

Honolulu, Hawaii

Feb 16, 2006

RE: H.B. No. 2620
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2006
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, to which was referred H.B. No. 2620, H.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO MOTOR VEHICLES,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to improve Hawaii's energy self-sufficiency by:

- (1) Directing the counties to issue license plates for energy-efficient vehicles and exempting vehicles with these license plates from motor vehicle registration fees for a period of five years;
- (2) Directing state-covered fleets to:
 - (A) Meet energy efficiency standards for newly purchased light-duty vehicles six months sooner than required under current law;
 - (B) Meet an additional standard requiring at least 30 percent of newly purchased light-duty vehicles to be energy-efficient in fiscal year 2007-2008; and
 - (C) Meet the higher standard that at least 75 percent rather than 60 percent of newly purchased vehicles for years subsequent to fiscal year 2008-2009 be energy efficient;



- (3) Defining "alternative fuel", "covered fleet", "excluded vehicles", and "light duty vehicle", as defined in 10 Code of Federal Regulations Part 490;
- (4) Amending the definition of "energy-efficient vehicle" to include vehicles:
 - (A) Using alternative fuel;
 - (B) On the "Most Energy Efficient Vehicles" list; or
 - (C) In the top one-fifth of the most energy-efficient vehicles available in Hawaii;
- (5) Clarifying how offsets of the purchase requirements are measured and providing for offsets for vehicles using biodiesel fuel; and
- (6) Setting forth exemptions to the energy-efficiency standards and how to apply for an exemption.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Conservation Council for Hawaii, and Rocky Mountain Institute testified in support of this bill.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 2620, H.D. 1, and recommends that it be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce,



ROBERT N. HERKES, Chair



