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Testimony Presented Before the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection Thursday, March 23, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

By

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HCR 35/HR 37 – SUPPORTING THE HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTEGRATED HAWAII PACIFIC HYDROGEN HUB

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and Members of the Committee:

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of HCR 35/HR 37, which requires the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to work with the University of Hawai'i on workforce development activities that support the development of the Hawai'i Pacific Hydrogen Hub and other related aspects of the state's hydrogen energy industry.

The University of Hawai'i Community Colleges recently kicked off its <u>Good Jobs Hawai'i</u> program which includes clean energy as one of four sector focus areas. The Good Jobs Hawai'i initiative seeks to identify and meet current and future needs of Hawai'i's clean energy workforce. The Hawai'i State Energy Office is the lead organization for the Clean Energy and Skilled Trades sector of the Good Jobs Hawai'i program funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of HCR 35/HR 37.