

February 8, 2018

Honorable Ronald Kouchi  
President, Hawaii State Senate  
[senkouchi@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senkouchi@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Honorable Lorraine Inouye  
Chair, Hawaii Senate Transportation and Energy Committee  
[seninouye@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:seninouye@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Honorable Will Espero  
Vice Chair, Hawaii Senate Transportation and Energy Committee  
[senespero@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senespero@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Dear Senators Kouchi, Inouye, and Espero:

The Appliance Standards Awareness Project (ASAP) and the Consumer Federation of America (CFA) are writing in support of SB 2935. ASAP is a coalition project that includes representatives from energy efficiency, consumer and environmental advocacy groups, state government, and utilities. ASAP works to advance cost-effective appliance standards at the national and state level. CFA is an association of more than 250 nonprofit consumer organizations that was established in 1968 to advance the consumer interest through research, advocacy, and education. It has long advocated for cost-effective energy and water efficiency standards as they benefit consumers through lower utility bills.

We strongly support SB 2935, which would adopt energy and water efficiency standards to protect consumers. With Hawaii's highest-in-the-nation electricity prices and high per household outdoor water use, SB 2935 presents an excellent opportunity to reduce energy and water waste and lower consumer utility bills.

The bill would adopt minimum efficiency standards for common household products, including the newest computer, faucet, and showerhead standards from the California Energy Commission (CEC). Depending on the scope of the final legislation, this bill could save up to \$50 million on utility bills for Hawaiians in 2025 and reduce water consumption by nearly a billion gallons. As more and more consumers purchase the efficient products compliant with state standards, annual savings would grow, reaching nearly \$80 million and 1.5 billion gallons of water annually in 2035.<sup>1</sup>

Aligning Hawaii standards with those in place or under development in California allows Hawaii to take advantage of a significant body of work already completed. CEC develops standards through a thorough rulemaking process and currently maintains a database of compliant products that other states are free to use. We would be pleased to work with the Committee and stakeholders to work on legislative language that best takes advantage of the California standards.

---

<sup>1</sup> Mauer, J, A. deLaski, A, and M. DiMascio. 2017. [\*States Go First: How States Can Save consumers Money, Reduce Energy and Water Waste, and Protect the Environment with New Appliance Standards\*](#); Washington, DC: ACEEE; Boston, ASAP.

Passing this legislation will cut energy and water waste, save consumers and businesses money, and reduce greenhouse gases. Because Hawaii can piggy-back off of work already completed by other states, the effort to implement such standards is Hawaii can be minimal. ASAP and CFA urge you to adopt this highly cost-effective, pro-consumer bill.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marianne DiMascio". The signature is written in a cursive style and is set against a light gray rectangular background.

Marianne DiMascio  
Outreach Director  
Appliance Standards Awareness Project

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mel Hall-Crawford". The signature is written in a cursive style and includes a large, stylized letter "A" at the end.

Mel Hall-Crawford  
Director of Energy Programs  
Consumer Federation of America