



# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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Testimony of  
**SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer**

before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

Thursday, March 24, 2022  
3:00 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

**SUPPORT  
SCR 145 / SR 129  
URGING THE STATE OF HAWAII TO SUPPORT THE DEVELOPMENT AND  
DEPLOYMENT OF ZERO EMISSIONS INTERISLAND TRANSPORTATION.**

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) offers testimony in support of SCR145 / SR 129, urging the state of Hawaii to support the development and deployment of zero emissions interisland transportation.

Emissions from transportation account for the largest share of energy sector emissions in the state. As noted in the 2017 Greenhouse Gas Inventory, transportation emissions in Hawai'i account for 51 percent of total energy sector emissions. To reduce transportation emissions, the HSEO is engaging with stakeholders to implement policies and programs to support the decarbonization of interisland transportation.

A coordinated effort is needed amongst state agencies and a wide range of stakeholders to continue meaningful progress on clean transportation. HSEO has actively collaborated with The Hawaii Department of Transportation and the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources on a number of clean transportation initiatives. As an example, HSEO collaborated with DOT-Highways to put in place a vehicles-as-a-service contract to support the transition of the State's fleet to zero emission vehicles (ZEVs); and on successful applications for the designation of

alternative fuel corridors on the islands of Hawai'i, Kaua'i, Lāna'i, Maui, Molokai, and O'ahu opening the door to federal funding opportunities.

The HSEO has also focused on reducing the energy intensity of mobility. Working with the State Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission within Hawaii's Department of Land and Natural Resources, the HSEO has funded a Vehicle Miles Travelled and Active Transportation Specialist through a grant from the United State Climate Alliance to focus on development and implementation of strategies to reduce vehicle miles travelled through mode-shift, active transportation, and other associated means.

Hawai'i is also poised to take a leadership role in the decarbonization of aviation. On November 22, 2020, Ampaire's Electric EEL airplane became the first hybrid electric aircraft to conduct test flights on a commercial airline route, flying roundtrip from Maui's Kahului airport to Hana. This flight made it apparent that for Hawai'i to meet its statutory target "to sequester more greenhouse gases than emitted as soon as practicable but no later than 2045," planning and implementation of clean transportation alternatives to other modes of transportation such as aviation are essential and timely.

To prepare for the electrification of aviation, HSEO partnered with HDOT-Airports on planning grant for Emergency Management Agency's Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) grant program. The proposal is to study the infrastructure and energy requirements necessary to support electrification of aviation and how to leverage that infrastructure to support resiliency hubs in response to all-hazard events such as hurricanes.

While the HSEO supports this resolution, there are currently no generally funded transportation positions within HSEO to support the deployment of zero-emission interisland transportation. HB 1600, HD1 includes funding and a position for a transportation specialist in HSEO, which would enable HSEO to support zero emission interisland transportation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.