

**HR-209**

Submitted on: 3/19/2018 8:50:48 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2018 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:



**TESTIMONY OF TINA YAMAKI  
PRESIDENT  
RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII  
March 20, 2018**

**Re: HCR 242/HR 209 DIRECTING THE STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL TO  
REQUIRE CERTAIN PARKING FACILITIES TO BE EQUIPPED WITH ELECTRIC VEHICLE-  
READY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR AT LEAST ONE PARKING SPACE, OR TWENTY-FIVE  
PERCENT OF PARKING SPACES, WHICHEVER IS GREATER**

Good morning Chair Lee and members of the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection. I am Tina Yamaki, President of the Retail Merchants of Hawaii and I appreciate this opportunity to testify.

The Retail Merchants of Hawaii (RMH) is a statewide not-for-profit trade organization committed to supporting the retail industry and business in general in Hawaii. The retail industry is one of the largest employers in the state, employing 25% of the labor force.

Retailers continue to be concerned about our aina and have supported many initiatives that preserve and protect our environment. However, The Retail Merchants of Hawaii does not support HCR 242 or HR 209. This resolution would mandate that the State Building Code Council require certain parking facilities or parking lots that has least 2 parking spaces, are permitted for construction or renovations and serve as a multi-unit dwelling, workplace, or commercial building, to be equipped with wiring and electrical infrastructure to accept electric vehicle charging infrastructure in at least one parking space, or twenty-five percent of parking spaces, whichever is greater

We believe that the market and customers should be the influencers in business trends and operations and not government mandates. Taking away more open public parking stalls and turning them into reserved EV stalls would hurt businesses, especially on weekends when many go to the malls and stores to shop and turn away when they can't find a stall. Retailers and shopping malls already provide these "reserved parking spaces" some with a FREE charging station for electric vehicles.

Many of our members have found EV drivers in the surrounding neighborhood and condominiums come to plug into the retailers charging stations to avoid increasing their electric bill at home. Furthermore, these residents leave their cars charging AND are not shopping in the stores while their batteries are being recharged. Thus these residents are taking away the EV stall from customers coming to shop. And the money that is spent in the stores in turn supports our family, friends and neighbors who work in the stores.

Who is to pay for these charging stations and their installation? These stalls for EV will come at a cost to businesses for the installation, upkeep and electricity. We are already seeing in the news about businesses closing. Existing parking facilities infrastructures are often not wired for electricity. It is not that easy sometimes to install the stations when there is electricity that needs to be pulled in. Each building and facility varies on how stations can be installed. Often the major cost factor is having to dig up or into the structure, install electrical infrastructure, replace the part of the facility that affected by the installation. This can be very costly.



We would also like to point out that with the advancement of technology, the newer model Electric Vehicles can travel further distances. There are also other cars being developed that uses alternatives to traditional gas-powered car like that of hydrogen fuel cell. We are concerned that government will begin to mandate "reserved parking stalls" for all of the various types alternative gas powered vehicles including the EV delivery trucks and that businesses with large parking lots would just become a reserved parking charging station for the public and not able to offer convenient parking for the customers that actually shop in the stores.

Government mandates like this does drive up the cost of doing business that in turn drives up the cost of living in Hawaii. We urge you not to impose another government mandate on business and ask that you hold this measure.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.



**LATE**

“Advancing the Commercial Property Management Industry through Education, Networking and Advocacy”

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Testimony to the  
House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection  
March 20, 2018  
9:00 a.m.  
State Capitol - Conference Room 325

RE: HCR242 HR209 DIRECTING THE STATE BUILDING CODE COUNCIL TO REQUIRE CERTAIN PARKING FACILITIES TO BE EQUIPPED WITH ELECTRIC VEHICLE-READY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR AT LEAST ONE PARKING SPACE, OR TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF PARKING SPACES, WHICHEVER IS GREATER.

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Lowen and members of the committee:

We are testifying on behalf of the Building Owners and Managers Association of Hawaii. BOMA Hawaii supports energy efficient alternatives in transportation but opposes inflexibility in regulations.

We strongly oppose HCR 242 as written.

In addition to our testimony, please note that the following BOMA Hawaii members have also asked to be included as opposing this resolution:

Shidler Pacific Advisors LLC  
Healthcare Realty  
Diamond Parking  
PMRG – Alii Place

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**HR-209**

Submitted on: 3/19/2018 2:25:00 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/20/2018 9:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments: