



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## Legislative Testimony

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Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection  
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By  
Richard Rocheleau, Director  
Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

### SB 243 SD2 – RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and members of the Committee:

The Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute (HNEI) supports the intent of this bill and provides the following comments.

SB 243 SD2 Requires the Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute to develop a strategic plan that outlines benchmarks to achieve a 100% renewable energy portfolio standard and to submit the strategic plan to the Legislature before the Regular Session of 2023.

SB 243 SD2 also requires the Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute to conduct a feasibility study on the State's ability to achieve its renewable energy goals by 2045 and to submit its findings and recommendations to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2023

Firstly, while achieving a 100% renewable energy portfolio is an important component of Hawaii's energy economy, HNEI believes that efforts to develop a strategic plan should encompass the broader decarbonization goals such as those set forth in section 225P-5, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, that establishes goals for a zero emissions economy.

Secondly, while HNEI welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the development of the proposed effort, we feel that development of a strategic plan by the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) with HNEI conducting studies to validate the feasibility of the plan, and analysis of the cost savings and benefits to ratepayers and citizens is an appropriate sharing of responsibility.

HNEI looks forward to supporting this important effort and, if tasked by the legislature to lead the development of a strategic plan, in accordance with the current language, HNEI will of course work to fulfill this request.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this written testimony on SB 243 SD2.