

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 05 2009

RE: S.B. No. 295
S.D. 1

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2009
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 295 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Allow hybrid vehicles and energy-efficient vehicles to use high occupancy vehicle lanes; and
- (2) Define "energy-efficient vehicle" and "hybrid vehicle" for purposes of the traffic code.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Transportation; the Hawaiian Electric Company, Incorporated and its subsidiary utilities, Maui Electric Company, and Hawaii Electric Light Company; and the Sierra Club. Written testimony presented to the Committee may be reviewed on the Legislature's website.

Your Committee finds that this measure would promote the increased use of fuel efficient hybrid vehicles. Increased consumer acceptance of energy-efficient vehicles, including hybrid vehicles, will aid in the reduction of greenhouse emissions and fossil fuel use. This measure also furthers the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative's goal of utilizing seventy per cent clean, renewable energy by 2030.



Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding plug-in hybrid electric vehicles as vehicles allowed to use HOV lanes; and
- (2) Clarifying the definition of "high occupancy vehicle lane" to include hybrid vehicles and energy-efficient vehicle without regard to the number of occupants, which is the intent of this measure.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 295, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 295, S.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Transportation,
International and
Intergovernmental Affairs,




J. KALANI ENGLISH, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Fifth Legislature
 State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Transportation, International and Intergovernmental Affairs
TIA

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 295	Committee Referral: ENE, TIA	Date: 2-25-09		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
ENGLISH, J. Kalani (C)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike (VC)	✓			
ESPERO, Will	✓			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K.	✓			
SLOM, Sam	✓			
TOTAL	5	—	—	—
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes