

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 'I 96810-0119

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

MARCH 2, 2026, 10:00 A.M.
CONFERENCE ROOM 308 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

H.B. 1566, H.D. 1

RELATING TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY

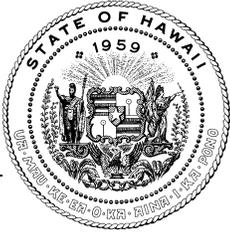
Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on H.B. 1566, H.D. 1.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) offers comments on H.B. 1566, H.D. 1 which requires DAGS to assist the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) in conducting a survey of all state agencies for compliance with the provisions of Act 225, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2023 relating to energy-efficient lighting.

DAGS manages less than 2% of all state properties. Given the approximately 8,000 state facilities, a comprehensive survey to include building information regarding light fixture quantities and types would require hiring a consultant. The DAGS Central Services Division is prepared to assist HSEO and recommends adjusting the survey

deadline to 20 days before the 2028 Legislative Session to accommodate the scope of work. Additionally, DAGS defers the amount required for a funding allocation to HSEO. This allocation would be used to hire a consultant and produce the compliance report, including estimated costs to meet this Act and Act 225 (2023) requirements.

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



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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MARK B. GLICK
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

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Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Monday, March 2, 2026
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308 and Videoconference

Providing Comments on
HB 1566, HD1

RELATING TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY.

Chair Todd, Vice Chair Takenouchi and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) respectfully offers comments on HB 1566, HD1, that requires each state agency to expeditiously use energy-efficient lighting and would require, HSEO, with assistance from the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS), to provide technical assistance, survey state agencies for compliance, prioritize first responder facilities, and report its findings to the Legislature.

HSEO supports the continued transition to energy-efficient lighting across state facilities. Converting to LED lighting remains one of the most cost-effective strategies for reducing energy consumption. In addition to lowering electricity use, LED upgrades improve lighting quality, reduce cooling loads, and significantly decrease maintenance costs due to longer lamp life.

HSEO staff currently meet with State of Hawai'i facilities managers to assess and support the implementation of energy-efficiency measures. Several efforts are underway or have been recently completed. Through a grant received by HSEO from the U.S. Department of Energy, over 500 state facilities greater than 10,000 square feet are undergoing benchmarking to better understand energy use and identify and prioritize improvement opportunities. Another effort provided technical assistance to

DAGS, the Department of Health, Public Libraries, and the Film Office to assess facility energy performance and identify strategies to improve energy efficiency and onsite renewable energy generation. Recommendations include leveraging incentives and rebates offered by Hawai'i Energy, when appropriate, to help offset the costs of lighting retrofits, ventilation improvements, and equipment commissioning.¹

Many first responder facilities, including fire stations and police headquarters, have been retrofitted with LED lighting. The City & County of Honolulu tracks progress on these efforts through its progress tracker.² In addition, the State of Hawai'i, the City and County of Honolulu, the Honolulu Board of Water Supply, and other public entities have utilized Energy Performance Contracting (EPC) to advance energy efficiency improvements at larger facilities.³ DAGS, the Department of Education, and the University of Hawai'i John A. Burns School of Medicine are currently exploring EPC financing options, and the Hawai'i Department of Defense is assessing EPC for energy-efficiency and renewable energy projects.

HSEO will continue to coordinate with DAGS and state agencies to support compliance with Act 225, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2023, and implement the objectives of HB 1566, HD1. Updates on these and other energy-efficiency initiatives, including survey results and recommendations, will be made available through HSEO's website and reports to the Legislature.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

¹ https://energy.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/HSEO-State-Facility-Energy-Strategy-Report_2026.pdf

² <https://www.sustainablehonolulu.com/tracker>

³ <https://energy.hawaii.gov/energy-performance-contracting/>

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA

SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'
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FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of
LEAH LARAMEE
Climate Change Coordinator on behalf of
Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission
Co-Chair Ryan K. P. Kanaka'ole**

**Before the House Committee on
FINANCE**

**Monday, March 2, 2026
10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308**

**In consideration of
HOUSE BILL 1566, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

House Bill 1566, House Draft 1 proposes to require each state agency to expeditiously use energy efficient lighting. This bill also proposes to require the Hawai'i State Energy Office to provide technical assistance and survey state agencies for compliance, prioritizing first responder facilities. Requires the Department of Accounting and General Services to assist the Hawai'i State Energy Office in conducting the survey and requires a report of the survey to the Legislature. **The Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (Commission) supports this measure.**

The Commission consists of a multi-jurisdictional effort between 20 departments, committees, and counties with the purpose of promoting ambitious, climate-neutral, culturally responsive strategies for climate change adaptation and mitigation.

Energy efficiency and conservation are the most important and cost-effective measures to meaningfully reduce electricity usage. The building sector is a major energy consumer and contributor to greenhouse gas emissions across the Islands. Lighting systems have a tremendous impact on building energy use. Depending on a building's age and lighting system, lighting consumes between 10% and 25% of a building's electricity. Conversions to LED lighting typically save 50% of electricity over a fluorescent baseline, and lighting controls can save an additional 80% of lighting energy. Energy efficiency efforts enhance the State's self-sufficiency and resilience against external energy shocks and save the State money.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

HB-1566-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/1/2026 10:25:52 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2026 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ted Bohlen	Climate Protectors Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SUPPORT!

To: Chair, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee

From: Gabrielle Sanborn

Date: 02/27/2026

Re: Support for HB 1566, HD1

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in strong support of HB 1566, HD1.

I come from a second-generation electrician family business here in Hawai'i. Our company works extensively in solar and clean energy systems, and I grew up around conversations about power usage, efficiency, and the responsibility we all share to be better stewards of our resources. Clean energy is not just a policy issue to me — it is something I have seen in practice, in homes and buildings across our communities.

In Hawai'i, caring for our resources is deeply connected to the value of **aloha 'āina** — love and respect for the land that sustains us. Sustainability is not simply about lowering bills or meeting energy targets. It is about honoring our relationship with the 'āina and making decisions today that protect future generations. When we reduce unnecessary energy waste in our own state facilities, we demonstrate that commitment in action.

Upgrading state facilities to energy-efficient lighting is a practical and achievable step. Lighting improvements are often one of the simplest and most cost-effective energy upgrades available. They reduce electricity consumption, lower long-term operating costs, and decrease maintenance needs. For facilities that operate around the clock — especially first responder buildings — these improvements can create meaningful financial savings while reducing environmental impact.

I also appreciate that this bill prioritizes first responder facilities and requires reporting back to the Legislature. That balance of sustainability and accountability reflects thoughtful governance.

Hawai'i has long positioned itself as a leader in clean energy. Ensuring that our state facilities model responsible energy use aligns our policies with the values we speak about — stewardship, resilience, and respect for the land.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to pass HB 1566, HD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully,
Gabrielle Sanborn

HB-1566-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2026 12:27:07 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2026 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

HB1566 will save taxpayers money, reduce pollution, and help move Hawaii along towards its carbon neutral, climate friendly goals. It's a shame that energy efficiency has to be mandated by law, since it is such an obvious choice, but HB1566 will combat inertia, and produce only winners. I strongly support HB1566 to benefit both our environment and our budget.

To: Representative Chris Todd, Chair
Representative Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance

From: Veronica Moore, Individual Citizen

Date: March 1, 2026

RE: House Bill 1566 HD1
Measure Title: RELATING TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY.
Report Title: HSEO; DAGS; State Agencies; Energy Efficiency; Lighting; First
Responder Facilities; Report

To All Concerned,

My name is Veronica Moore and I support House Bill 1566 HD1. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Veronica M. Moore

To: Chair Nadine K. Nakamura and Members of the Committee

From: Kamalani Kelliher, Social Work Student University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Date: 2/27/2026

Re: HB1566 HD1 – RELATING TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Aloha Chair Nadine Nakamura and Committee Members, my name is Kamalani Kelliher, and I am a social work student at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I am testifying in support of HB1566 HD1, which requires all state agencies to implement energy efficient lighting and directs the Hawaii State Energy Office to provide technical assistance and submit a report to the Legislature.

As a social worker in training, I have been educated to recognize how systemic and environmental factors directly affect the well being of individuals and communities. Policies that reduce energy consumption and improve environmental safety are aligned with the values of social work because they contribute to healthier communities and promote environmental justice, while also helping protect the most vulnerable populations. Energy efficient lighting, like LEDs, reduces electricity use by up to 80%, lasts longer than fluorescent or incandescent bulbs, and does not contain mercury, which could pose environmental and public health risks.

Reducing energy consumption in state buildings not only decreases Hawaii's carbon footprint but it also lowers the operational costs over time. The money from these savings can be redirected to programs that support social services, healthcare, and other essential community resources.

From my perspective, supporting this bill is consistent with the profession's commitment to macro-level change. Policies like HB1566 HD1 shows how state level actions can contribute

to sustainable practices and improve overall community health. This helps keep a cleaner and greener Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Kamalani Kelliher