



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism and  
Senate Committee on Government Operations  
Wednesday, February 9, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

By  
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and  
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### SB 2963 – RELATING TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Chairs Wakai and Moriwaki, Vice Chairs Misalucha and Dela Cruz, and members of the committees:

The Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute (HNEI) is in support of this measure with the recommendation to modify the language, page 6, lines 15-19.

HNEI agrees that further reducing energy usage, including energy demand in state facilities as identified in this measure is important and necessary for achieving the state's energy goals. It is our understanding, as stated in this measure; that the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) "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 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 energy usage data from state – owned facilities. Based on this, we recommend that the section, lines 15-19, 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 15-19 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 SB 2963.