

# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

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Testimony of  
**MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer**

before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

Tuesday, February 17, 2026  
9:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325 and Videoconference

Providing Comments on  
**HB 1566**

## **RELATING TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY.**

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) respectfully offers comments on HB 1566 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.<sup>1</sup>

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.<sup>2</sup> 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.<sup>3</sup> 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. 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.

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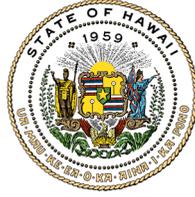
<sup>1</sup> [https://energy.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/HSEO-State-Facility-Energy-Strategy-Report\\_2026.pdf](https://energy.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/HSEO-State-Facility-Energy-Strategy-Report_2026.pdf)

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

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

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

SYLVIA LUKE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA



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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  
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**Tuesday, February 17, 2026  
9:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**In consideration of  
HOUSE BILL 1566  
RELATING TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY**

House Bill 1566 requires each state agency to expeditiously use energy efficient lighting. Requires 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. 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.

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  
**COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

FEBRUARY 17, 2026, 9:30 A.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 325 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

H.B. 1566

RELATING TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on H.B. 1566.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) offers comments on H.B. 1566 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.

**HB-1566**

Submitted on: 2/16/2026 9:28:13 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

SUPPORT!

**HB-1566**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 11:14:06 PM

Testimony for EEP on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Johnnie-Mae L. Perry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Johnnie-Mae L. Perry, SUPPORT

566 HB RELATING TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY.

**HB-1566**

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 10:15:12 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Energy efficient lighting is the low-hanging fruit of energy conservation. It is easy to install, and pays for itself quickly in savings on electricity bills. HB566 will save money, reduce pollution, and enable the state to advance more quickly toward its climate-neutral goals. I strongly support HB1566.

**HB-1566**

Submitted on: 2/13/2026 11:48:07 AM

Testimony for EEP on 2/17/2026 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Stacey Alapai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Please support HB 1566 to require state agencies implement energy efficiency standards. Efficiency is the first step recommended to reduce costs and unnecessary loads on the grid we all share. When implemented, energy efficiency is the low-hanging-fruit to meet our renewable energy goals. By reducing loads on government buildings, we reduce the demand for more energy production.

It is past time the state lead by example on energy efficiency. If we can demonstrate significant savings on the state budget spent on utility costs, this can be used as an example to incentivise households and businesses to take the same initiatives.

Mahalo for introducing this bill and leading by example to ensure Hawai'i's energy future looks bright!

Stacey Alapai, Maui