

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

February 13, 2008

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

HOUSE BILL NO. 2330, H.D. 1

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

We support this bill, but offer suggested amendments. Section 2 of the bill would add a new section to Chapter 286, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to require the Department of Transportation (DOT) to promulgate rules for the registration of electric vehicles and to establish and issue a special license plate for electric vehicles. However, the Counties already register electric vehicles and issue specialized license plates. Therefore, the DOT recommends that the new section be modified by adding "As needed" to the beginning of the first sentence to read as follows: "As needed, the department of transportation shall:...."

The department is also concerned about eliminating neighborhood electric vehicles (NEVs) from the definition of electric vehicle. Neighborhood electric vehicles are 100% electric. Although NEVs are not allowed on roads with a speed limit greater than 35 mph, the owners of these vehicles could still benefit from the registration and parking incentives in this bill.

DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES
CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU
DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLE, LICENSING AND PERMITS
ADMINISTRATION
P.O. BOX 30300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96820-0300

MUFI HANNEMANN
MAYOR



JEFF J. COELHO
DIRECTOR

DENNIS A. KAMIMURA
LICENSING ADMINISTRATOR

February 11, 2008

The Honorable Joseph M. Souki, Chair
and Committee Members
Committee on Transportation
House of Representatives
State of Hawaii
State Capitol, Room 441
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Souki and Committee Members:

Subject: H.B. No. 2330 HD1, Relating to Electric Vehicles

The City and County of Honolulu has no objection to the intent of H.B. No. 2330 H.D.1 which would allow for the exemption of taxes and fees for electric vehicles.

We recommend the following amendments to Section 2 of the bill:

- a. Delete subsection (a)(1) as rules are not necessary;
- b. Since the counties are responsible for registration of motor vehicles, amend subsection (a)(2) to state that the counties shall issue a special license plate to designate that the vehicle to which the license plate is affixed is an electric vehicle.
- c. If it is the intent of the Legislature to exempt electric vehicles from all taxes and fees, we recommend that subsection (c) be amended to read: (c) "The motor vehicle registration taxes and fees assessed upon registration and renewal of an electric vehicle in this state pursuant to chapter 249 and the highway beautification fee pursuant to section 286-51, shall be waived."
- d. Since "neighborhood electric vehicles" is an electric vehicle and cannot be distinguished separately from other electric vehicles, we recommend subsection (d) be deleted.

In order to implement the appropriate computer programming, we recommend that the effective date be no later than October 1, 2008.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis A. Kamimura".

DENNIS A. KAMIMURA
Licensing Administrator

Testimony before the House Committee on
Transportation

H.B. 2330, HD1 Relating to Electric Vehicles

Wednesday, February 13, 2008
9:25 a.m., Conference Room 309

By Carlos Perez Loriga
Director
Customer Technology Applications Division
Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.

Chair Souki, Vice Chair Nishimoto and members of the Committee:

My name is Carlos Perez Loriga and I am testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc., and its subsidiary utilities, Maui Electric Company, Ltd., and Hawaii Electric Light Company, Inc.

H. B. 2330 HD1 proposes to exempt electric vehicles from payment of certain parking fees, high occupancy vehicle lane restrictions, and motor vehicle registration and licensing fees.

Hawaiian Electric Company strongly supports H.B. 2330 HD1, to promote the increased use of fuel efficient electric vehicles. We encourage the committee to consider an amendment to include plug-in hybrid electric vehicles as well. Increased consumer acceptance of electric and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles will help to achieve reductions in greenhouse emissions and fossil fuel use; it will also increase energy efficiency and conservation, promote the use of renewable resources and decrease our dependency on imported oil.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Written Statement of
YUKA NAGASHIMA
Executive Director & CEO
High Technology Development Corporation
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
Wednesday February 13, 2008
9:25 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

In consideration of
HB 2330 HD1 RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES.

Chair Souki, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the House Committee on
Transportation.

The High Technology Development Corporation supports the intent of HB 2330 HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB 2330 HD1.