Testimony Presented Before the
Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism
Senate Committee on Higher Education
Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 1:01 p.m.

By

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SB 1520 - RELATING TO THE HAWAII PACIFIC HYDROGEN HUB

Chairs DeCoite and Kim, Vice Chairs Wakai and Kidani, and Members of the Committees:

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of SB 1520, 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 (HSEO) 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.

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of SB 1520, on the condition its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our BOR Approved Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 1520.