

Testimony before the Senate Committee on  
Transportation and International Affairs

S.B. 2365, Relating to Transportation

Wednesday, January 30, 2008  
2:45 p.m., Conference Room 224

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

Chair Menor, Vice Chair Hooser 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.

S. B. 2365 proposes to allow hybrid vehicles to utilize high occupancy vehicle lanes regardless of the number of passengers in the vehicle.

Hawaiian Electric Company strongly supports S.B. 2365, to promote the increased use of fuel efficient hybrid vehicles. We encourage the committee to consider an amendment to include plug-in hybrid electric vehicles as well. Increased consumer acceptance of hybrid 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.

**LATE**