



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

Thursday, February 16, 2023
2:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 329 and Videoconference

In SUPPORT of
HB 346, HD1

RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE.

Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Sayama, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports HB 346, HD1, which requires that the design of new state facilities be electric vehicle charger-ready, the Hawai'i state energy office, in consultation with the department of accounting and general services and department of transportation, to determine a priority order for retrofitting state facilities based on certain factors, and establishes a goal of the State to retrofit state facilities to be electric vehicle charger-ready.

In order to decarbonize our economy and meet Hawai'i's goal of net negative carbon economy by 2045, our State government must lead by example. In 2021, the Governor signed ACT 74 to transition the State's light-duty fleets to zero-emission vehicles by 2035. The State's builds on this leadership with HB 346, HD1, by expanding access to workplace electric vehicle charging in State facilities. Workplace charging helps shift electric vehicle charging demand from peak hours – typically in the early evening – to times during the day when renewable energy is more economical and plentiful. Workplace charging also promotes equity by providing access to charging for residents of multi-unit dwellings and other locations where electric vehicle charging poses greater logistical challenges.

In line with HSEO's testimony on HB 346 which identified the need for funding to conduct a study, we suggested adding a section to appropriate funds for the study and authorizing HSEO to expend those funds as HB 346, HD1, includes an amendment directing HSEO to conduct the study. HSEO would also suggest that the amendment adding a deadline to submit the report to the legislature identified in Section 3. (b) be moved to twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2025. Completing the necessary procurement, project execution, and final report in the few months between the legislative sessions will be very challenging. HSEO stands ready to collaborate with our partners at the Department of Transportation and the Department of Accounting and General Services to evaluate and prioritize existing state parking facilities as needed to meet the goals of HB 346, HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.