation of similar statutes (illustrated in HSEO’s previous testimony on this bill), and to enhance clarity and uniformity of objectives, it would be helpful to merge this bill with the existing statute.

Sample text incorporating these revisions is attached for the Committee’s consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HSEO offers the following language as an example of updating, streamlining, and merging the requirements of HRS Section 196-31 with the contents of HB 2738, HD2:

SECTION 2. Section 196-31, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

§196-31 Energy efficiency and distributed energy resource measure implementation for state facilities. (a) State ~~[facilities]~~ agencies shall assess and implement cost-effective energy efficiency ~~[measures]~~ and distributed energy resource measures at each state facility. Each agency shall provide a report detailing the findings as follows:

- (1) ~~[Beginning on]~~ By January 1, ~~[2024]~~ 2026, for all ~~[state]~~ first responder facilities ~~[that have not implemented section 36-41 since 2010];~~ and
- (2) ~~[Beginning on]~~ By January 1, ~~[2026]~~ 2028, for all other state facilities;

provided that no entity shall ~~[claim tax credits or deductions, or]~~ depreciate assets under title 14 for implementing energy efficiency measures pursuant to this section; provided further that nothing in this subsection shall prohibit ~~[facilities]~~ agencies from implementing energy efficiency and distributed energy resource measures sooner than indicated under paragraph (1) or (2).

(b) With the exception of first responder facilities, ~~[\$]~~ state facilities with an area under ten thousand square feet shall be exempt from the requirements of subsection (a).

(c) State facilities shall implement and install the energy efficiency and distributed energy resource measures detailed in the required reports in subsection (a) beginning no later than five years from the issue date of the reports. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit agencies from implementing energy efficiency and distributed energy resource measures sooner than indicated under subsection (a) (1) or (2).

(d) Applicable agencies may assess the feasibility of developing resilience hubs, which may be located at public or private facilities and when feasible should be equipped with distributed energy resource systems, that can provide emergency services and be open to the general public during times of emergency.

~~[(e)]~~ (e) For purposes of this section:

"Cost-effective energy efficiency and distributed energy resource measure" means any energy ~~[efficiency]~~ measure where the cost of the ~~[energy efficiency measure]~~ system is equal to or less than the estimated savings over a period of twenty years or the life of the installed components, whichever is less.

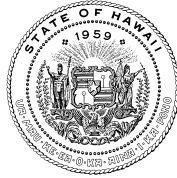
"Energy efficiency and distributed energy resource measure" ~~[means any]~~ includes, but is not limited to: energy services, projects, and equipment, ~~[including but not limited to]~~ building or facility energy conservation ~~[enhancing]~~ resources, demand management, or demand response retrofits, which may include energy saved offsite by water or other utility enhancing retrofits, to improve the energy efficiency or reduce energy costs of the facility, energy generating or energy storing materials, or any

combined assembly of solar energy generating and energy storing materials, sited at or on a facility, and the related infrastructure necessary for its operation.

"First responder facilities" includes facilities for firefighters, paramedics, emergency medical technicians, or other individuals who, in the course of their professional duties, respond to fire, medical, hazardous material, or other similar emergencies.

"Resilience hub" means any facility that is open to the general public for the purpose of providing emergency response services, including but not limited to shelter, food, water, medicine, emergent or urgent care medical services, energy, electricity, telecommunications, internet access, fuel, and electric vehicle charging."

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



KEITH A. REGAN
COMPTROLLER
KA LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWE LAULĀ
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
KEITH A. REGAN, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE COMMITTEES ON

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

MARCH 14, 2024, 3:45 P.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 225 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

H.B. 2738, H.D. 2

RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY.

Chairs McKelvey and DeCoite, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Wakai, and Members of the Committees, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on H.B. 2738, H.D. 2.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) offers **comments** on H.B. 2738, H.D. 2, which authorizes State agencies to prepare reports assessing the feasibility of installing distributed energy resource systems at each State facility and implement and install the distributed energy resource systems detailed in the reports no later than five years from the issue date of the reports; and authorizes the assignment of priority for the authorized energy efficiency measures to first responder facilities.

DAGS supports the intent of becoming more environmentally sustainable with

respect to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants. However, given our limited resources, this measure would require additional funding and personnel to implement. Should the legislature wish to move this measure forward, we would recommend that language be inserted to provide funding for the feasibility assessments and implementation; provided that the funding does not adversely impact the priorities identified in the Executive Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2025. To allow for the intensive assessment and design work necessary to complete the report, DAGS recommends that the reporting deadline of January 1, 2025, be extended to January 1, 2026, for all State facilities that have not implemented section 36-41 since 2010.

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

HB-2738-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2024 9:14:20 AM

Testimony for GVO on 3/14/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan B Roberts Emery	Testifying for Green Party of Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair DeCoite, Chair McKelvey, Vice-chair Wakai, Vice-chair Gabbard, and members of the committee,

On behalf of the Green Party of Hawai'i , we stand in strong support of HB2738 HD2. Increased intensity of storms, fires, and other disasters threaten our Island home. Hawai'i needs to be prepared for the next disaster and have ample solar and battery storage so our first responders will have adequate power to fully function despite disruptions to the electric grid.

We have the technology , let us move forward with it , and lead the way. Hawai'i is the torch for resilience in our country, let us be leaders and not followers. VOTE yes, on HB2738 HD2.

Imua,

Susan RobertsEmery

Co-Chair GPH

HB-2738-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2024 3:34:31 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/14/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steve Parsons	Testifying for Kauai Climate ACTION Coalition, Small Biz Owner	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Trusted Hawaii Lawmakers,

We strongly support this bill! First responders need the back-up power in times of emergency and should be prioritized! This idea should be a no-brainer yes! If there's opposition, I would be very suspicious of that or they are not informed on the important solutions like this that we have to implement ASAP to fight climate change!

Steve parsons, Hanapepe Kauai

KCAC 150+ members, Surfrider foundation member, Hawaii EV member, Sm Biz owner.



**Hawaii
Legislative
Council
Members**

Joell Edwards
Wainiha Country
Market
Hanalei

Russell Ruderman
Island Naturals
Hilo/Kona

Dr. Andrew Johnson
Niko Niko Family
Dentistry
Honolulu

Robert H. Pahia
Hawaii Taro Farm
Wailuku

Maile Meyer
Na Mea Hawaii
Honolulu

Tina Wildberger
Kihei Ice
Kihei

L. Malu Shizue Miki
Abundant Life
Natural Foods
Hilo

Kim Coco Iwamoto
Enlightened Energy
Honolulu

Chamber of
Sustainable
Commerce
P.O. Box 22394
Honolulu, HI
96823

Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Comm. on Government Operations

Senator Lynn DeCoite, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair
Comm. on Energy, Economic Development & Tourism

Thursday, March 14, 2024
3:45 PM, Room 225

RE: **HB2738 HD2** Renewable Energy - **Support with Amendments**

Dear Chairs McKelvey & DeCoite, Vice Chairs Gabbard & Wakai & Members of both Committees,

The Chamber of Sustainable Commerce represents over 100 small businesses across the State that strive for a triple bottom line: people, planet and prosperity; we know Hawaii can strengthen its economy without hurting workers, consumers, communities or the environment.

This is why we are in strong support of HB2783 HD2, which should require state facilities to prepare a report assessing the feasibility of installing distributed energy resource systems at each facility, requires state facilities to implement and install the distributed energy resource systems detailed in the reports no later than five years from the issue date of the reports; **therefore, we urge your committees to revert to the original HB2738, not just authorize, but require this actions provided in this bill.**

HB2783 is an opportunity for the State to build our resilience to future disasters and emergencies. The Maui wildfires demonstrate the need for the State to reduce ignition risk and build grid resiliency, which can be significantly aided by distributed rooftop solar and energy storage.

The return on the State's investment in solar energy and battery storage will be realized in just a few years; starting with ensuring first responders can have access to reliable power when they need it most is crucial for the larger community during natural disasters.

The growing climate crisis threatens the health and well-being of our state. If we are better prepared for that next disaster that is bound to hit, we will save lives and be able to recover faster from whatever disaster has occurred. Essentially, this bill will help first responders so they can help us. Bottomline: HB2738 saves us money while protecting the climate. It will also probably save lives. Please pass HB2738 in its original form.

HB-2738-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2024 12:24:57 AM

Testimony for GVO on 3/14/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dave Mulinix	Testifying for Greenpeace Hawaii	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Gabbard, & GVO Committee Members, and Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, & EET Committee Members,

My name is Dave Mulinix, CoFounder of the Hawai'i state chapter of Greenpeace, the largest environmental organization in the world, with an international membership of over 3 million. On behalf of Greenpeace Hawai'i's thousands of members and supporters statewide, we stand in STRONG SUPPORT of HB2738 HD2 that requires state facilities to prepare a report assessing the feasibility of installing distributed energy resource systems at each facility. HB2738 HD2 further requires state facilities to implement and install the distributed energy resource systems detailed in the reports no later than five years from the issue date of the reports.

This legislation is important because global warming is creating a growing climate crisis that threatens the health and well-being of the people of Hawaii. If we are better prepared for disasters that will inevitably hit our state due to the the growing Climate Crisis, we will save lives and be able to recover faster from natural disasters. Essentially, this bill will help first responders so they can help us. Bottomline: HB2738 HD2 saves us money while protecting the climate. It will also probably save lives.

Finally it is important to note that HB2738 HD2 assigns priority for the required energy efficiency measures to first responder facilities. Passage of HB2738 HD2 is common sense because should the power grid go down due to a major disaster, like a hurricane, it will help ensure that essential services like fire stations, hospitals, police stations, water treatment plants, and emergency shelters will continue to have power to function and communicate.

Please pass HB2738 HD2.

Mahalo for hearing this important bill,

Dave Mulinix, CoFounder & Statewide Organizer

Greenpeace Hawaii



To: The Senate Committee on Government Operations (GVO)
and
The Senate Committee on Energy and Economic Development, and Tourism (EET)
From: Sherry Pollack, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Thursday, March 14, 2024, 3:45pm

In strong support of HB2738 HD2

Aloha Chairs McKelvey and DeCoite, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Wakai, and members of the GVO and EET committees,

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 HB2738 HD2** that requires state facilities to implement and install distributed energy resource systems, and giving priority for the required energy efficiency measures to first responder facilities. This measure also assesses the feasibility of developing resilience hubs.

HB2738 HD2 is an opportunity for the State to lead by example in decarbonization while building our resilience to future disasters and emergencies. Solar and battery storage is one of the most cost-effective ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants associated with electricity generation and consumption. HB2738 HD2 would leverage all rooftops and parking lots of state buildings/facilities to maximize on-site renewable energy generation plus storage. The cost to install solar plus storage will be made up by savings on energy/utility bills. This will save taxpayers money. Solar pays for itself in a few years, and then saves a great deal of money in the long term. Currently, energy used to power buildings accounts for more than fifty per cent of the electricity consumed in the State, yet the State has not undertaken efforts to maximize on-site renewable energy production at many of its own facilities, forgoing millions of dollars in potential savings.

With the priority in the deployment of these solar systems going to first responder facilities, HB2738 HD2 is an important step that will help expedite building our State's resiliency. Should/when our grid is knocked out from an extreme weather event or other disaster, first responder facilities, and all other state agency facilities equipped with these solar systems, will continue to have electricity, and thus continue to be able to function. Moreover, extreme weather events can result in severe damages to port infrastructure at the State's harbors, resulting in disruption of port activity and the delay or loss of cargo shipments, including those containing emergency supplies and supplies needed to run generators. With solar plus storage, fossil fuel run generators would not be needed.

The heartbreaking tragedy caused by the Maui wildfires clearly demonstrate the need for the State to reduce wildfire ignition risk and build grid resiliency, which can be significantly aided by distributed

rooftop solar and energy storage. As we saw in Lahaina, stronger storms as a result of global warming are more likely to cause power outages and down power lines, that then increase risk for sparking wildfires. But by integrating solar and energy storage into the grid, Hawaii can enhance its resilience against wildfires. In addition to providing homeowner resiliency, solar and energy storage can support critical infrastructure. During wildfire events, when power lines may need to be de-energized for safety reasons, localized solar and storage systems can provide power to hospitals, fire stations, water treatment plants, and emergency shelters. Importantly, this reduces dependence on long-distance power transmission lines that are vulnerable to wildfires.

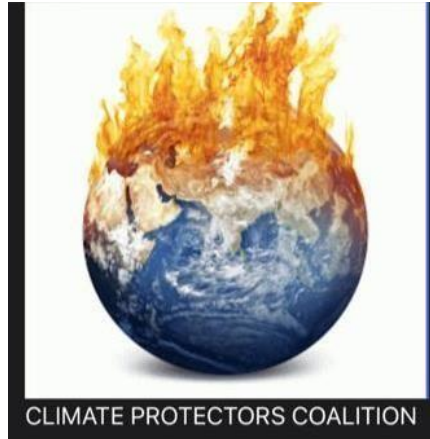
We have to look no further than another island community, Puerto Rico, to see what also can happen as a result of the stronger storms and hurricanes occurring as a result of global warming. Solar plus storage has been a life-line to the people of Puerto Rico who were fortunate to have it after their grid was knocked out from Hurricane Fiona. For example, during the last hurricane, in the coastal city of Guánica, the local fire station managed to keep its lights and critical communications systems running during the storm thanks to their solar plus storage system. It is noted that during previous events such as Hurricane Maria and a 2020 earthquake — before the fire station had its solar-plus-battery system — firefighters were unable to receive calls over the radio during outages and instead had to rely on people yelling for help.

The growing climate crisis threatens the health and well-being of our state. If we are better prepared for that disaster that is bound to hit, we will save lives and be able to recover faster from whatever disaster has occurred. **Essentially, this bill will help state government continue to function, especially first responders, so they can help us.**

Bottomline: HB2738 HD2 saves us money while protecting the climate. It will also probably save lives. Please pass HB2738 HD2.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of this very important measure.

Sherry Pollack
Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org



To: The Honorable Chairs Angus McKelvey and Lynn DeCoite, the Honorable Vice Chairs Mike Gabbard and Glenn Wakai, and Members of the Committees on Government Operations and Energy, Economic Development and Tourism.

From: Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)

Re: **Hearing HB2738 HD2 RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY**

Hearing: Thursday March 14, 2024, 3:45 p.m., CR225

Aloha Chairs McKelvey and DeCoite, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Wakai, and Members of the Committees on Government Operations and Energy, Economic Development and Tourism!

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 favors authorizing State agencies to assess the feasibility of installing distributed energy resource systems at each State facility and assigning priority for required energy efficiency measures to first responder facilities. This will save the State money and help us reach the GHG carbon negative target as soon as feasible but not later than 2045. The State should lead by example, especially regarding first responder facilities such as fire stations, hospitals, police stations, water and wastewater treatment plants, and emergency shelters to ensure they are able to function and communicate in emergency situations such as extreme weather events.

Climate Protectors Hawai'i SUPPORTS HB2738 HD2.

Please pass this bill!

Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)



Hawaii Solar Energy Association
Serving Hawaii Since 1977

Testimony of The Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA) Regarding HB2738 HD2, Relating to Renewable Energy, Before the Senate Committees on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism and Government Operations

Thursday, March 14, 2024

Aloha Chairs DeCoite and McKelvey, Vice Chairs Wakai and Gabbard, and committee members:

The Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA) **supports HB2738 HD2**, which requires the State to assess the feasibility of installing distributed, on-site solar and energy storage at all its facilities, install all feasible measures within five years prioritizing first responder facilities. The bill also calls for the State to assess the feasibility of constructing resilience hubs with distributed solar and energy storage systems at private and public facilities.

HSEA members include the majority of locally owned and operated solar and renewable energy companies doing business in the state of Hawaii along with leading global cleantech manufacturers and service providers that invest and sell in our market. We employ thousands of residents in diverse green economy jobs and 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.

Deploying on-site solar and energy systems offers resilient, cost-effective clean energy solutions. By implementing these measures and establishing accessible resilience hubs at state and private facilities, as well as first responder sites, Hawaii can advance vital public policy goals. These initiatives are essential for safeguarding the public from the escalating impacts of climate change and increasingly unpredictable weather events. Moreover, they will stimulate job creation, reduce maintenance expenses for the state, and ultimately save taxpayer dollars.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support of HB2738 HD2**.

Sincerely,

/s/ Rocky Mould

Executive Director

HB-2738-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2024 6:18:55 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/14/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruta Jordans	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Priority for first responders is important! Please support.

HB-2738-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2024 12:49:53 AM

Testimony for GVO on 3/14/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
L. Osterer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This measure would build the State's resilience, to enable first responders to fully function despite disruptions in the electric grid and port activity, which is crucial in disasters, to **save lives and to recover faster**. Stronger storms as a result of global warming are more likely to cause power outages and down power lines, and add to the risk of sparking wildfires.

The cost to install solar plus storage will be recovered on energy/utility bills. This will save taxpayers money. Solar pays for itself in a few years,

HB2738 HD2 saves us money while protecting the climate. It will also probably save lives. Please pass HB2738 HD2.

HB-2738-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2024 6:44:18 AM

Testimony for GVO on 3/14/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Richard Camp	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB2738 HD2 as it is an opportunity for the State to lead by example in decarbonization while building our resilience to future disasters and emergencies. Solar and battery storage is one of the most cost-effective ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants associated with electricity generation and consumption.

HB-2738-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2024 6:59:15 AM

Testimony for GVO on 3/14/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kate Thompson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Legislators,

Thank you for progressing this measure.

I am in strong SUPPORT of creating Solar Plus Storage.

This is the real 'Hurricane Fund', having stored energy readily available for first responder facilities; providing cost efficient energy resources readily available for daily use and for emergencies in our communities.

HB2738 HD2, requires state facilities to implement and install solar plus storage, giving priority for these required energy efficiency measures to **first responder facilities**. State agencies shall also assess the feasibility of developing resilience.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Kate Thompson

350.org member

HB-2738-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2024 8:40:17 AM

Testimony for GVO on 3/14/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniela Escontrela	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB2738 HD2 is an opportunity for the State to lead by example in decarbonization while building our resilience to future disasters and emergencies. Solar and battery storage is one of the most cost-effective ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants associated with electricity generation and consumption.

HB-2738-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2024 11:17:54 AM

Testimony for GVO on 3/14/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Glenn Choy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm Glenn Choy of Honolulu. I strongly support this bill.

HB-2738-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2024 12:31:05 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/14/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB2738 for all the reasons noted in previous testimony, including cost savings, energy resiliency, emergency resiliency, climate protection, etc., but also for one that I have not seen mentioned previously: food security. By moving as quickly as possible to produce energy on all available state infrastructure, the State of Hawaii can greatly reduce Hawaii Electric's incentive to buy up agricultural land to produce large scale commercial solar farms. Land is our most precious resource in Hawaii, and land that is suitable for producing food, or housing, should never be put into energy production until every last rooftop and parking lot is covered with solar panels. Covering our public parking lots with solar panels will also make our cars last longer and reduce skin cancers!

HB-2738-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2024 12:37:44 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/14/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Georgia L Hoopes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The growing climate crisis threatens the health and well-being of our state. If we are better prepared for that disaster that is bound to hit, we will save lives and be able to recover faster from whatever disaster has occurred. **Essentially, this bill will help first responders so they can help us.** Bottomline: HB2738 HD2 saves us money while protecting the climate. It will also probably save lives. Please pass HB2738 HD2.

Mahalo,

Georgia Hoopes, Kalaheo

HB-2738-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2024 1:50:52 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/14/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
tlaloc tokuda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is a good bill and will hopefully be passed.

- HB2738 HD2 is an opportunity for the State to lead by example in decarbonization while building our resilience to future disasters and emergencies. Solar and battery storage is one of the most cost-effective ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants associated with electricity generation and consumption.

- The cost to install solar plus storage will be made up by savings on energy/utility bills. This will save taxpayers money. Solar pays for itself in a few years, and then saves a great deal of money in the long term. Currently, energy used to power buildings accounts for more than fifty per cent of the electricity consumed in the State, yet the State has not undertaken efforts to maximize on-site renewable energy production at many of its own facilities, foregoing millions of dollars in potential savings.

- The horrific losses caused by the Maui wildfires clearly demonstrate the need for the State to reduce wildfire ignition risk and build grid resiliency, which can be significantly aided by distributed rooftop solar and energy storage. Stronger storms as a result of global warming are more likely to cause power outages and down power lines, and in addition to the risk of sparking wildfires, can be costly in terms of lives lost, economic impact, and public health.

- The growing climate crisis threatens the health and well-being of our state. If we are better prepared for that disaster that is bound to hit, we will save lives and be able to recover faster from whatever disaster has occurred. **Essentially, this bill will help first responders so they can help us.** Bottomline: HB2738 HD2 saves us money while protecting the climate. It will also probably save lives. Please pass HB2738 HD2.

HB-2738-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2024 2:18:52 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/14/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

My name is Nanea Lo. I'm born and raised in the Hawaiian Kingdom. I live in Mō'ili'ili. I'm writing in ***STRONG SUPPORT*** [HB2738 HD2!](#)

- HB2738 HD2 is an opportunity for the State to lead by example in decarbonization while building our resilience to future disasters and emergencies. Solar and battery storage is one of the most cost-effective ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants associated with electricity generation and consumption.

- The cost to install solar plus storage will be made up by savings on energy/utility bills. This will save taxpayers money. Solar pays for itself in a few years, and then saves a great deal of money in the long term. Currently, energy used to power buildings accounts for more than fifty per cent of the electricity consumed in the State, yet the State has not undertaken efforts to maximize on-site renewable energy production at many of its own facilities, foregoing millions of dollars in potential savings.

- The horrific losses caused by the Maui wildfires clearly demonstrate the need for the State to reduce wildfire ignition risk and build grid resiliency, which can be significantly aided by distributed rooftop solar and energy storage. Stronger storms as a result of global warming are more likely to cause power outages and down power lines, and in addition to the risk of sparking wildfires, can be costly in terms of lives lost, economic impact, and public health.

- The growing climate crisis threatens the health and well-being of our state. If we are better prepared for that disaster that is bound to hit, we will save lives and be able to recover faster from whatever disaster has occurred. **Essentially, this bill will help first responders so they can help us.** Bottomline: HB2738 HD2 saves us money while protecting the climate. It will also probably save lives. Please pass HB2738 HD2.

me ke aloha 'āina,

Nanea Lo, Mō'ili'ili, O'ahu

HB-2738-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2024 6:01:19 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/14/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michele Nihipali	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB2738 HD2 is an opportunity for the State to lead by example in decarbonization while building our resilience to future disasters and emergencies. Solar and battery storage is one of the most cost-effective ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants associated with electricity generation and consumption.

- The cost to install solar plus storage will be made up by savings on energy/utility bills. This will save taxpayers money. Solar pays for itself in a few years, and then saves a great deal of money in the long term. Currently, energy used to power buildings accounts for more than fifty per cent of the electricity consumed in the State, yet the State has not undertaken efforts to maximize on-site renewable energy production at many of its own facilities, foregoing millions of dollars in potential savings.

- The horrific losses caused by the Maui wildfires clearly demonstrate the need for the State to reduce wildfire ignition risk and build grid resiliency, which can be significantly aided by distributed rooftop solar and energy storage. Stronger storms as a result of global warming are more likely to cause power outages and down power lines, and in addition to the risk of sparking wildfires, can be costly in terms of lives lost, economic impact, and public health.

- The growing climate crisis threatens the health and well-being of our state. If we are better prepared for that disaster that is bound to hit, we will save lives and be able to recover faster from whatever disaster has occurred. **Essentially, this bill will help first responders so they can help us.** Bottomline: HB2738 HD2 saves us money while protecting the climate. It will also probably save lives. Please pass HB2738 HD2.

Thank you for your consideration,

Michele Nihipali

54-074 A Kam Hwy.

Hauula, HI 96717

HB-2738-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2024 11:23:33 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/14/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dylan Ramos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

As a taxpayer and voter born and raised in Hawai'i, I support this bill.

Mahalo,
Dylan Ramos
96816

HB-2738-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2024 8:18:42 AM

Testimony for GVO on 3/14/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stacy K. Tang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB2738 HD2 is an opportunity for Hawaii to lead by example. We are a tiny string of islands in the middle of the pacific and we must be as self reliant and as resilient to future disasters, as possible. When it comes to natural disasters, or any emergency situation, we rely on our first responders to save lives! They can not do this if the grid is down and communication is affected. First responders must have the ability to function fully, at all times, this shouldn't be debatable, really, it's a common sense thing, isn't it?

Money, always the issue; The cost to install solar, plus battery storage will be made up by savings on energy/utility bills. Longterm, this will save the taxpayers (the ones footing the bill and paying your salaries btw) money. Currently, energy used to power buildings accounts for more than 50% of the electricity consumed in the state. Hawaii must maximize on-site renewable energy production, if we fail to do so, we're foregoing millions in potential savings. Solar/storage solution is also necessary to reduce the state's greenhouse gas emissions and move us in the direction of becoming 100% self-reliant, as an isolated state.

The Maui fires was a massive wake up call to become proactive and vigilant. Horrific devastation caused by strong winds, downed power lines and slow response time due to system failures, increased the amout of injuries and lives lost. Please, pass this bill and give our heroes the tools they need to save lives.

HB-2738-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2024 9:26:44 AM

Testimony for GVO on 3/14/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nadine Ferraro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support solar for first responders who help us all!

HB-2738-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2024 11:17:39 AM

Testimony for GVO on 3/14/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Regina Gregory	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Should be made stronger by "encouraging" or "requiring" instead of "authorizing."

HB-2738-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2024 2:19:11 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/14/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carolyn Eaton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, Chairs McKelvey and Löwenstein-Jensen, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Cochran, and members of the Committees,

My name is Carolyn Eaton and I am a Honolulu resident. I am excited that you will get the opportunity to pass this measure for the climate resilience Hawaii must have in the months and years ahead.

Mahalo for your hard work and for keeping your eyes on the existence of our islands, and all the island communities of the Pacific and the world. We must do our part.

LATE

HB-2738-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2024 7:00:28 PM

Testimony for GVO on 3/14/2024 3:45:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
ANDREW ISODA	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

- HB2738 HD2 is an opportunity for the State to lead by example in decarbonization while building our resilience to future disasters and emergencies. Solar and battery storage is one of the most cost-effective ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other pollutants associated with electricity generation and consumption.

- The cost to install solar plus storage will be made up by savings on energy/utility bills. This will save taxpayers money. Solar pays for itself in a few years, and then saves a great deal of money in the long term. Currently, energy used to power buildings accounts for more than fifty per cent of the electricity consumed in the State, yet the State has not undertaken efforts to maximize on-site renewable energy production at many of its own facilities, foregoing millions of dollars in potential savings.

- The horrific losses caused by the Maui wildfires clearly demonstrate the need for the State to reduce wildfire ignition risk and build grid resiliency, which can be significantly aided by distributed rooftop solar and energy storage. Stronger storms as a result of global warming are more likely to cause power outages and down power lines, and in addition to the risk of sparking wildfires, can be costly in terms of lives lost, economic impact, and public health.

- The growing climate crisis threatens the health and well-being of our state. If we are better prepared for that disaster that is bound to hit, we will save lives and be able to recover faster from whatever disaster has occurred. **Essentially, this bill will help first responders so they can help us.** Bottomline: HB2738 HD2 saves us money while protecting the climate. It will also probably save lives. Please pass HB2738 HD2.