



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING
AND GENERAL SERVICES
P.O. BOX 119
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WRITTEN COMMENTS
OF
DEAN H. SEKI, ACTING COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
WAYS AND MEANS
ON
February 23, 2012
S.B. 2746, S.D. 1

RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Chair Ige and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to comment on S.B. 2746, S.D. 1.

The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) supports S.B. 2746, S.D. 1 and offers the following amendments.

We suggest that subsection 286- ___(b), at page 2, be changed to: “(b) An electric vehicle on which an electric vehicle license plate is affixed shall be exempt from payment of parking fees, including those collected through parking meters, charged by any state or county authority in this State, that meets the following criteria:

- (1) While parked and actively charging at an electric vehicle charging station, or
- (2) For two and one-half hours or less at any state or county parking meter.”

DAGS believes that the proposed amendment is easier to understand and prevents electric vehicles from parking all day without active charging. The time limitation is crucial to prevent any abuse of privileges. Language clarity is required to differentiate between state and county employee parking areas and public parking areas so that state and county employee parking access is maintained (that is, free electric vehicle parking does not apply to public employee parking lots, only to metered stalls).

DAGS also recommends the bill be amended to take effect upon approval and include a sunset date of December 31, 2015, so that the effectiveness of free electric vehicle parking can be reevaluated to determine its feasibility.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.



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

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

RICHARD C. LIM
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Statement of
RICHARD C. LIM
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS**

Thursday, February 23, 2012
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

in consideration of
SB 2746 SD 1
RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES.

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) strongly supports SB 2746 SD1. SB 2746 SD1 is an Administration Bill that would update the EV law for clarity, consistency, and enforceability, and address EV free parking time limit concerns.

This Bill changes the EV parking time limit to the same requirement as Hawaii accessible stalls, provides EVs with free parking for two-and-a-half hours at metered parking or the maximum amount of time the meter allows, whichever is longer, and removes ambiguity regarding allowable duration of parking. With the proposed amendments, EVs will not be allowed to park for free in increments longer than one 24-hour day, including weekly, monthly or annual parking permits.

We would like to have language stricken on Page 2, Line 8 and 9 because the clause is unnecessary as the EV operator would be paying for charging via the charging station. We would also like to submit preferred language on the definition of “electric vehicle,” which is attached.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments in support of SB 2746 SD1.

ATTACHMENT

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) would like to submit preferred language on the definition of “electric vehicle,” for SB 2746 SD1. The definition is as follows, please see below.

(d) For the purposes of this section:

"Electric vehicle" means :

(1) A neighborhood electric vehicle as defined in Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 291C-134 ; or

(2) A vehicle, with four or more wheels, that draws propulsion energy from a battery with at least 4 kilowatt hours of energy storage capacity that can be recharged from an external source of electricity.

(AMENDED - Feb 22, 2012)

Written Statement of

YUKA NAGASHIMA
Executive Director & CEO
High Technology Development Corporation

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS

Thursday, February 23, 2012
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

In consideration of
SB 2746 SD1 RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Chair Ige, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means:

The High Technology Development Corporation (HTDC) supports the intent of SB2746-SD1 to codify the existing electric vehicle law; however **we strongly recommend the following text be stricken under §286- (b)(1) “While the vehicle is parked at an electric vehicle charging station.”**

This clause creates confusion. An electric vehicle connected to a charging station will be incurring costs from the utility company to charge the vehicle batteries. Since electric vehicles are exempt from parking fees charged by state and county authorities, this exemption should not be taken away just because the vehicle is connected to a charging station. To do so places a double fee on the electric vehicle: one for charging and one for parking. The other parking time limits imposed by this bill will apply to an electric vehicle connected to a charging station, thereby also limiting the time allowed to be connected to the charging station.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on this bill.