

**BILL051(22)**  
**Testimony**

**MISC. COMM. 435**

COUNCIL

## **COUNCIL Meeting**

Meeting Date: Oct 5, 2022 @ 10:00 AM

Support: 3

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name: Rocky Mould	Email: rmould@hsea.org	Zip: 96816
Representing: Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA)	Position: Support	Submitted: Oct 4, 2022 @ 07:31 AM
Name: Mialisa Otis	Email: mialisa808@gmail.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Oct 4, 2022 @ 01:17 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha,</p> <p>I support Bil 51, addressing the requirements of a building permit. I would like to request to amend this bill, by adding an extra layer of protection of sacred spaces that have significant remains or artifacts. By doing so, this would hold DPP accountable to uphold warnings such as needing review by SHPD, or now the Oahu Preservation Commission, before permits are considered.</p> <p>Thank you,</p> <p>Mialisa Otis</p>		
Name: Mialisa Otis	Email: mialisa808@gmail.com	Zip: 96795
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Oct 4, 2022 @ 01:28 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>I support Bill 51. I previously submitted written testimony, but I want to also say my testimony in-person at Kapolei.</p> <p>Mahalo,</p> <p>Mialisa Otis</p>		



**Hawaii Solar Energy Association**  
*Serving Hawaii Since 1977*

**Testimony Supporting Bill 51 (2022) Relating to Building Permit Applications**

**Wednesday, October 5, 2022**

Dear Chair Waters and Councilmembers:

HSEA **supports** Bill 51 (2022) Relating to Building Permit Applications.

HSEA includes the majority of locally owned and operated solar and renewable energy companies in the State of Hawaii, employing thousands of residents in well-paying jobs including, but not limited to, contractors, designers, electricians, engineers, financiers, installers, salespeople, and service technicians.

Rooftop solar and energy storage have been and continue to be one of the most effective and powerful tools to lower customer energy costs, replace inflexible and dirty fossil fuel generation such as the AES coal plant, and decarbonize Oahu's economy. Since 1977, HSEA's member companies and their customers have led investment in Hawaii's renewable energy transition installing over 94,000 residential and commercial solar systems representing over a gigawatt of renewable production capacity. Rooftop solar systems are the largest contributor to Hawaii's renewable energy portfolio at 44.7%. In the City and County of Honolulu alone, we've installed over 64,000 systems representing 774 megawatts of capacity.<sup>1</sup> These systems have not only produced clean and cost-effective energy for our island, but they have also acted as a buffer against high and volatile global energy prices. Increasingly, existing and newly installed systems will provide critical grid services to allow for the cost-effective attainment of the City and State's critical 100% renewable energy mandate and other resilience goals. The pioneering Battery Bonus Program, which provides incentives for customers to add battery storage for system resource reliability and adequacy, is only the beginning of what is yet to come.<sup>2</sup> Going forward with the right set of policies, solar and storage installations will become increasingly

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<sup>1</sup> See HECO PV and renewable energy statistics here

([https://www.hawaiianelectric.com/documents/clean\\_energy\\_hawaii/clean\\_energy\\_facts/pv\\_summary\\_2Q\\_2022.pdf](https://www.hawaiianelectric.com/documents/clean_energy_hawaii/clean_energy_facts/pv_summary_2Q_2022.pdf)) and here (<https://www.hawaiianelectric.com/clean-energy-hawaii/our-clean-energy-portfolio>)

<sup>2</sup> See HECO Battery Bonus Program details here (<https://www.hawaiianelectric.com/products-and-services/customer-renewable-programs/rooftop-solar/battery-bonus>)



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accessible to lower income customer segments, create jobs in the new green economy, and become a foundation for strong and healthy economic growth.

Bill 51 is a commonsense measure that removes an overly burdensome requirement for permit applicants.

We appreciate the Council's rapid response to constituent concerns. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Rocky Mould

Rocky Mould

Executive Director