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Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Wednesday, February 28, 2024
12:00 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308 and Videoconference

In Support of
HB 1972, HD1

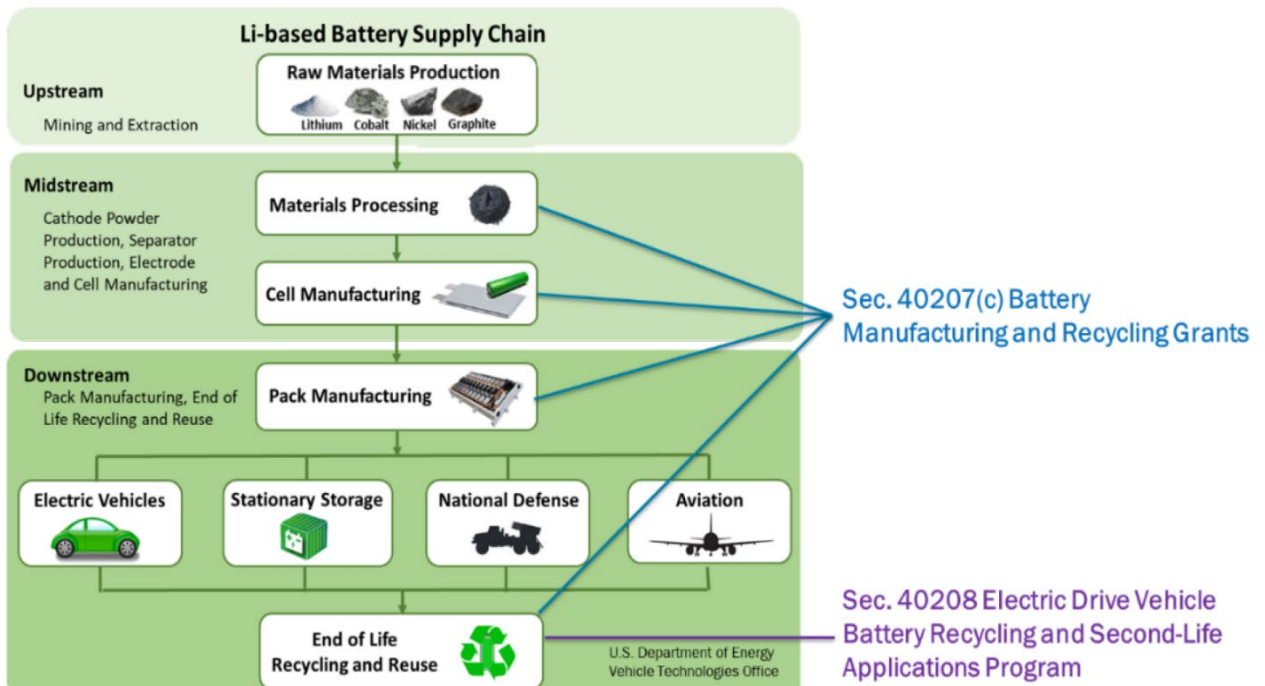
RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLE BATTERIES.

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports HB 1972, HD1, that establishes a working group within the Hawai'i State Energy Office, co-chaired by designees of the Director of Health and the Chief Energy Officer and with members providing in-depth expertise and knowledge of industry standards, laws, and policies to provide a report to the Legislature with recommendations regarding the management, reuse and recycling of electric vehicle batteries.

Improving the management of end-of-life batteries can be considered a part of achieving Hawai'i's resilient clean energy economy. Electric vehicle (EV) batteries contain critical materials that have the realistic potential to continue serving the energy economy, assuming the EV battery waste stream is managed well in the reverse supply chain. Proper management of these batteries will result in source materials for one of the most important components in the clean transportation sector. HSEO recognizes the need for propulsion batteries to have a proper management plan as improper disposal can result in negative environmental impacts.

The proposed working group will allow the integration of end-of-life battery management with clean energy objectives.

HSEO is committed to the development of effective end-of-life battery management solutions that serve Hawai'i's environmental, economic, and community needs and is actively engaged in securing federal support and partnerships that may be used to support efforts to manage end-of-life batteries safely and cost-effectively. The graphic below shows Bipartisan Infrastructure Law investments in the battery supply chain, available through the United States Department of Energy, as stated in Funding Opportunity Announcement DE-FOA-0003120:



HSEO looks forward to working with others interested in this area, in pursuit of effective solutions to this very important topic.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.