



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

Legislative Testimony

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Finance
February 22, 2019 at 11:00 a.m.

By
John Morton
Vice President for Community Colleges
University of Hawai'i System

HB 560 HD1 – RELATING TO ENERGY TRAINING

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 560 HD1. This measure would require the University of Hawai'i community colleges to, among other things, establish energy systems and technology training courses for county officers and employees responsible for permitting, inspecting, licensing, and approving construction projects that contain renewable energy systems and related technology.

Honolulu Community College is the leader of the construction and trades related training on the island of Oahu and mandated by law to provide construction and trades apprenticeship training. The College has experience in delivering curriculum around new energy system technologies and equipment. The electrical installation and maintenance technology program and the Pacific Center for Advanced Training and Technology (both Honolulu CC programs), have partnered to create new green technology training, including solar installation and maintenance. These customized programs have been geared for active duty military personnel and veterans, and have been offered on our military bases. They have also been offered to business organizations and is available through open enrollment. The community colleges also have a unique partnership with Johnson Controls Inc. through a performance based contract to lower the campus energy costs, waste, and implementation of new energy systems. This performance based contract includes an educational component where resources are provided for curriculum development, short-term instructional classes, and professional energy management consultation.

Honolulu Community College is poised to implement HB 560 HD1 to provide the necessary training for county officers and employees responsible for permitting, inspecting, licensing, and approving projects, including officers and employees at county public works departments, planning and permitting departments, and fire departments. The College has years of experience in offering long-term and short-term training programs for specific energy related industries.

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of HB 560 HD1 on the condition that any funds do not supplant any portion of the University's Supplemental Budget Request.



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

MIKE MCCARTNEY
DIRECTOR

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804
Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt

Telephone: (808) 586-2355
Fax: (808) 586-2377

Statement of
MIKE MCCARTNEY
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Friday, February 22, 2019
11:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

In consideration of
HB 560, HD1
RELATING TO ENERGY TRAINING.

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the Committee. The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) **supports** HB 560, HD1, which requires University of Hawaii (UH) community colleges to establish energy systems and technology training courses for County officers and employees. UH is required to establish an advisory committee, including industry and County representatives, to provide input to UH community colleges on the energy systems and technology training courses and assist with outreach.

DBEDT is committed to achieving Hawaii's statutory goal of 100% Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS) by 2045 as a means of decarbonizing our economy from fossil fuels, amongst other environmental and economic benefits. Training for County officers and employees responsible for permitting, inspecting, licensing, and approving energy systems and technology construction projects would support Hawaii's ambitious RPS goal as education on industry standards and new innovations for County workers involved in energy construction projects can inform and expedite the permitting process.

DBEDT defers to UH community colleges on the level of funding required to develop and implement the energy systems and technology training program. We support this bill provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR



SCOTT T. MURAKAMI
DIRECTOR

LEONARD HOSHIJO
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS
830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 321
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
www.labor.hawaii.gov
Phone: (808) 586-8844 / Fax: (808) 586-9099
Email: dlir.director@hawaii.gov

February 21, 2019

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
Committee on Finance
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 306
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Luke:

Subject: House Bill (HB) 560 Relating to Energy Training

I am Manuel P. Neves, Chair of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Honolulu Fire Department (HFD). The SFC and the HFD support HB 560, which seeks to establish energy systems and technology training courses for county officers and employees, who are responsible for permitting, inspecting, licensing, and approving construction projects, and an advisory committee of industry stakeholders and to submit a report to the legislature.

The SFC and the HFD recognize that the alternative/renewable energy industry in Hawaii is experiencing rapid growth and technological innovation. Therefore, appropriate first responder training to properly manage emergency incidents involving these potentially high-voltage systems are a significant life safety priority. Furthermore, county officials and personnel must acquire and maintain the knowledge, skills, and abilities to properly inspect, approve, and license projects containing these systems.

The SFC and the HFD believes in a comprehensive approach to statewide training for first responders, county officers, and other employees and urges your committee's support on the passage of HB 560.

Should you have questions, please contact SFC Administrative Specialist Lloyd Rogers at 723-7176 or lrogers@honolulu.gov.

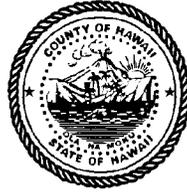
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Neves".

MANUEL P. NEVES
Chair

MPN/LR:clc

Harry Kim
Mayor



Darren J. Rosario
Fire Chief

Lance S. Uchida
Deputy Fire Chief

County of Hawai'i
HAWAI'I FIRE DEPARTMENT
25 Aupuni Street • Suite 2501 • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720
(808) 932-2900 • Fax (808) 932-2928

February 21, 2019

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
Committee on Finance
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 308
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Luke:

Subject: H.B. 560, RELATING TO ENERGY TRAINING
Hearing Date: Friday, February 22, 2019
Time/Place of Hearing: 11:00 a.m., Conference Room 308

I am Darren J. Rosario, Member of the Hawai'i State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Hawai'i Fire Department of the County of Hawai'i (HCFD). The SFC and the HCFD supports HB 560, establish energy systems and technology training courses for county officers and employees, who are responsible for permitting, inspecting, licensing, and approving construction projects, and an advisory committee of industry stakeholders and to submit a report to the legislature.

The SFC and the HCFD supports appropriate critical training for emergency responders regarding prompt response and mitigation of incidents involving alternative/renewable energy high voltage systems. Training will also enhance safety for those responsible to inspect and approve said systems.

Please do not hesitate to call me at 932-2901 or darren.rosario@hawaiicounty.gov should you have any questions. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 152.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darren".

DARREN J. ROSARIO
Fire Chief



MICHAEL VICTORINO
MAYOR



DAVID THYNE
FIRE CHIEF
BRADFORD VENTURA
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

**COUNTY OF MAUI
DEPARTMENT OF FIRE & PUBLIC SAFETY**

200 DAIRY ROAD
KAHULUI, HI 96732
PHONE: (808) 270-7561
FAX: (808) 270-7919

February 20, 2019

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
Committee on Finance
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 306
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Luke:

Subject: HB 560 Relating to Energy Training

I am David C. Thyne, member of the Hawaii State Fire Council (SFC) and Fire Chief of the Maui Fire Department (MFD). The SFC and the MFD support HB 560, which seeks to establish energy systems and technology training courses for county officers and employees responsible for permitting, inspecting, licensing, and approving construction projects and an advisory committee of industry stakeholders and to submit a report to the Legislature.

The SFC and the MFD recognize the alternative/renewable energy industry in Hawaii is experiencing rapid growth and technological innovation. Therefore, appropriate first responder training to properly manage emergency incidents involving these potentially high voltage systems are a significant life safety priority. Furthermore, county officials and personnel need to acquire and maintain the knowledge, skills, and abilities to properly inspect, approve, and license projects containing these systems.

The SFC and the MFD believes in a comprehensive approach to statewide training for all first responders, county officers, and other employees and urges your committee's support on the passage of HB 560.

Should you have any questions, please contact SFC Administrative Specialist Lloyd Rogers at (808) 723-7176 or lrogers@honolulu.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D.C. Thyne", is written over a horizontal line.

DAVID C. THYNE
Fire Chief

DCT/LR:clc



KAUA'I FIRE DEPARTMENT
THE COUNTY OF KAUA'I
DEREK S. K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR
MICHAEL A. DAHLIG, MANAGING DIRECTOR

KILIPAKI VAUGHAN
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

February 20, 2019

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
Committee on Finance
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 306
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Aloha Chair Luke:

Subject: House Bill (HB) 560 Relating to Energy Training

I am Kilipaki Vaughan, Deputy Fire Chief of the Kauai Fire Department (KFD). The KFD **supports** HB 560, which seeks to establish energy systems and technology training courses for county officers and employees responsible for permitting, inspecting, licensing, and approving construction projects and an advisory committee of industry stakeholders and to submit a report to the Legislature.

The KFD recognizes the alternative/renewable energy industry in Hawaii is experiencing rapid growth and technological innovation. Therefore, appropriate first responder training to properly manage emergency incidents involving these potentially high voltage systems are a significant life safety priority. Furthermore, county officials and personnel need to acquire and maintain the knowledge, skills, and abilities to properly inspect, approve, and license projects containing these systems.

The KFD believes in a comprehensive approach to statewide training for all first responders, county officers, and other employees and urges your committee's support on the passage of HB 560.

www.kauai.gov

4444 Rice Street Suite 315 • Lihue, Hawai'i 96766 • (808) 241-4980 (b) • (808) 241-6508 (f)

An Equal Opportunity Employer





KAUA'I FIRE DEPARTMENT
THE COUNTY OF KAUAI
DEREK S. K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR
MICHAEL A. DAHLIG, MANAGING DIRECTOR

KILIPAKI VAUGHAN
DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

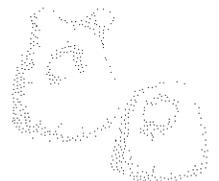
Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
Page 2
February 20, 2019

Should you have questions, please contact me at (808) 241-4980 or via email at kvaughan@kauai.gov

Ke aloha nui,

Kilipaki Vaughan
Deputy Fire Chief
Kauai Fire Department, County of Kauai

KV/dg





Email: communications@ulupono.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Friday, February 22, 2019 — 11:00 a.m. — Room 308

Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports HB 560 HD 1, Relating to Energy Training

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Murray Clay and I am Managing Partner of the Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally produced food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and better manage waste and fresh water resources. Ulupono believes that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

Ulupono strongly supports HB 560 HD 1, which requires University of Hawai'i community colleges to establish energy systems and technology training courses for county government employees, because it aligns with our goal of increasing the production of clean, renewable energy in Hawai'i.

For the State to meet its ambitious clean energy goals, there needs to be more renewable energy projects approved and developed. Approving projects can often take years, which disincentivizes developers and financiers. If regulators were able to have energy training courses available, this should assist them in analyzing renewable energy projects at a faster rate with better efficiency. This would be a win-win situation for all stakeholders.

As Hawai'i's energy issues become increasingly complex and challenging, we appreciate this committee's efforts to look at policies that support renewable energy production.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Murray Clay
Managing Partner

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



To: The House Committee on Finance
From: Brodie Lockard, Hawaii State Climate Lead, Organizing for Action
Date: Friday, February 22, 2019, 11:00 am

In support of HB 560 HD1

Dear FIN Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Committee Members—

Organizing for Action supports HB 560 HD1.

We can't move far enough, fast enough, toward zero emissions without enough people trained to inspect and approve distributed energy systems and the newer clean energy technology that will keep emerging in the next decades. Training people is well worth the expense to prevent costly mistakes and systems that don't work safely and correctly.

Whether these systems are safe and work as designed cannot be left up only to their owners and installers. As Hawaii adds more distributed generation and new technology like battery storage, qualified inspectors need to be ready and available to ensure they are up to standards.

We need trained officers and employees to avoid expensive delays and accidents as Hawaii moves to zero emissions. HB 560 HD1 is an indispensable step in that movement.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Brodie Lockard
Hawaii State Climate Lead, Organizing for Action



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

February 22, 2019, 11:00 A.M.

Room 308

(Testimony is 1 page long)

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 560 HD1

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Committee members:

Blue Planet Foundation **supports** House Bill 560 HD1, which requires University of Hawaii community colleges to establish energy systems and technology training courses for county government employees, and appropriates funds.

Hawaii's shift to a 100% renewable energy future is already underway. But to keep up with the pace of innovation, our processes for approval and implementation of renewable energy projects and technologies must also be reimagined. The type of training proposed in HB 560 should be an integral part of Hawaii's progress towards 100% renewable energy—and can help us reach our clean energy goals even faster.

County government employees who are tasked with permitting, inspecting, licensing, and approving renewable energy technologies and equipment face the difficult hurdle of remaining constantly informed about new technologies, equipment, codes, and standards. Yet, there are not adequate resources available to set them up for success in the rapidly changing energy sector, which can lead to unnecessary delays in the approval and implementation of the projects we need to reach our clean energy goals.

Blue Planet Foundation supports this measure to bolster county workforce training and retraining for clean energy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB-560-HD-1

Submitted on: 2/21/2019 11:01:29 AM

Testimony for FIN on 2/22/2019 11:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments: