

Testimony before the Senate Committees on
Energy and Environment,
Transportation and International Affairs, and
Education

S.B. 2625 Making an Appropriation for a Study on
Energy Efficient Transportation Strategies

Monday, February 4, 2008
1:15 p.m. State Capitol Room 225.

By William A. Bonnet
Vice President
Government & Community Affairs
Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.

Chairs Menor, English and Sakamoto, Vice Chairs Hooser, Gabbard and Tokuda and members of the Committees:

My name is Bill Bonnet 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.

Hawaiian Electric Company supports Senate Bill No. 2625, with amendments suggested by the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum, which would make an appropriation to collect and analyze data and to develop a statewide transportation energy information and monitoring system.

Hawaii imports fossil fuels to meet over 90 percent of its energy needs, including about one third for air transportation, one third for ground transportation and one third for electric power generation. The electricity sector is working to meet a renewable portfolio standard established by the Legislature, with the goal of reducing Hawaii's dependence on imported fossil fuel, primarily oil, and limiting Hawaii's contribution to global climate change. If Hawaii is to succeed in reducing dependence on imported fossil fuel for electricity, we must also reduce our dependence on oil for ground transportation. No single strategy, but a combination of efforts, will achieve this goal.

Last year, the Legislature made an appropriation for the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum to begin a study on energy efficient transportation strategies. The Forum formed a working group, developed a vision and began the process you made possible. This measure proposes to continue that work.

The Policy Forum has suggested clarifying amendments in their testimony, and we support that proposed language. Hawaiian Electric also supports the Forum's recommendation that funds be appropriated in the amount of \$175,000 to allow this important work to go forward.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

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January 31, 2008

TO: Senator Norman Sakamoto
Chair, Committee on Education
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 230

Senator Ron Menor
Chair, Committee on Energy and Environment
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 208

Senator J. Kalani English
Chair, Committee on Transportation and International Affairs
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 205

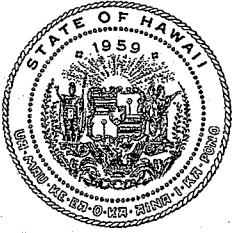
Via Email: testimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

FROM: Gary M. Slovin, Esq.
RE: S.B. 2625 – Relating to Transportation
Hearing Date: Monday, February 4, 2008 at 1:15 pm

Dear Chairs Menor, English and Sakamoto and Members of the Committees on Energy and Environment, Transportation and International Affairs and Education

I am Gary Slovin testifying on behalf of the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers in support of S.B. 2625. The Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers (“Alliance”) is a trade association of 10 car and light truck manufacturers, including BMW Group, Chrysler LLC, Ford Motor Company, General Motors, Mazda, Mercedes Benz USA, Mitsubishi Motors, Porsche, Toyota and Volkswagen. The Alliance is a member of the Energy Efficient Transportation Working Group.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to submit testimony.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

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Statement of
THEODORE E. LIU
Director

LATE

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the

SENATE COMMITTEES

ON

ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT;

TRANSPORTATION AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS;

AND

EDUCATION

Monday, February 4, 2008

1:15 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 225

in consideration of

SB 2625

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

Chairs, Menor, English, and Sakamoto; Vice Chairs Hooser, Gabbard, and Tokuda; and
Members of the Committees.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) supports
the intent of SB2625. There have been many good ideas introduced this legislative session that
support the State's energy goals. We note, however, that this appropriation was not included in
the Executive Supplemental Budget, and request that this appropriation not displace the priorities
contained in that budget.

Last year, the Energy Policy Forum, with your support, brought together transportation
and energy planners to look at the energy needs of Hawaii's transportation system, particularly
ground transportation. This is an area which is important to our economy, residents, businesses,

and visitors. With potentially significant changes occurring in the energy area, there is a need for energy planners and transportation planners to work together.

The proposed project could provide information useful in planning for the achievement of Hawaii's energy objectives, as outlined in HRS 226-18:

- “ (1) Dependable, efficient, and economical statewide energy systems capable of supporting the needs of the people;
- (2) Increased energy self-sufficiency where the ratio of indigenous to imported energy use is increased;
- (3) Greater energy security in the face of threats to Hawaii's energy supplies and systems; and
- (4) Reduction, avoidance, or sequestration of greenhouse gas emissions from energy supply and use.”

DBEDT has led, participated in, and commissioned several transportation energy strategy and fuel studies over the years, and looks forward to continuing to work with the University of Hawaii and the Energy Policy Forum in this important area.

DBEDT concurs with the changes to the bill proposed by the Energy Policy Forum, to the extent that they or the bill do not adversely impact the Executive Supplemental Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.