

**STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION & ADAPTATION
COMMISSION
POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809**

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Director, OPSD

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The Adjutant General
Manager, CZM

**Testimony of
Leah Laramée
Coordinator, Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission**

**Before the House Committee on
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**Tuesday, January 31, 2023
8:30 AM**

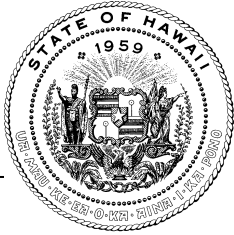
State Capitol, Via Videoconference, Conference Room 325

**In support of
House Bill 654
RELATING TO BUILDINGS**

House Bill 654 requires state and county agencies to process the aggregated energy and water data of certain properties through the federal ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager and submit the benchmarking data to the office of planning and sustainable development and appropriates funds. **The Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (Commission) supports this measure.**

Office buildings, schools, and other commercial and institutional buildings utilize significant amounts of water and electricity. The Commission recognizes the importance of energy and water tracking and benchmarking tools to help better manage both costs and operations. Utilizing the federal ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager can help set targets for investment priorities, verify efficiency improvements, and calculate carbon footprints. Targets and data tracing play an important roll in Hawai'i's ability achieve its goal of a net-negative carbon economy as soon as practicable but no later than 2045.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment in support of this measure.



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

MARK B. GLICK
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

235 South Beretania Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

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Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Tuesday, January 31, 2023
8:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325 and Videoconference

In consideration of
HB 654

RELATING TO BUILDINGS.

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) supports the intent of HB 654, which requires state and county agencies to process the aggregated energy and water data of certain properties through the federal ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager and submit the benchmarking data to the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) and appropriate funds. HSEO defers to OPSD on the implementation of this measure.

HSEO appreciates the importance of tracking energy and water use and using that information to identify and prioritize actions to save energy and water in public facilities. HSEO recognizes the potential for the proposed Sustainable Buildings Program to increase awareness and attention for the issue of buildings' energy and water efficiency.

Under a federal grant from the US Department of Energy several years ago, the state successfully benchmarked 416 public facilities, including more than 2,609

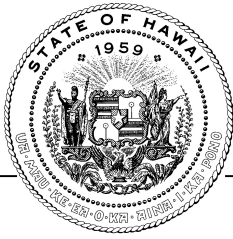
buildings and over 29 million square feet. The effort required funding, resources, and staff time to gather, process and provide access to the data on the facilities, as well as to accompany the benchmarking consultants on site verification visits.

In a similar effort, not applicable to State buildings, the City and County of Honolulu's Better Buildings Benchmarking Ordinance ([Ordinance 22-17](#)) has established [benchmarking and reporting requirements](#) for energy and water usage within the City and County of Honolulu. The first reporting deadline is June 30, 2023, for commercial and multi-family buildings over 100,000 square feet.

Municipal buildings of over 10,000 feet on O'ahu are subject to the requirements of [Ordinance 20-47](#).

Maui County's [Ordinance No. 5355](#) requires benchmarking of County structures of over 10,000 square feet for which the County of Maui regularly pays all or part of the energy or water bills.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF PLANNING
& SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SCOTT J. GLENN
DIRECTOR

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Statement of
SCOTT GLENN, Director

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Tuesday, January 31, 2023, 8:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

in consideration of
HB 654
RELATING TO BUILDINGS.

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and Members of the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection:

The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) **supports the intent and offers the following amendments** for HB 654, which requires state and county agencies to process the aggregated energy and water data of certain properties through the federal ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager and submit the benchmarking data to the office of planning and sustainable development. Appropriates funds.

OPSD is an active partner with the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) along with the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO). This bill is consistent with OPSD's responsibilities under HRS §§225M-2 and -8. The practice of benchmarking state and county agencies to process the aggregated energy and water data requires significant funding, resources, and staff time to gather, process and provide access to the data on the facilities, as well as to accompany the benchmarking consultants on site verification visits.

To implement this, OPSD recommends the following amendments and appropriations:

1. Page 24:
 - Move subsection 7 language to HRS §225M-2(b) (9) as a new subsection (C).
2. Page 28:
 - Add an appropriation of \$400,000 to launch and execute the proposed Sustainable Buildings Program.
3. Page 29:
 - Add an appropriation for three (3) FTE "Sustainability and Climate Adaptation Specialists".
 - Revise the expending agency from the DBEDT to the OPSD.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

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 HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAI'I
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
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIROMENTAL PROTECTION
H.B.654

JANUARY 31, 2023, 8:30 AM
CONFERENCE ROOM 325 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

RELATING TO BUILDINGS.

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran and Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.B. 654.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) offers comments for H.B. 654, which requires state and county agencies to process the aggregated energy and water data of certain properties through the federal Energy Star Portfolio manager and submit benchmarking data to the office of planning and sustainable development.

DAGS supports intent of becoming more environmentally sustainable with respect to greenhouse gas emissions, energy and water consumption. However, given our limited resources, this measure would require additional funding and personnel to implement. We would recommend that, should the legislature wish to move forward with this measure, language be inserted to include the additional funds to identify a resource that may be able to assist DAGS in implementing such a requirement for its managed facilities.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this matter.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Tuesday, January 31, 2023 — 8:30 a.m.

Ulupono Initiative supports HB 654, Relating to Buildings.

Dear Chair Lowen 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 654, which requires state and county agencies to process the aggregated energy and water data of certain properties through the federal ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager and submit the benchmarking data to the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development.

Ulupono is supportive of energy efficiency measures to lower electricity and water consumption across the state. Programs such as this may provide a way to monitor progress toward the State's renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainability goals.¹ As Hawai'i's electricity costs are expected to rise in the near-term², Ulupono sees the value of measuring and tracking energy usage as a first step to reduce energy consumption, lower overall electricity costs, and eliminate energy "waste."

As Hawai'i's energy and water issues become increasingly complex and challenging, we appreciate the State's efforts to look at policies that reduce the overall demand, which in return will result in lower utility bills, thus mitigating the high cost of living and doing business in Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata
Director of Government Affairs

¹See Act 155, Sessions Laws of Hawai'i 2009 (Act 155), codified under 269-96 Hawai'i Revised Statutes, which established the State's energy efficiency goals into an Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard (EEPS). As specified in HRS 269-96, the statewide EEPS goal is 4,300 gigawatt-hours (GWh) of electricity savings by 2030.

²See Hawaiian Electric Newsroom, "Driven up by Russian invasion, oil prices will push electric bills higher in coming months," March 10, 2022. <https://www.hawaiianelectric.com/driven-up-by-russian-invasion-oil-prices-will-push-electric-bills-higher-in-coming-months>



To: The Honorable Representative Nicole Lowen, Chair, the Honorable Elle Cochran, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection.

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

Re: Hearing **HB654 RELATING TO BUILDINGS**

Hearing: Tuesday January 31, 2023 8:30 a.m.

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and Energy and Environmental Protection Committee Members:

The mission of the Climate Protectors Hawai'i is 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 SUPPORTS HB654!

HB654 would require State and county agencies to process aggregated energy and water data of certain properties through the federal ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager and submit data to the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development. The bill would create a program that uses the ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager (free of charge) to encourage State and county buildings to become more environmentally sustainable.

Hawai'i has established a goal of becoming carbon negative as soon as practicable but not later than 2045. Commercial and residential buildings are responsible for about one-third of US carbon dioxide emissions, both in their operations and in carbon embedded in their materials. Addressing buildings is therefore important in reaching our carbon negative goal.

This bill would help the State and counties to reduce their substantial carbon emissions from buildings' operations, energy and water consumption. The data collected will provide a benchmark so the State can determine which buildings should be addressed first and track progress toward more sustainable building operations.

Please pass this bill! Mahalo!

Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)

HB-654

Submitted on: 1/29/2023 9:02:46 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2023 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paul Bernstein	Hawaii Environmental Change Agents' Decarbonization of Buildings Task Force	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Representative Lowen and Members of the Energy & Environmental Protection Committee:

I am submitting testimony in strong support of HB654. The purpose of this Act is to create a program that uses the ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager to encourage state and county buildings to become more environmentally sustainable, particularly with respect to greenhouse gas emissions and energy and water consumption.

Commercial and residential buildings are responsible for between a third and 40% of US carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions (Source: US Energy Information Administration's Annual Energy Outlook 2022). Thus policies addressing emissions from this sector are critical to reducing our State's overall greenhouse emissions and meet Hawai'i's 2045 net negative emissions goal.

Enacting this bill would greatly improve the State's ability to track emissions from State and county buildings. This program would be a good first step in assessing emissions in buildings and help the State begin to effectively reduce emissions from this sector and better understand how to implement efficiency standards for these buildings. In addition, implementing this policy would lay the ground work for making commercial buildings more sustainable.

Respectfully,

Paul Bernstein

Chair of HECA's Decarbonization of Buildings Task Force



To: The House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
From: Sherry Pollack, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Tuesday, January 31, 2022, 8:30am

In support of HB654

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and Energy and Environmental Protection Committee members,

I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii.org **supports HB654** that requires state and county agencies to process the aggregated energy and water data of certain properties through the federal ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager, and submit the benchmarking data to the office of planning and sustainable development.

Over one-third of Oahu's total greenhouse gas emissions come from electricity used to power homes and businesses. Serious progress on our climate targets requires that buildings be part of the solution. Benchmarking or collecting and reporting a building's annual energy and water usage data is a powerful tool to help building owners and tenants identify opportunities to cut energy waste, save money, and invest in energy efficiency upgrades.

Reduced energy demand through increased energy efficiency will play a large role in meeting the aligned State and City zero emissions clean energy targets and reducing energy burdens for residents. Moreover, water efficiency is particularly critical for Oahu's residents in the aftermath of the Navy's contamination of our sole source aquifer.

Please support and pass this important measure.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sherry Pollack
Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org



**Hawaiian
Electric**

**TESTIMONY BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

HB 654

Relating to Buildings

Tuesday, January 31, 2023
8:30am, Agenda Item #4
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE
Conference Room 325
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

Kaiulani Shinsato
Director, Customer Energy Resources Programs
Hawaiian Electric

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and Committee Members,

My name is Kaiulani Shinsato, and I am testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Electric **with comments and suggested amendments on HB654**, as it pertains to the modification of a sustainable buildings program using the Environmental Protection Agency’s ENERGY STAR Portfolio Managers and benchmarking data.

The proposed program would encourage state and county buildings to become more environmentally sustainable by using the ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager, which requires building energy usage data from the utility. Maintaining customer data privacy is paramount to the utility and the driver of the **following suggested amendments to the current version of HB654:**

(A) Page 3, lines 5 – 7.

“Aggregated whole-building data” means energy or water data that has been summed for an entire property, which may include a single occupant or a

group of separately metered tenants and complies with a 4/50 aggregation threshold standard.

(B) Page 11, lines 6 – 9.

Each utility that provides energy or water service to a property shall, upon request, provide aggregated whole-building data to the owner of the property upon the owner providing all tenant authorizations required by the utility.

The suggested language in (A) recommends the addition of standard data aggregation threshold limits to ensure the data provided is sufficiently anonymized to ensure tenant data privacy. For instances where the aggregated data does not meet the threshold, the owner can provide the utility with tenant authorization to obtain the needed data. The suggested language in (B) clarifies that the utility requires such authorization from the owner to provide the tenant data to the owner.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and submit these recommended amendments to HB654.



Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

To: The Honorable Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
The Honorable Elle Cochran, Vice Chair
Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

Re: **HB 654 – RELATING TO BUILDINGS**

Hearing: Tuesday, January 31, 2023, 8:30 a.m., Conference 325, via videoconference

Position: **Strong Support**

Aloha, Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran and Members of the Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection:

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i stands in strong support of HB 654. This measure requires state and county agencies to process the aggregated energy and water data of certain properties through the federal ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager and submit the benchmarking data to the office of planning and sustainable development. This measure also appropriates funds.

As provided in the Democratic Party of Hawai'i Platform adopted at the DPH State Convention on May 28, 2022, our policy is to “protect and preserve Hawai'i's environment and achieve energy sustainability, advance measures to re-establish a healthy climate and environment for humans and fellow species, including actions to urgently address climate change, and work towards 100% renewable energy goals.

We believe that all people have the right to live in a clean, healthy and safe environment. We believe that the preservation of our natural environment and its ecological well-being is essential to ensuring a safe, healthy, bountiful life for future generations in Hawai'i. We support policies that create a more sustainable society. We support the restoration, preservation, and protection of native ecosystems.

We believe in the resource management principles outlined in the Public Trust doctrine of [Article XI, Section 1 of the] Hawai'i State Constitution.

We believe that a key part of a sustainable and self-sufficient future for Hawai'i lies in achieving energy independence through a transition to clean renewable energy sources. We support policy that eliminates our dependence on fossil fuels and other dirty energy sources.”

Requiring state and county agencies to process the aggregated energy and water data of certain properties through the federal ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager and submitting the benchmarking data to the office of planning and sustainable development is consistent with Public Trust Doctrine and the policies of the Democratic Party of Hawaii as it would benchmark greenhouse gas emissions and water usage, which, in turn, would help the department in transitioning to more renewable energy projects for state and county buildings.

/s/ Melodie Aduja & Alan Burdick

Co-Chairs, Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

HB-654

Submitted on: 1/29/2023 1:03:41 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2023 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support HB654

HB-654

Submitted on: 1/29/2023 1:29:55 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2023 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Virginia Tincher	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran and Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection,

Mahalo Rep. Lowen and Cochran and others for introducing this important bill.

Every step towards reducing emissions help and we need to know where we are now so we can track our progress. Benchmarking is critical. As you say in the bill “The first step to addressing environmental sustainability of our buildings is measuring the amount of emissions, energy, and water consumption.” And making that information public.

As a volunteer in support of solutions to lower our emissions and remove pollution you have my strong support for this bill.

HB-654

Submitted on: 1/29/2023 2:59:48 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2023 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Caroline Azelski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support. Thank you.

HB-654

Submitted on: 1/29/2023 4:10:51 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2023 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Buildings are responsible for almost 40% of global energy-related carbon emissions. To address we need to be able to measure and track. This Act would help state and county buildings become more environmentally sustainable, particularly in regards to greenhouse gas emissions and energy use.

HB-654

Submitted on: 1/29/2023 5:50:01 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/31/2023 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lisa Diaz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha EEP Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran & EEP Committee members:

I strongly support HB654: RELATING TO BUILDINGS. Requires state and county agencies to process the aggregated energy and water data of certain properties through the federal ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager and submit the benchmarking data to the office of planning and sustainable development. Appropriates funds.

I support that Hawaii state and county agencies monitor and report aggregated energy & water data via U.S. ENERGY STAR Portfolio Manager and submit benchmark data to the office of planning and sustainable development to improve and encourage clean, renewable energy plus energy & water conservation.

Mahalo, Vice Chair Cochran for introducing HB654 and leading the EEP committee to responsibly move our state in the right direction to become 100% renewable to protect Hawaii nei and our planet.

Mahalo with Aloha,

Lisa Diaz

76-223 Haoa St.

Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
Hearing on Jan. 31, 2023 at 8:30 am

SUPPORTING HB 654

Aloha, my name is John Kawamoto, and I support HB 654.

Commercial and residential buildings are responsible for 29% of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. If we are to reduce greenhouse gas emissions enough to keep the Earth livable for ourselves and future generations, emissions from buildings must be reduced, and government should lead the way.

This bill requires the State and its counties to use the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Portfolio Manager to assess the efficiency of their buildings. Portfolio Manager is an online tool that organizations can use to measure and track energy and water consumption, as well as greenhouse gas emissions.

Portfolio Manager can be used to benchmark the performance of one building or a whole portfolio of buildings, all in a secure online environment. Jurisdictions across the country have adopted Portfolio Manager, including the City and County of Honolulu. Forty percent of commercial building space in the U.S., including 35% of the Fortune 500 are already benchmarking in Portfolio Manager.

Benchmarking a building using Portfolio Manager generates the information needed to:

- Identify underperforming buildings to target for efficiency improvements.
- Identify best practices from efficient buildings.
- Set investment priorities.
- Determine savings.
- Share and report performance.

Hawaii has set a goal of net-negative emissions by 2045. This bill will lead to more efficient State and county buildings, and it will facilitate the decarbonization of Hawaii's economy.

From: Candi Scott <scottncandi@outlook.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 29, 2023 9:14 PM
To: webmaster <webmaster@Capitol.hawaii.gov>
Subject: Bill: HB 654

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Support.

Karen Scott,
280 Hauoli
Wailuku, HI 96793