

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

SR 82, Expressing Support for the Electrification of Energy Efficient
Transportation Systems in Hawaii

Monday, March 30, 2009
1:30 p.m., Conference Room 224

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

Chairs Gabbard and English and members of the Committees:

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.

SR 82 supports the electrification of energy efficient transportation
systems in Hawaii and urges collaboration from relevant stakeholders on
ways to expedite adoption of electric vehicles.

Hawaiian Electric Company strongly supports SR 82, to expedite the
adoption of electric vehicles, including plug-in hybrid vehicles, in Hawaii.
Increased consumer acceptance of these types of vehicles, will aid in the
reduction of greenhouse emissions and fossil fuel use and will help enable
the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative's goal of 70% clean, renewable energy
by 2030.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

better place



BEFORE THE

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senator J. Kalani English, Vice Chair

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTION,
INTERNATIONAL AND INTEGVERMENTAL AFFAIRS**

Senator J. Kalani English, Chair
Senator, Mike Gabbard, Vice-Chair

**SCR 126 / SR82 EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE ELECTIFICATION
OF ENERGY EFFICIENT TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS IN HAWAII**

Testimony of

PETE COOPER

Better Place Hawaii
745 Fort Street, Suite 2100
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Monday, March 30, 2009, 1:30 pm
State Capitol, Room 224

Chair Gabbard and Chair English:

My name is Pete Cooper of Better Place Hawaii. Better Place Hawaii **SUPPORTS** SCR 126 / SR82 expressing support for the electrification of energy efficient transportation systems in Hawaii. Better Place is dedicated to achieving a world free of its dependence on oil. We coordinate with Hawaii utilities, automobile dealers, State and county governments and other stakeholders to deploy an electric vehicle charging network powered by renewable energy.

It is only a matter time that electric vehicles make their way to our nation's and Hawaii's roadways. With the continued rise of crude oil, and its detrimental impact on our global environment, our congressional leaders are making a policy shift to transform ground transportation from fossil fuel-based vehicles to electric cars. Concurrently, with advancement in battery technology, international and national automobile manufacturers are preparing for the mass deployment of electric vehicles into the global marketplace.

Hawaii must be ready for this new form of ground transportation. SCR 126 / SR82 supports the electrification of transportation systems, and urges that key stakeholders convene plan for the adoption of electric vehicles in Hawaii. Developing a strategic plan for the electrification of ground

transportation; developing an EV infrastructure and charging system; providing incentives for commercial fleets, rental car companies and consumers to adopt electric vehicles; and ensuring that governmental agencies adopt EV vehicles are essential components in transforming Hawaii's ground transportation system. Better Place Hawaii pledges its support and participation in these planning and implementation activities.

Better Place **SUPPORTS** SCR126 / SR82. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.