



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Tuesday, April 6, 2021; 9:30AM

By

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HB 550 HD2 SD1 – RELATING TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and members of the Committee:

The Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute (HNEI) is in support of this measure with the recommendation to modify the language, page 6, lines 12-16.

HNEI agrees that further reducing energy usage, including energy demand in state facilities as identified in this measure is a necessary component for achieving the state's energy goals. It is our understanding, as stated in this measure; that “the Hawaii state energy office is working with state agencies to assess opportunities to reach a target goal of a twenty—five per cent reduction by 2025, from a 2005 baseline year, through the energy efficiency in state buildings project”. We further understand that the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) currently collects and reports energy usage from state buildings on an annual basis.

In light of HSEO's current role and responsibilities as described above, HNEI believes that the HSEO is the appropriate agency to collect data regarding state energy usage. Specifically, we recommend that the section, lines 12-16, on page 6 be modified to read:

*“§196-\_\_ Utility bills and energy usage data; state-owned facilities. The Hawaii [~~natural energy institute~~] state energy office shall collect all utility bill and energy usage data for state-owned facilities monthly and shall make this information available in a publicly accessible format.”*

While we believe this task outlined in lines 12-16 of page 6 is consistent with the HSEO's current activities and within the scope of its statutory responsibilities; if asked, HNEI currently has adequate funding from the Energy Systems Development Special Fund (ESDSF) and is ready to assist as requested to support the data collection elements of this legislation.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on HB 550 HD2 SD1.