

HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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Testimony of SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer

before the HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

> Tuesday, February 8, 2022 Time 8:50 AM State Capitol, Via Videoconference

COMMENTS HB 1811 RELATING TO ENERGY.

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) offers comments on HB 1811, which allows for new electric vehicle charging stations having a single port to qualify for a rebate, increases flexibility of the Public Utilities Commission to administer the electric vehicle charging station rebate program, and allows for marketing and outreach expense to be included within allowable administration costs of the electric vehicle charging station rebate program.

The decarbonization of the ground transportation sector is essential to achieving a net-negative carbon economy as soon as practicable but no later than 2045. A foundational strategy to decarbonize the transportation sector is the adoption of zeroemission vehicles and a material barrier to the adoption of zero-emission vehicles is charging infrastructure. In general, increasing the flexibility and reach of incentives for zero-emission vehicles charging stations supports the ultimate elimination of fossil fuel for ground transportation. HSEO agrees the addition of single-port Level 2 charging stations may expand opportunities to encourage the installation of additional charging stations and HSEO stands ready to work with State agencies and stakeholders to advance the State decarbonization policy objectives. HSEO defers to the appropriate agency for comment on administration of the bill requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.