

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that it is in the best  
2 interests of the state to support the development and widespread  
3 consumer acceptance of electric vehicles within the state. The  
4 growth in the use of electric vehicles will attain significant  
5 reductions in air pollution, improve energy efficiency in  
6 transportation, and reduce the state's dependence on imported  
7 oil or petroleum products. The legislature also finds that  
8 exempting electric vehicles from various requirements applicable  
9 to conventional, internal combustion, engine-powered vehicles  
10 may encourage operators to choose electric vehicles.

11           Act 290, Session Laws of Hawaii 1997, directed the  
12 department of transportation to establish and issue a special  
13 license plate to identify electric vehicles and exempted  
14 vehicles bearing the license plate from the payment of certain  
15 parking fees and high occupancy vehicle traffic restrictions.  
16 In addition, Act 290 waived the motor vehicle registration fee  
17 and any license plate issuance fees for electric vehicles in the  
18 state.



1       The legislature further finds that the provisions of Act  
2 290 encourage the use of electric vehicles and advance the  
3 State's policy of supporting the development and widespread  
4 consumer acceptance of electric vehicles within the state;  
5 however, these incentives should be reviewed every five years.

6       The purpose of this Act is to promote the use of electric  
7 vehicles in the state by exempting those vehicles from parking  
8 fees and high occupancy vehicle lane restrictions and exempting  
9 neighborhood electric vehicles from motor vehicle registration  
10 and licensing fees.

11       SECTION 2. Chapter 286, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
12 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
13 and to read as follows:

14       "§286-     Electric vehicles; registration and fees. (a)

15       The department of transportation shall:

16       (1) Establish and adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 for  
17       the registration of an electric vehicle in this state,  
18       as needed; and

19       (2) Review the effectiveness of this section to promote  
20       the use of electric vehicles and report to the  
21       legislature every five years beginning at least twenty



1           days prior to the convening of the regular session of  
2           2013.

3           (b) The director of finance of the county in which the  
4 electric vehicle is to be operated shall establish and issue a  
5 special license plate to designate that the vehicle to which the  
6 license plate is affixed is an electric vehicle.

7           (c) An electric vehicle to which a license plate issued  
8 pursuant to subsection (b) is affixed shall be exempt from:

9           (1) The payment of parking fees, including those collected  
10 through parking meters, charged by any governmental  
11 authority other than a branch of the federal  
12 government, when being operated in this state; and

13           (2) High occupancy vehicle lane restrictions.

14           (d) The motor vehicle registration taxes and fees assessed  
15 upon the registration and renewal of a neighborhood electric  
16 vehicle, as defined in section 291C-1, in this state pursuant to  
17 chapter 249 and the highway beautification fee pursuant to  
18 section 286-51, shall be waived."

19           SECTION 3. Act 290, Session Laws of Hawaii 1997, is  
20 repealed.

21           SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

22           SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



**Report Title:**

Electric Vehicles; Incentives

**Description:**

Requires the Department of Transportation to adopt rules for the registration of electric vehicles, as needed. Reuquires counties to issue special license plates for electric vehicles. Waives parking fees and high occupancy vehicle restrictions for electric vehicles. Waives vehicle registration fees and taxes for neighborhood electric vehicles. (HB2330 HD1)

