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PLUMBERS AND FITTERS LOCAL 675 UNITED ASSOCIATION

March 29, 2007



The Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro
House of Representatives
State Capitol, Room 308
Honolulu, HI 96813

Subject: Testimony in Support of SB 1718 HD1 Relating To The Issuance Of Special Purpose Revenue Bonds For Electrical Generation On The Island Of Maui.

Dear Chair Oshiro and Members of the Committee on Finance:

My name is Vernon K. Ta'a testifying on behalf of Mr. Herbert S.K. Kaopua Sr., Business Manager and Financial Secretary of the Plumbers & Fitters Union Local 675. As a member of the construction industry, we are obviously interested in being involved in the construction of a biodiesel refinery. Members of our organization are also active participants in the health and safety of our community as licensed plumbers. Water is the most important natural resource in our islands without which we could not build homes, schools, businesses, hospitals, etc. We are environmentalist by trade. Our job is to protect water. We will not support any organization that does not help to protect our very fragile island environment.

The world's economy dictates that we must reduce our dependence on imported fossil fuels and increase our efforts to establishing renewable energy sources. For these reasons we are in strong support of the intent and purpose of this measure.