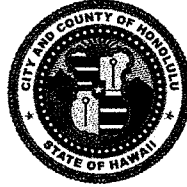


OFFICE OF CLIMATE CHANGE, SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR

MATTHEW GONSER, AICP, CFM
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR &
CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER

April 29, 2022

The Honorable Tommy Waters, Chair
and Members
Honolulu City Council
520 South King Street, Room 202
Honolulu, Hawai'i, 96813

Dear Chair Waters and Councilmembers:

SUBJECT: Bill 22 (2022), Relating to Better Buildings Benchmarking

The Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency (CCSR) strongly supports Bill 22 (2022), which seeks to create a Better Buildings Benchmarking Program and establish an energy and water usage reporting requirement for large buildings within the City and County of Honolulu ("City").

The simple and free act of reporting the energy and water usage of O'ahu's large buildings is foundational towards achieving the City's climate action and sustainability goals. Benchmarking is a proven market mechanism with over a decade's worth of success in more than 40 jurisdictions, empowering property owners, building managers, and tenants with necessary information to cut costs and utility waste, and improve operations. Benchmarking and transparency also allows for more informed decision-making at the City on where to equitably and strategically invest critical resources to support businesses and residents in improving the efficiency and resiliency of their buildings. The City Council has already recognized these benefits for City operations through adoption of Bill 65 (2020), CD2 (now Ordinance 20-47), which requires the City to annually benchmark energy and water usage in facilities greater than 10,000 square feet.

CCSR greatly appreciates the ongoing collaboration of the three utilities and various stakeholders who have met with us to ensure the program meets the needs of building owners while achieving its purpose of improving building performance and creating cost-savings opportunities for businesses and residents. CCSR stands ready to work with the Council to address stakeholder feedback in regards to program timing, reasonable penalties, and fair data disclosure in advance of discussion at the next committee hearing. Beyond passage of the ordinance, we are committed to providing education and training

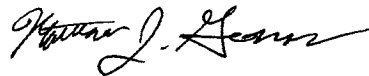
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The Honorable Tommy Waters, Chair
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to assist building owners to meet requirements and appreciate continued collaboration with stakeholders to deliver an effective benchmarking program.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments in support of Bill 22 (2022) and for continuing to drive action on community and industry priorities established in the City's *O'ahu Resilience Strategy* and the City's *Climate Action Plan*, and as adopted by Council. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (808) 768-2277 or via e-mail at resilientoahu@honolulu.gov.

Sincerely,



Digitally signed by Gonser,
Matthew
Date: 2022.04.29 09:26:24 -10'00'

Matthew Gonser
Executive Director and
Chief Resilience Officer

APPROVED:



Michael D. Formby
Managing Director