



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## ‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

### Legislative Testimony

### Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the  
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism  
Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

By

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And

Michael Bruno, Provost

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

GM 504 – Submitting for consideration and confirmation as the Chief Energy Officer, Hawai'i State Energy Office, Gubernatorial Nominee, MARK GLICK, for a term to expire 12-07-2026.

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

The Climate Resilience Collaborative (CRC) offers **strong support for GM 504** and the confirmation of Mr. Mark Glick as the Chief Energy Officer for the Hawai'i State Energy Office. For the reasons set forth below, we wholeheartedly support your Committee's approval and the full Senate's confirmation of Mr. Glick.

Mr. Glick returns to the Energy Office uniquely prepared and qualified to lead the Hawai'i State Energy Office at this critical time. Most recently, he led a successful energy policy practice at the Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute (HNEI) at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa that focused on design and optimization of energy transition policy, deployment, and associated innovation-based economic growth in Hawai'i and the Asia Pacific region.

At HNEI, Mr. Glick secured extramural funding to design and build an advanced microgrid at the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawai'i with a team of international partners he assembled. He also served as Chair of the Hawai'i Energy Policy Forum (HEPF), Hawai'i's oldest statewide energy stakeholder group. Mr. Glick organized and presided over the 20th Anniversary HEPF Legislative Briefing that brought United States Secretary of Energy, David Turk, to Hawai'i for a special keynote address and sessions to help elevate Hawai'i's stature towards receiving its fair share of funding opportunities under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and Inflation Reduction Act.

Mr. Glick led the Hawai'i State Energy Office for six critical years in Hawai'i's energy transition. Mark participated in drafting and supporting passage of the nation's first 100 percent renewable portfolio standard and established Hawai'i's \$150 million green bank, the Green Energy Market Securitization program.

As Director of Economic Development, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Mr. Glick contributed to improving the economic well-being of Native Hawaiians by establishing the Hawai'i Procurement Technical Assistance Center; restructuring the Native Hawaiian Revolving Loan program; and managing the Community Based Economic Development program.

Mr. Glick also understands business from his time in the private sector. He was the owner of a consulting firm that conceived and supported negotiation of the Texas Commitment strategy in 1992 to retain operations of General Motors' Arlington Assembly plant slated for closure. He personally advised Texas Governor Ann Richards and Cathy Bonner, the Director of the Department of Commerce, on the successful strategy to maintain operations of the facility which today produces 1,200 vehicles daily and employs more than 5,600 employees.

CRC is a multi-investigator research project at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa focused on sea level rise adaptation and climate resilience. CRC is updating coastal models that project the impacts of sea level rise. CRC would be happy to provide updated sea level rise data and projections to the Committee or any lawmaker upon request.

**The Climate Resilience supports GM504.** Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of Mr. Glick's confirmation as Chief Energy Officer.