

SB 1090



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR
THEODORE E. LIU
DIRECTOR
MARK K. ANDERSON
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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
THEODORE E. LIU
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**
Tuesday, February 17, 2009
2:45 pm
State Capitol, Conference Room 225
in consideration of

SB1090
RELATING TO ENERGY RESOURCES.

Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair English and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) supports the intent of SB1090, which directs state agencies and their employees to increase efforts to conserve water and energy in operations. DBEDT recognizes the economic and environmental benefits of increased efficiency and the need for the state and its employees to be leaders in this effort. Given the existing mandates for state energy and resource efficiency and sustainability, DBEDT believes that the provisions in SB 1090 are not necessary at this time. We feel that the actions proposed in SB1090 can best be achieved through an administrative directive. We would like to bring the Committee's attention the activities of Act 96 of 2006, Governor Lingle's Lead By Example (LBE) initiative for State executive agencies, enacted through the Energy For Tomorrow omnibus energy bill. The impetus of LBE was the high cost of electricity in Hawai'i to run state facilities, the energy security benefits of alternative fuel use, and the many opportunities for increasing energy

efficiency in new and existing state offices, facilities and schools. Act 96 of 2006 also required incorporating environmentally preferable purchasing and practices into state operations. LBE working groups of key agency personnel, in the areas of Buildings, Green Purchasing, Transportation, and Leadership (budget and strategic planning) meet several times a year to discuss best practices, obtain technical assistance, and report on activities which they are sharing with their staff. DBEDT provides an annual report on agencies' activities.

Agencies' efforts to reduce consumption of energy and resources have shown measurable progress. Between 2007 and 2008, kWh consumption among executive agencies decreased 1.2%. However, underscoring the link between our electricity generation and volatile crude oil prices, electricity costs increased 19.4%. The LBE program has contributed technical assistance and other resources to staff in state building operations, construction and maintenance positions, offered training in the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) green building rating system for high-performance buildings, and assisted the Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) with retrofits of existing buildings so that they are more energy and resource efficient. To date, there are over 20 state facilities which have been or are being built to LEED specifications, and 6 buildings have been certified by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as "Energy Star" qualified.

Additionally, in 2008, DBEDT's Energy Division launched a Green Government Challenge to encourage and assist state agencies with their efforts to save taxpayers money, increase energy efficiency, reduce solid waste and water consumption, and teach employees best practices in saving energy, water and reducing their carbon footprint. The program is

designed to encourage collaboration and group effort among agency staff. A comprehensive 10-page checklist is provided online to guide the development of a sustainability program, which is then submitted to project managers from DBEDT and the Department of Health's Solid and Hazardous Waste branch for verification, certification and recognition of the agency.

DBEDT believes that the new Green Government Challenge will make even further progress in encouraging agency and employee participation toward these goals.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer this testimony.



Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter

PO Box 2577, Honolulu, HI 96803

808.537.9019 hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

February 17, 2009, 2:45 P.M.

(Testimony is 1 page long)

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1090

Chair Gabbard and members of the Committee:

The Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter, with 5500 dues paying members statewide, *supports* SB 1090, directing state agencies to take efforts to encourage energy efficiency and conservation.

This bill simply encourages our State to be a leader in conservation and efficiency. While obviously low-tech, this measure helps normalize social attitudes towards conservation. While we are searching for ways to reduce our dependency on fossil fuel, save taxpayers' money, and decrease global warming pollution, let's not forget about the basic—and decidedly low-tech—approaches to energy conservation. **This bill, as amended, is a fair and balanced means to allow the State to do the right thing for Hawai'i's environment and economy.**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2009 12:14 PM
To: ENETestimony
Cc: andrea@malamakauai.org
Subject: Testimony for SB1090 on 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for ENE 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM SB1090

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Andrea Brower
Organization: Malama Kaua`i
Address: 4900 Kuawa Road Kilauea, HI.
Phone: 808-828-0685
E-mail: andrea@malamakauai.org
Submitted on: 2/10/2009

Comments:

Energy conservation is critical, especially as we face catastrophic climate change and volatile energy prices. Government must lead by example. As we look at budget cuts during this economic recession, we must first look to where we can both save money AND plug economic leakages. With \$6500 leaving Hawai`i's economy each minute to pay for imported fossil fuels, this is the FIRST place to start.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2009 1:18 PM
To: ENETestimony
Cc: good.designworks@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for SB1090 on 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for ENE 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM SB1090

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: pamela burrell
Organization: Apollo Kaua'i
Address: 5564 Kahiliholo Rd Kilauea, Hi. 96754
Phone: 808 828-1230
E-mail: good.designworks@hawaiiantel.net Submitted on: 2/10/2009

Comments:

This is such a simple step to take. And it saves money, not to mention energy.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2009 2:16 PM
To: ENETestimony
Cc: kauaibrad@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1090 on 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for ENE 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM SB1090

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Brad Parsons
Organization: Individual
Address: Hanalei, HI 96722
Phone:
E-mail: kauaibrad@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/10/2009

Comments:

Aloha Senator's,

I support SB 1090 that would direct each state agency to establish cost-effective programs that encourage personnel to conserve electricity and water. This would be a worthwhile example of energy conservation for at work and out of habit at home. Every little bit will help.

Please move this piece of legislation forward.

Mahalo, Brad

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, February 10, 2009 4:47 PM
To: ENETestimony
Cc: onrust2@hotmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1090 on 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for ENE 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM SB1090

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Melissa Fisher
Organization: Individual
Address: 311 Kamokila Road Kapaa, HI
Phone: 808-822-0410
E-mail: onrust2@hotmail.com
Submitted on: 2/10/2009

Comments:

Energy conservation is something everyone should practice both at home and at work. State employees should be leaders in this area and the state should offer the means to be the most energy conscious employer. Don't waste any more tax dollars on large electricity bills, teach conservation!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2009 6:08 AM
To: ENETestimony
Cc: judie@aloha.net
Subject: Testimony for SB1090 on 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for ENE 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM SB1090

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Judie Lundborg
Organization: Individual
Address: 3093 Peleke St Lihue, Hi
Phone: 808-639-0212
E-mail: judie@aloha.net
Submitted on: 2/11/2009

Comments:

Given that state and county offices use such HUGE amounts of energy and requests to raise the thermostats for A/C as an example have not happened, this bill would not only require that the issue be reviewed, bt would train employees so the understood the importance of conservation.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 11, 2009 9:42 AM
To: ENETestimony
Cc: connie.clausen@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1090 on 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for ENE 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM SB1090

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Connie Clausen
Organization: Individual
Address: 3644 Lawaiuka Rd Lawai, HI
Phone: 8086514217
E-mail: connie.clausen@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/11/2009

Comments:

I support a bill that requires the state to review energy conservation and train state employees regarding energy conservation. I have worked at the county before and was appalled by the wastefulness and lack of caring. This should start from the top and employees should be "graded" on their adherence to energy conservation. Maybe a contest between departments with prizes for the winners!

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Sen. Mike Gabbard, Chair
Sen. J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, Feb 17, 1009

TIME: 2:45 pm

PLACE: Conference Room 225 _____ Copies to members

BILL: SB 1090 RELATING TO ENERGY RESOURCES

SUPPORT

Aloha Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair English, and Members of the Committee:

While we support the ideas behind this bill, we have observed that cost effective programs will need more than signs and reminders. If energy costs were part of each department's budget there would be real incentives to save energy.

Over 20 years ago Professor Jim Pearson (architect for the UH Energy House) walked the campus and took an energy survey. He found that 40% of air-conditioned classrooms and auditoriums had doors and windows wide open.

Our observations are that the situation has not changed. In addition, a high percentage of unoccupied classrooms have lights left on. If UH monitored energy the way we do in our home, the campus electric bill would doubtless drop 30-50%.

This energy wastage is not limited to the University. Many of us have seen, been, or known state workers throughout the state who keep space heaters under their desks (!) and wear jackets and sweaters and because their offices are overly air-conditioned. We've been among them - minus the space heaters.

We cannot afford to run our homes or government buildings with such flagrant waste of energy and money.

Thank you.

Duane & Sarah Preble
3347 Anoaia Place
Honolulu HI 96822 988-7500

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 09, 2009 11:54 PM
To: ENETestimony
Cc: silval023@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1090 on 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for ENE 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM SB1090

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Linda Silva
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: silval023@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/9/2009

Comments:

Aloha! I strongly support SB1090. This bill would require state agencies to implement inexpensive energy conservation practices and review existing conservation strategies. It would also require training of employees through visible postings, briefings, articles, and meetings on energy conservation practices. This is a non-cost item as the vehicles of information dispersal already exist in the state system. Energy conservation would simply be added to the list.

As a state employee at a public school, I can tell you that this bill is sorely needed. Since there are no posted guidelines to conserve energy and there have been no memos or meetings addressing the subject at my school, saving energy is an 'on your honor affair.' Unfortunately, many people are either careless or unaware of how much state money is being wasted by leaving lights on in empty rooms, air conditioning units turned up, computers blazing at night, etc. . .

At my school, I have witnessed doors being propped open in air conditioned rooms, personal appliances like mini refrigerators, space heaters, coffee pots, and microwaves, air conditioning units left on during weekends, computers left on full blast, lights left on in empty rooms, and you should see the number of security lights we leave on at night! Even though my school is a locked and gated campus at the end of a dead end road, we leave numerous lights on every building all night long.

In addition, our custodians hose down many of the sidewalks around the buildings daily even though they would look fine with a quick sweep once a week.

The people that work at my school are really very wonderful, but their habits have been established through past practice and have never been questioned. We need SB1090 to review these old wasteful ways that cumulatively cost the state thousands and perhaps millions of dollars.

If this is happening at my school, a very good academic one, I'm sure it's happening in other state run facilities. Have you ever walked into a state office and noticed that everyone was wearing a sweater? It's to take energy conservation seriously by voting in favor of SB1090. Mahalo for your attention!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 12, 2009 5:28 PM
To: ENETestimony
Cc: lynnetorres@yahoo.fr
Subject: Testimony for SB1090 on 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for ENE 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM SB1090

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Lynne Torres
Organization: Individual
Address: 3581 Horita Rd Koloa, HI
Phone: 808 332 8767
E-mail: lynnetorres@yahoo.fr
Submitted on: 2/12/2009

Comments:

I believe training state employees regarding energy conservation is an essential part in the right direction towards more awareness and preventative action in regards to protecting our environment and becoming more sustainable.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2009 11:34 AM
To: ENETestimony
Cc: oceanmana@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Testimony for SB1090 on 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for ENE 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM SB1090

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Nina Monasevich
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: oceanmana@hawaiiantel.net
Submitted on: 2/16/2009

Comments:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2009 8:21 AM
To: ENETestimony
Cc: dalalem@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1090 on 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for ENE 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM SB1090

Conference room: 225
Testifier position:
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Donna Alalem
Organization: Individual
Address: P. O. Box 1151 HI
Phone: 808 822-3239
E-mail: dalalem@hawaii.rr.com
Submitted on: 2/16/2009

Comments:

"Directs each state agency to establish cost-effective programs that encourage personnel to conserve electricity and water."

The state agency itself should look at their use of energy. DAGS is in charge of the air conditioning use in the State Building on Kauai. We wear sweaters, boots, sometimes long underwear. We ask that the temperature be controlled and it is either too low or too high. It's not the kuleana of the "personnel." The state agencies themselves need to correct the problems.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2009 7:28 AM
To: ENETestimony
Cc: lcblankley@aol.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1090 on 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for ENE 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM SB1090

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Leona Blankley
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: lcblankley@aol.com
Submitted on: 2/16/2009

Comments:

Please, please, please help all of us to save energy and funds for Hawaii and our future generations!

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2009 10:57 AM
To: ENETestimony
Cc: tracey@kauaioutcallmassage.com
Subject: Testimony for SB1090 on 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for ENE 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM SB1090

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Tracey Schavone
Organization: Individual
Address: POBox 676 Anahola, HI
Phone: 808-822-4465
E-mail: tracey@kauaioutcallmassage.com
Submitted on: 2/16/2009

Comments:

Please support SB1090. We all need to be responsible and conserve our precious resources. Waste of electricity and water is unacceptable. The state could "lead the way" by passing this bill.

Aloha,
Tracey Schavone
Anahola, Kaua`i

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 16, 2009 8:24 PM
To: ENETestimony
Cc: gabriela@keapana.net
Subject: Testimony for SB1090 on 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for ENE 2/17/2009 2:45:00 PM SB1090

Conference room: 225
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Gabriela Taylor
Organization: Individual
Address: 5620 Keapana Rd Kapaa
Phone: 808 823-9013
E-mail: gabriela@keapana.net
Submitted on: 2/16/2009

Comments:

Please -let the state set a good example for residents and hopefully the resorts to follow. It's like an orchestra where every instrument plays an important part contributing to the whole.