



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
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By

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And

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HB 1800 HD2 SD1 - RELATING TO CLIMATE MITIGATION

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

HB 1800 HD2 SD1 directs the Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute (HNEI) to conduct a study to determine Hawaii's pathway to decarbonization and identify challenges, opportunities, and actions that will be needed to achieve those goals. It further appropriates funding from the energy security special fund for the study.

HNEI **supports** this bill, and is prepared if requested, to thoroughly analyze the electricity, transportation and agriculture sectors to chart a pathway to a cost-effective, just, decarbonized economy for Hawai'i.

Such a pathway would be informed by recent analyses on renewable and enabling technologies conducted by HNEI and a growing body of research and best practices on decarbonization strategies throughout the world. Given the broad mandate contemplated by this measure, HNEI recognizes the importance of consulting and collaborating with key stakeholders and will fully engage with other state agencies, such as the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) and the Public Utilities Commission, and the counties, and relevant stakeholders and organizations as specified in the bill.

If the committee selects HNEI rather than HSEO to conduct this study, it would be appropriate for HNEI to use funding from its Energy System Development Special Fund, rather than the Energy Security Special Fund noted in the current version of this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony on HB 1800 HD2 SD1.