



# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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Testimony of  
**MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer**

before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Friday, February 21, 2025  
12:00 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308 and Videoconference

In Support of  
**HOUSE BILL 1161 HD2**

## **RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.**

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Takenouchi, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports HB1161 HD2 that provides authority for counties to impose a mileage-based road usage charge and clarifies the disposition of funds related to such charges.

HSEO's comments are guided by our statutory mission to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation as laid out in HRS §196-71 and the specific duties of the Chief Energy Officer pursuant to §196-72 relating to clean transportation, as well as the interface of clean transportation in the overall energy ecosystem.

As Hawai'i works toward decarbonizing its transportation sector and transitioning to cleaner, more sustainable transportation options, securing a reliable and equitable source of funding for transportation infrastructure is essential. HB 1161 HD2 aligns with the state's decarbonization goals by allowing counties to implement a mileage-based road usage charge. This shift from traditional fuel taxes to a per-mile charge is important for ensuring the financial sustainability of Hawai'i's transportation system as the use of electric vehicles (EVs) increases.

HSEO stands ready to work with the Department of Transportation and counties to further the state's decarbonization goals and ensure the success of a mileage-based

road usage charge program that will support the evolving transportation needs of Hawai'i. We believe that this bill represents an important step toward a sustainable and fair transportation system in Hawai'i.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.