



## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

March 27, 2019, 2:30 P.M.

Room 308

(Testimony is 1 page long)

### TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 661 SD1 HD1

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the Committee:

**Blue Planet Foundation supports Senate Bill 661 SD1 HD1**, which would extend certain priority considerations and incentives that are currently only available to battery electric vehicles to fuel cell electric vehicles. This bill would exempt fuel cell electric vehicles from payment of parking fees and high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane restrictions, increase the priority to be placed on fuel cell electric vehicles for state and county entities purchasing new vehicles, and allow for fuel cell electric vehicles to be parked in designated electric vehicle parking spaces.

Blue Planet Foundation is a local, mission-driven nonprofit committed to clearing the path for 100% clean energy in Hawaii both in the electricity sector and the transportation sector. We recognize that to reach Hawaii's clean transportation goals and do our part in mitigating climate change, we should incentivize all zero-emission vehicles that can be powered by renewable energy—e.g., both fuel cell electric vehicles and battery electric vehicles. These technologies will help us to maximize renewables utilized on the electric grid and minimize petroleum use and emissions from our ground transportation sector.

Like battery electric vehicles, fuel cell electric vehicles are powered by an electric motor. In a fuel cell vehicle, pressurized hydrogen gas is chemically fused with oxygen from the air to make water, which in the process generates an electrical current that can power the electric motor. Just as battery electric vehicles will be increasingly powered by renewables as Hawaii reaches its 100% renewable portfolio standard by 2045, hydrogen vehicles can also get cleaner alongside them, as more hydrogen is produced by renewable energy resources.

Senate Bill 661 is important to ensure that fuel cell electric vehicles are part of the planning conversation around Hawaii's transition to 100% renewable ground transportation. This bill rightly expands incentives and benefits for zero-emission vehicles to more comprehensively encompass *all* zero-emission vehicles. Fuel cell electric vehicles have a vital role to play in Hawaii's clean transportation future, and they should receive the same ancillary benefits that are given to battery electric vehicles to spur adoption.

Blue Planet Foundation respectfully urges the Committee to forward to the bill, amended to take effect upon approval.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

[info@blueplanetfoundation.org](mailto:info@blueplanetfoundation.org)

55 Merchant Street 17<sup>th</sup> Floor • Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813 • 808-954-6161 • [blueplanetfoundation.org](http://blueplanetfoundation.org)



**SanHi**

GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES  
A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

DATE: March 26, 2019

TO: Representative Sylvia Luke  
Chair, Committee on Finance  
*Submitted Via Capitol Website*

FROM: Tiffany Yajima

RE: **S.B. 661, S.D.1, H.D.1 – Relating to Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles**  
**Hearing Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 2:30 p.m.**  
**Conference Room: 308**

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Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee on Finance:

We submit this testimony on behalf of the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers (“Alliance”). The Alliance is a trade association of twelve car and light truck manufacturers including BMW Group, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, Ford Motor Company, General Motors Company, Jaguar Land Rover, Mazda, Mercedes-Benz USA, Mitsubishi Motors, Porsche, Toyota, Volkswagen Group of North America, and Volvo Car USA.

The Alliance is in support of S.B. 661, S.D.1, H.D.1, which would adopt in statute a definition of “fuel cell electric vehicle” to encourage early adoption of fuel cell electric vehicles. Automobile manufacturers have invested heavily in the research and development of hydrogen technology and are very supportive of efforts to increase the availability of passenger fuel cell electric vehicles in Hawaii.

Electric vehicles play an important role in achieving our energy and environmental goals. Today, there are 42 models of electric vehicles available nationwide, including 15 battery electric, 24 plug-in hybrid electric and 3 fuel cell electric models. By 2021, it is anticipated that at least 11 automakers will have hydrogen fuel cell vehicles available on the market. Additional policies such as HOV lane access and parking benefits that incentivize early adoption of fuel cell electric vehicles are critical to the adoption and deployment of these vehicles.

The Alliance respectfully requests the committee to pass this measure with an effective date upon its approval.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.



**SERVCO PACIFIC INC.**  
2850 PUKOLOA ST. STE. 300  
HONOLULU, HI 96819 USA

**O. 808.564.1300**  
**F. 808.564.1393**

[SERVCO.COM](http://SERVCO.COM)

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair  
Committee on Finance

**RE: SB 661 SD1 HD1 – Relating to Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles- In Support**  
Wednesday, March 27, 2019; 2:30 PM; Conference room 308; Agenda #2

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen and members of the committee,

Servco Pacific Inc. (“Servco”) appreciates this opportunity to submit testimony in **strong support** of SB 661 SD1 HD1, which includes fuel cell electric vehicles in the definition of “electric vehicles” and allows fuel cell electric vehicles the same benefits as electric vehicles.

Servco introduced the Toyota Mirai fuel cell vehicle in 2016, making Hawaii the 2<sup>nd</sup> state in the U.S. to receive this zero emission vehicle. In 2018, Servco completed construction of the State’s first publicly accessible hydrogen fueling station. The station was funded solely by Servco. Producing hydrogen from water using a renewable source of electricity helps Hawaii become more self-reliant and reduces our dependency on imported oil.

This bill aligns with Hawaii’s dedication to a diversified partnership between fuel cells, hybrids, and all-battery electric vehicles to drastically improve transportation efficiency and reduce carbon emissions in our State.

We respectfully request your support of SB 661 SD1 HD1. The passage of this measure will demonstrate Hawaii’s commitment to utilizing all clean transportation technology available to reach its clean energy goals. Thank you.

Alan Lundgren  
VP, General Counsel  
Corporate Legal



Email: [communications@ulupono.com](mailto:communications@ulupono.com)

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
Wednesday, March 27, 2019 — 2:30 p.m. — Room 308

**Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports SB 661 SD 1 HD 1, Relating to Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles**

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Murray Clay and I am Managing Partner of the Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally produced food; increase affordable, clean, renewable energy; and better manage waste and fresh water resources. Ulupono believes that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

**Ulupono strongly supports SB 661 SD 1 HD 1**, which categorizes hydrogen fuel-cell vehicles as electric vehicles and gives zero emission hydrogen vehicles the same benefits as electric vehicles, because it aligns with our goal of reducing Hawai'i's dependence on imported fossil fuels by increasing the use of more efficient, cleaner forms of ground transportation.

Hydrogen fuel-cell vehicles have been recently introduced to Hawai'i and are technically electric vehicles. These vehicles will provide another non-fossil fuel based transportation option for local consumers and similar societal benefits as battery electric vehicles. Providing hydrogen fuel-cell vehicle owners with the same benefits currently received by battery electric vehicles, high occupancy vehicle lane access, and free metered parking will help further their adoption.

As Hawai'i's energy issues become increasingly complex and challenging, we appreciate this committee's efforts to look at policies that support clean ground transportation.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Murray Clay  
Managing Partner

*Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i*



To: The House Committee on Finance  
From: Brodie Lockard, Hawaii State Climate Lead, Organizing for Action  
Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2019, 2:30 pm

**In opposition to SB661 SD1 HD1**

Dear FIN Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and Committee Members—

Organizing for Action opposes SB661 SD1 HD1 and offers comments.

Fuel cell vehicles have not lived up to their potential. The development and penetration of electric vehicles have shot past that of hydrogen and fuel cell vehicles.

Nearly every major automaker said in 2017 that they plan to move to all-electric vehicles (EVs), and will each introduce 10 to 50 new EV models within one to seven years. Volkswagen and General Motors have already scheduled the end of their gasoline vehicle production.

As a planet, we don't have time to be supporting an iffy transportation technology when there's a far more mature one that is gaining rapid acceptance; has widespread infrastructure in place or planned; and enjoys a bright, immediate future planned by every significant automaker.

Also, the definition of "Alternative fuel" on page 2 should not include fuels that produce emissions, like "natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas, ... biodiesel, mixtures containing twenty per cent or more by volume of biodiesel with diesel or other fuels."

Don't waste our time and money on fuel cell vehicles. Please defer SB661 SD1 HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Brodie Lockard  
Hawaii State Climate Lead, Organizing for Action

**SB-661-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/25/2019 1:03:16 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/27/2019 2:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Casey Nishimura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the committee,

I strongly support SB661 which grants fuel cell electric vehicles the same ancillary benefits as battery electric vehicle. Battery electric vehicles currently make up **only** about 3.5% of the total vehicles on the road in Hawaii. As a state, we should do what we can to incentivize the adoption of more types of zero emission vehicles in our state to reach our clean energy goals. Furthermore, many alternative fuel vehicles currently cost more than traditional gasoline vehicles, early adopters of these technologies are also contributing more GET revenue for the State with each vehicle sold.

**SB-661-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/25/2019 2:55:34 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/27/2019 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
William K. Chang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in strong support of SB 661 SD1 HD1, which includes fuel cell electric vehicles in the definition of "electric vehicles" and allows fuel cell electric vehicles the same benefits as electric vehicles. This bill aligns with Hawaii's dedication to a diversified partnership between fuel cells, hybrids, and all-battery electric vehicles to drastically improve transportation efficiency and reduce carbon emissions in our State. Mahalo for allowing this testimony

**SB-661-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2019 7:13:36 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/27/2019 2:30:00 PM



<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mark T. Matsuo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support SB661 SD1. As an individual which supports Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative by 2045. Fuel Cell Vehicles is another form in which we as a State can achieve these goals. As well it is a clean energy producer for the State of Hawaii. Supporting Fuel Cell Vehicles now can lead into more alternative fuel production in the state.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



# BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU  
630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET  
HONOLULU, HI 96843  
www.boardofwatersupply.com



March 27, 2019

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Manager and Chief Engineer

ELLEN E. KITAMURA, P.E.  
Deputy Manager and Chief Engineer *uk*

The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Finance  
Hawaii State Capitol, Room 308  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**LATE**

Dear Chair Luke and Members:

Subject: Senate Bill 661, Senate Draft 1, House Draft 1, Relating to Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles

The Board of Water Supply (BWS) supports Senate Bill (SB) 661, Senate Draft (SD) 1, House Draft (HD) 1, which would elevate procurement priority for fuel cell vehicles for State and County vehicle purchases. This bill promotes sustainable transportation in Hawaii by encouraging the use of renewable energy and reducing our dependence on imported fossil fuels.

The BWS is the largest water utility in our State and we do our part in seeking cleaner transportation options for our fleet of vehicles and equipment to help mitigate climate change that could adversely affect our precious water resources.

Fuel cell vehicles has a role in helping Hawaii government fleets minimize vehicle emissions and reach 100% renewable energy use by 2045. Passage of this Bill will demonstrate Hawaii's commitment to a clean energy future.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on SB 661, SD 1, HD 1.

Very truly yours,

Ernest Y. W. Lau, P.E.  
Manager and Chief Engineer

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



**TESTIMONY BY:**

JADE T. BUTAY  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN  
DEREK J. CHOW  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

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

March 27, 2019  
2:30 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 308

**LATE**

**S.B. 661, S.D. 1, H.D. 1**  
**RELATING TO FUEL CELL ELECTRIC VEHICLES.**

House Committee on Finance

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** S.B. 661, S.D. 1, H.D. 1 which amends the definition of electric vehicles to include fuel cell electric vehicles and grant procurement priority for fuel cell electric vehicles for State and County vehicle purchases.

The DOT believes that the incentives of this bill promotes sustainable transportation in meeting Hawaii's energy goals.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

**SB-661-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2019 2:07:11 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/27/2019 2:30:00 PM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Aduja	O`ahu County Democrats Committee on Legislative Priorities	Support	No

Comments: