

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



Testimony of
GLENN M. OKIMOTO
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
RANDY GRUNE
AUDREY HIDANO
JADINE URASAKI

IN REPLY REFER TO:

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 17, 2014
10:30 am
State Capitol, Room 309

S.B. 2138, S.D. 1
RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES

House Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation **supports** S.B. 2138, S.D. 1 which will modify Sections 291C-1, HRS, and 286-2, HRS so the permitted gross vehicle weight rating of a neighborhood electric vehicle is anything less than 3,000 pounds.

This modification will put the laws in conformance with the current Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard Number 500, which became effective on 1/5/2006 and limits the gross vehicle weight rating of a low speed vehicle to less than 3,000 pounds.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



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

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

RICHARD C. LIM
DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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Statement of
RICHARD C. LIM
Director

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Monday, March 17, 2014
10:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

in consideration of
SB 2138, SD1
RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY.

Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Takayama, and Members of the Committee.

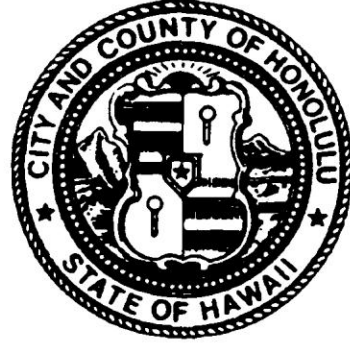
The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) supports SB 2138 SD1, which amends the definition of a neighborhood electric vehicle (NEV) by weight and the number of passengers allowed. NEVs are all electric battery powered electric vehicles that are legally limited to roads with posted speed limits as high as 35 MPH.

This measure would bring Hawaii law in conformity with the weight allowance for a NEV under the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards from the maximum vehicle weight of less than 1,800 pounds to less than 3,000 pounds. The bill will also delete the requirement regarding the maximum number of passengers a NEV is designed to carry. Current law limits NEVs to maximum of four occupants. Extending the weight and number of passengers that a NEV may carry will improve the marketability of NEVs in Hawaii. The greater penetration of NEVs will decrease the amount of gasoline consumed in the state and contribute to Hawaii's transportation goals under the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments.

DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLE, LICENSING AND PERMITS
ADMINISTRATION
P.O. BOX 30300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96820-0300

KIRK CALDWELL
MAYOR



SHERI T. KAJIWARA
DIRECTOR

PRESTON P. H. K. KO
ACTING LICENSING ADMINISTRATOR

TESTIMONY OF PRESTON KO, ACTING LICENSING ADMINISTRATOR
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU, DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES
Monday, March 17, 2014, 10:30 a.m., Conference Room 309

SENATE Bill 2138 SD1, "RELATING TO Electric Vehicles"

Position: Support

TO: The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
and Members of the Committee on Transportation

The City and County of Honolulu agrees with the intent and purpose of S.B. 2138 SD1 which provides for several amendments to the definition of a neighborhood electric vehicle.

The City and County of Honolulu recommends your favorable consideration to S.B. 2138 SD1.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Preston P. H. K. Ko". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Preston P. H. K. Ko
Acting Licensing Administrator