



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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Testimony of
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before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Thursday, April 14, 2022
Time 9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325 or Via Videoconference

**SUPPORT
SCR 103, SD1
REQUESTING A WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE ISSUES AND BARRIERS TO
THE INSTALLATION OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING SYSTEMS IN MULTI-
UNIT DWELLINGS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING CHANGES TO
STATUTES, RULES, AND OTHER GUIDANCE TO HELP CLARIFY AND
FACILITATE THE INSTALLATION OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING SYSTEMS
IN MULTI-UNIT DWELLINGS.**

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) offers support with comments on SCR 103, SD1, which requests the Hawaii State Energy Office to convene a working group to examine issues and barriers to the installation of electric vehicle charging systems in multi-unit dwellings (MUDs) and make recommendations regarding changes to statutes, rules, and other guidance to help clarify and facilitate the installation of electric vehicle charging systems in multi-unit dwellings.

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. A coordinated effort is needed amongst a wide range of stakeholders to continue meaningful progress on clean transportation. Ensuring access for residents of MUDs to fuel their zero-emission vehicles is necessary to maintain momentum in the decarbonization of ground transportation. Access to charging infrastructure is improving but remains one of the significant barriers to electric vehicle (EV) adoption.

HSEO appreciates the Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development, and Tourism and Committee on Transportation amendments providing HSEO greater discretion to appoint appropriate members to the working group. HSEO offers the following comments regarding leading the working group to examine EV charging in MUDs. HSEO notes there are currently no generally funded transportation positions within HSEO to support leading this working group. HB 1600, HD1 provided general funds for an authorized but unfunded Energy Analyst position in HSEO. This position, which would interface with stakeholders at the Legislature, state departments, county agencies, federal partners, industry, and other stakeholder groups to coordinate state clean transportation efforts with the overarching state energy policy, would also enable HSEO to support a working group such as this should a budget funding that position become adopted into law. HSEO awaits the budget worksheets for HB1600, HD1, SD2 passed out by the Senate Committee on Ways and Means to know whether funding was maintained for the authorized but unfunded Energy Analyst position that would support transportation efforts such as the working group proposed here.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.