Testimony of

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before the

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM
AND COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Monday, February 7, 2022
3:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 224, and videoconference

SUPPORT
SB 2196
RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATIONS

Chairs Wakai and Lee, Vice Chairs Misalucha and Inouye, and Members of the Committees, the Hawai‘i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports SB 2196, which requires cooperative housing corporations, homeowners associations, planned community associations, and condominium associations to develop plans to integrate electric vehicle charging stations into their properties and make funds available for that purpose, and requires electric vehicle charging station plans to be completed by January 1, 2030.

HSEO’s comments are guided by its mission to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy and clean transportation to help achieve a resilient, clean energy, decarbonized economy.

To achieve a decarbonized economy, it is necessary for Hawai‘i’s transportation systems to be increasingly fueled by renewable energy sources and to become less reliant on fossil fuels. Developing plans to integrate electric vehicle charging stations into residential parking areas, and making funds available for such planning, ensures that our existing as well as new communities are prepared for and support the state’s clean energy transformation.

The requirements of SB 2196 are consistent with existing requirements, such as those in Chapter 32, Building Energy Conservation Code of the City and County of
Honolulu, which includes a subsection entitled, “C406.8 Electric vehicle infrastructure,” requiring parking stalls for newly-constructed residential and multi-unit and commercial buildings to comply with an electric vehicle readiness compliance pathway.

The same code also includes subsection "R404.3, Electric Vehicle Readiness," requiring that when a building permit application involves the installation of a residential electrical panel and parking area, a dedicated receptacle for an electric vehicle must be provided with a minimum AC Level 2 charge in each enclosed attached garage.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.