

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDUARDO P. MANGLALLAN
PATRICK H. MCCAIN
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

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

April 1, 2022
1:30 P.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 308/Teleconference

**S.B. 3158, S.D. 2, H.D. 1
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION**

House Committee on Finance

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** this measure that proposes a program to subsidize the purchase of electric bicycles and mopeds.

The DOT is committed to administering this rebate program as it aligns with the state's clean energy goals and supports the wide-spread adoption of small electric vehicles. This program will offer lower cost and zero-emission travel and commuting alternatives to Hawaii's residents. The current version of this measure provides flexibility for the department to effectively manage this program.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 3158, S.D. 2, H.D. 1

April 1, 2022
1:30 p.m.
Room 308 and Videoconference

RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

Senate Bill No. 3158, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, establishes the Electric Bicycle and Electric Moped (EBEM) Subaccount within the Highway Development Special Fund administered by the Department of Transportation to implement a rebate program that incentivizes the purchase of electric bicycles and electric mopeds. This bill allocates an unspecified portion of the Environmental Response, Energy, and Food Security Tax (Barrel Tax) to be deposited into the EBEM Subaccount.

B&F has concerns with the deposit of a portion of the Barrel Tax to the EBEM Subaccount since the reallocation of the funding would result in a general fund revenue loss. Further, there is no special fund subaccount appropriation to support the program as envisioned in the bill.

Finally, as a matter of general policy, B&F does not support the creation of any special fund or special fund subaccount which does not meet the requirements of Section 37-52.3, HRS. Special funds and any related subaccounts should: 1) serve a

need as demonstrated by the purpose, scope of work and an explanation why the program cannot be implemented successfully under the general fund appropriation process; 2) reflect a clear nexus between the benefits sought and charges made upon the users or beneficiaries or a clear link between the program and the sources of revenue; 3) provide an appropriate means of financing for the program or activity; and 4) demonstrate the capacity to be financially self-sustaining. Even with the proposed Barrel Tax allocation to the EBEM Subaccount, it is difficult to determine whether the proposed special fund subaccount would be self-sustaining.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE, 2022**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 3158, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

BEFORE THE:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

DATE: Friday, April 1, 2022

TIME: 1:30 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 308, Via Videoconference

TESTIFIER(S): Holly T. Shikada, Attorney General, or
Yvonne R. Shinmura, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Luke and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General (the Department) offers the following comments.

The purpose of this bill is to establish and fund an electric bicycle and electric moped rebate program with a barrel tax contribution into a newly created subaccount of the Highway Development Special Fund (special fund) established by section 264-122, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS). In order to effectuate spending of the funds deposited into the subaccount of the special fund, article VII, section 5, of the Hawaii State Constitution, requires an appropriation. The appropriation would be from the special fund because the subaccount is within it.

The Department recommends the following wording:

There is appropriated out of the highway development special fund the sum of \$_____ or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for the electric bicycle and electric moped rebate program.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of transportation for the purposes of this Act.

In addition, according to article VII, section 4, of the Hawaii State Constitution, no grant of public money or property shall be made except pursuant to standards provided by law. The rebate program to be established by this bill will authorize the Department of Transportation to make administrative grants of public money and should specify the

standards for qualifying for those rebates. The Department recommends that a definition of "low-income" in section 2 of the bill be included within the proposed statutory wording to comply with this constitutional requirement. Examples of statutes that provide standards for existing administrative grant programs are part II of chapter 9 and sections 10-17, 210D-11, and 383-128, HRS.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SCOTT J. GLENN
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

235 South Beretania Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone:
Web:

(808) 587-3807
energy.hawaii.gov

Testimony of
SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Friday, April 1, 2022
Time 1:30 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308 and Via Videoconference

SUPPORT
SB 3158 SD2 HD1
RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) supports and requests amendments to SB 3158 SD2 HD1, which establishes the electric bicycle and electric moped rebate program and subaccount to encourage the purchase and use of electric bicycles and electric mopeds and allocates a portion of the barrel tax for the rebate program.

Emissions from ground transportation account for more than half of energy emissions as reported in the Greenhouse Gas Emissions Report for 2017¹. Ground transportation accounted for 47 percent of the reported transportation emissions. For Hawaii to meet its statutory target “to sequester more greenhouse gases than emitted as soon as practicable but no later than 2045”, significant reductions in emissions from ground transportation will need to be made in the near to medium term. For significant reductions to be made all market segments in Hawaii need to be addressed. SB 3158 SD2 HD1 supports the proliferation of zero-emission mobility alternatives, which can reduce fossil-fuel powered vehicle miles traveled and related transportation emissions. Electric bicycles and mopeds can be complementary to public transit by facilitating first-mile/last-mile connections to transit stops and fill gaps in transit services. Electric

¹ State of Hawai'i. Department of Health. Hawai'i Greenhouse Gas Program, Emissions Report for 2017. https://health.hawaii.gov/cab/files/2021/04/2017-Inventory_Final-Report_April-2021.pdf

bicycles and electric mopeds also promote equity by providing a lower cost zero-emission alternative to passenger vehicles.

HSEO appreciates the amendments made by the House Committee on Transportation to SB 3158 SD2 deleting language that would have established an Electric Bicycle and Electric Moped Rebate Special Fund and instead establishing an electric bicycle and electric moped subaccount within the Highway Development Special Fund, restoring the allocation from the Environmental Response, Energy, and Food Security Tax for the Electric Vehicle Charging Station Rebate Program, and allocating an unspecified amount of the Environmental Response, Energy, and Food Security Tax for the Rebate Program.

HSEO is ready to work with the Legislature, state agencies, and stakeholders to address any issues in order to advance the decarbonization of ground transportation through support of a variety of alternative transportation modes that decrease the energy intensity of mobility.

HSEO defers to the appropriate agencies regarding the administrative and fiscal impacts of this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

TESTIMONY OF
JAMES P. GRIFFIN, Ph.D.
CHAIR, PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
STATE OF HAWAII

TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
FINANCE

April 1, 2022
1:30 p.m.

Chair Luke and Members of the Committee:

MEASURE: S.B. No. 3158, SD2, HD1

TITLE: RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.

DESCRIPTION:

Establishes the electric bicycle and electric moped rebate program and subaccount to encourage the purchase and use of electric bicycles and electric mopeds. Allocates a portion of the barrel tax for the rebate program. Effective 1/1/2050. (HD1)

POSITION:

The Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) offers the following comments for consideration.

COMMENTS:

The Commission appreciates the intent of this measure to create an electric bicycle and electric moped rebate program (“EBEMRP”). The Commission defers to the Department of Transportation regarding administration of the EBEMRP.

The Commission supports the amendment made by the previous committee to restore the allocation from the environmental response, energy, and food security tax (“barrel tax”) for the Electric Vehicle Charging System (EVCS) Rebate Program. A consistent funding source is essential in maintaining confidence in the EVCS Rebate Program and avoiding disruptions to projects that are planned or are undergoing construction.

The Commission has recently been alerted by the Department of Budget and Finance that the EVCS rebate program requires a direct appropriation in order for the Commission

to expend deposited barrel tax funds, and that Act 75 (2021) does not provide sufficient authority to do so. Therefore, the EVCS program is currently constrained by a \$100,000 spending ceiling for FY 2022, which was created by the “seed money” deposited from the Energy Security Special Fund through Act 75.

To ensure that the Commission is able to expend barrel tax funds as intended for the EVCS rebate program, **the Commission recommends adding the following appropriation language, which would satisfy the EVCS rebate program pipeline through the end of FY 2022.**

SECTION []. There is appropriated out of the electric vehicle charging system subaccount within the public utilities commission special fund the sum of \$500,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2021-2022 for the electric vehicle charging system rebate program established pursuant to sections 269-72 and 269-73, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

The funds appropriated shall be expended by the public utilities commission for the purposes of this part.

In addition, after consulting with the Department of the Attorney General, **the Commission requests an amendment such as the following to ensure that an appropriation for the EVCS rebate program through FY 2022 does not lapse before the funds can be expended:**

SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2050; provided that section 3 shall be repealed on December 31, 2027, the appropriation for fiscal year 2021-2022 for the department of commerce and consumer affairs for the electric vehicle charging system subaccount of the public utilities commission special fund shall lapse on June 30, 2024, and section 243-3.5(a), Hawaii Revised Statutes, shall be reenacted in the form in which it read on the day prior to the effective date of this Act.

The Commission also recommends that similar appropriation language be added to account for expected barrel tax funds in the EVCS subaccount in FY 2023:

SECTION []. There is appropriated out of the electric vehicle charging system subaccount within the public utilities commission special fund the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for the electric vehicle charging system rebate program established pursuant to sections 269-72 and 269-73, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

The funds appropriated shall be expended by the public utilities commission for the purposes of this part.

The Commission further recommends that the spending cap outlined in Section 269-72, subsection (d), HRS, be removed. This will ensure that the Commission is permitted to expend all appropriated funds.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

TAX FOUNDATION OF HAWAII

126 Queen Street, Suite 305

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Tel. 536-4587

SUBJECT: FUEL, Earmark to Fund Electric Bicycle and Electric Moped Rebate Program

BILL NUMBER: SB 3158 HD 1

INTRODUCED BY: House Committee on Transportation

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Establishes the electric bicycle and electric moped rebate program and subaccount to encourage the purchase and use of electric bicycles and electric mopeds. Allocates a portion of the barrel tax for the rebate program.

SYNOPSIS: Adds a new section to chapter 196, HRS, to establish the electric bicycle and electric moped rebate program. Provides that each eligible purchase of an electric bicycle or electric moped shall receive a rebate of up to \$_____, provided that no individual shall receive more than \$_____ in total rebates each fiscal year.

Amends section 264-122, HRS, to establish an electric bicycle and electric moped subaccount within the highway development special fund.

Amends section 243-3.5, HRS, to add a new earmark of ___ cents per barrel to the electric bicycle and electric moped subaccount.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2050.

STAFF COMMENTS: The proposed measure would perpetuate the earmarking of tax revenues. Incentives for electric vehicles may be a worthy expense if considered alone. But does that justify bypassing the normal appropriation and budgeting process that also considers invasive species, unique health risks like COVID-19, and the aging infrastructure in our educational system?

Earmarking revenues from any tax type for a particular purpose decreases transparency and accountability.

Next, it should be remembered that revenues diverted for a special purpose, in this case to fund electric bicycle and electric moped rebates, will not be counted against the state's spending ceiling or debt limit and will obscure the state's true financial condition.

Digested: 3/29/2022

Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association

hawaiiev.org
info@hawaiieva.com



March 30, 2022

Dear Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Yamashita, and members of the Finance Committee,

Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association (Hawaii EV) **supports** SB3158 SD2 HD1, which “Establishes the electric bicycle and electric moped rebate program and subaccount to encourage the purchase and use of electric bicycles and electric mopeds. Allocates a portion of the barrel tax for the rebate program.” **HD1 addresses prior concerns related to funding. This version calls for funding that does not impact the EV Charger Rebate program.**

We support the intention of this measure as it will serve to diversify our transportation mix. It is recognized that a multi-modal transportation system is critical for the timely decarbonization of our transportation sector. A program that incentivizes the purchase of electric bikes and mopeds will help increase the number of consumers mitigate the need for cars. This will be especially helpful in urban areas.

To address the consumer needs in rural markets, we encourage expanding this program to include electric cars. In parts of the state, e.g., the Big Island, cars are indispensable for residents who commute long distances for employment and services. A rebate program for new and pre-owned electric vehicles geared to low-moderate income residents will go a long way to enable an equitable transition to clean transportation.

Please consider an amendment to include cars for low-moderate income households.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Noel Morin", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Noel Morin
President
Hawaii EV Association



Hawaii EV Association is a grassroots non-profit group representing electric vehicle owners in Hawaii. Our mission is to accelerate the electrification of transportation through consumer education, policy advocacy, and electric vehicle charging infrastructure expansion. For more information, please visit hawaiiev.org.

Hawaii EV Board

- Noel Morin, President
- Nanette Vinton, Secretary, and Treasurer
- Bill Bugbee – Director
- Tam Hunt - Director
- Sonja Kass – Director
- Rob Weltman – Director

Hawaii EV Clubs

- Big Island EV Association
- Kauai EV
- Maui Nui EV
- Tesla Hawaii Club

SB-3158-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 2:19:32 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noel Morin	Big Island Electric Vehicle Association	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Yamashita, and members of the Committee,

Big Island EV Association supports SB3158 SD2 HD1. This version, unlike SD2, creates a new program, one that does not impact the existing Commercial EV Charger Rebate program. This creates a favorable situation as it does not negatively impact the expansion of needed charging infrastructure while enabling the adoption of electric bikes and mopeds.

The increased adoption of electric vehicles is critical to our decarbonization efforts. Incentivizing the purchase of clean micro-mobility will help. **We recommend that we expand this purchase rebate program to enable the purchase of new and used cars by our low-moderate income residents.**

Sincerely,

Noel Morin

President - Big Island EV Association

bigislandev.org

SB-3158-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 5:52:30 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ted Bohlen	Climate Protectors Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To: The Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair, The Honorable Kyle Yamashita, Vice Chair, and Members of the House Committee on Finance

From: Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)

Re: Hearing **HB3158 SD2 HD1 RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION.**

Hearing: Friday, April 1, 2022, 1:30 p.m., CR 308 and by videoconference

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the House Committee on Finance!

The Climate Protectors Hawai'i is a group focused on reversing the climate crisis and encouraging Hawai'i to lead the world towards a safe and sustainable climate and future. The Climate Protectors Hawai'i **STRONGLY SUPPORTS SB3158 SD2 HD1!**

As recognized by the Legislature last year, we are in a climate emergency! Climate warming caused by carbon emissions from burning fossil fuels poses a serious threat to the economic well-being, public health, natural resources, and environment of Hawaii. **The State has committed to eliminating fossil fuels from the electricity and ground transportation sectors**, abiding by the Paris Climate Accord's goal to limit the amount of global warming to less than 1.5 degrees Celsius, **and achieving negative carbon emissions for Hawaii as soon as practicable and not later than 2045. Meeting the State's clean energy goals and commitments necessitates the rapid transition to electric vehicles that utilize clean local, renewable energy sources.**

Electric bicycles and electric mopeds are significantly more cost effective over time and better for the environment than gas powered motor vehicles and can effectively get many Hawaii residents to locations as conveniently as gas powered motor vehicles.

This bill would provide **subsidies** for those looking to purchase electric bicycles and electric mopeds. This would **encourage the purchase and use of electric bicycles and electric mopeds, reducing the cost of living and cost of transportation**, through a subaccount within the Highway Development Special Fund, funded from the Environmental Response, Energy, and Food Security Tax.

Please pass this bill!

Mahalo!

Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)

SB-3158-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 7:55:15 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jared Terpak	BIEVA	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Yamashita, and members of the Finance Committee,

Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association (Hawaii EV) **supports** SB3158 SD2 HD1, which “Establishes the electric bicycle and electric moped rebate program and subaccount to encourage the purchase and use of electric bicycles and electric mopeds. Allocates a portion of the barrel tax for the rebate program.” **HD1 addresses prior concerns related to funding. This version calls for funding that does not impact the EV Charger Rebate program.**

We support the intention of this measure as it will serve to diversify our transportation mix. It is recognized that a multi-modal transportation system is critical for the timely decarbonization of our transportation sector. A program that incentivizes the purchase of electric bikes and mopeds will help increase the number of consumers mitigate the need for cars. This will be especially helpful in urban areas.

To address the consumer needs in rural markets, we encourage expanding this program to include electric cars. In parts of the state, e.g., the Big Island, cars are indispensable for residents who commute long distances for employment and services. A rebate program for new and pre-owned electric vehicles geared to low-moderate income residents will go a long way to enable an equitable transition to clean transportation.

Please consider an amendment to include cars for low-moderate income households.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



KauaiEV

Kauai Electric Vehicle Association
302 Makani Rd, Kapaa, HI 96746
808-652-0591

2022/03/30

Support of SB3158 SD2 HD1

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Committee on Finance members,

I am writing on behalf of KauaiEV, a grassroots organization with over 100 members on Kauai. Our members are electric vehicle drivers and we believe that EVs are the personal transportation of the future. We are in **support of HB3158 SD2 HD1** which “Establishes the electric bicycle and electric moped rebate program and subaccount to encourage the purchase and use of electric bicycles and electric mopeds. Allocates a portion of the barrel tax for the rebate program.”

We opposed the previous version of the bill, and are happy that in this version the funding was addressed, and it will not impact the electric vehicle charger program.

Purchase rebates for low- and moderate-income buyers are a great strategy for market transformation, and will also help struggling families to lower their transportation costs, as e-bikes and electric mopeds are cheaper to maintain and to fuel.

E-bikes are not only more affordable, they also have a smaller environmental and carbon footprint in production, fueling and recycling and are preferable to a larger vehicle.

Purchase rebates are preferable because they ensure equitable access and eliminate a buyer’s uncertainty over whether they will qualify for a tax credit and eliminate the wait.

Please consider adding an amendment to include used electric cars for low-moderate income households.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Sonja Kass, President KauaiEV



Email: communications@ulupono.com

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Friday, April 1, 2022 — 1:30 p.m.

Ulupono Initiative supports the intent of SB 3158 SD 2 HD 1, Relating to Transportation.

Dear Chair Luke and Members of the Committee:

My name is Micah Munekata, and I am the Director of Government Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food; renewable energy and clean transportation; and better management of freshwater and waste.

Ulupono supports the intent of SB 3158 SD 2 HD 1, which establishes the Electric Bicycle and Electric Moped Rebate Program and subaccount to encourage the purchase and use of electric bicycles and electric mopeds, and allocates a portion of the Barrel Tax for the rebate program.

Ulupono supports Hawai'i's reduction of fossil fuel use as we strive to meet the State's 100% renewable goal by 2045. However, we strongly encourage this committee to consider amending this measure to better align with earlier bill drafts.

We encourage the committee to consider reinstating Electric Vehicle (EV) purchases within the rebate program, as previously intended. We also recommend adjusting the bill to support, or prefer, a point-of-sale rebate program such as those in Vermont and Oregon. Though such implementation may increase complexity, point-of-sale rebate programs directly reduce the initial purchase price paid and have shown to be much more effective at influencing purchasing decisions for EVs.

Ulupono finds that EVs of all kinds are an important avenue to address Hawai'i's pressing climate issues and align with the State's energy and environmental goals. EVs currently offer an effective option to advance clean, renewable ground transportation and provide immediate benefits to Hawai'i. This bill is an important measure for the State to push for the decarbonization of our economy and support for the LMI community while showing the world that Hawai'i is a clean energy leader.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata
Director of Government Affairs

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



**Maui Metropolitan
Planning Organization**

200 South High Street
Wailuku, HI 96793
www.mauimpo.org

March 31, 2022

Testimony of Lauren Armstrong
Maui MPO Executive Director
On behalf of Maui MPO Policy Board

Before the House Committee on Finance

April 1, 2022 at 1:30pm
Conference Room 308

SB3158 SD2 HD1 RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair
Honorable Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair
Honorable Members of the House Committee on Finance

The Maui MPO Policy Board **supports** SB3158 SD2 HD1. The measure creates a rebate program to expand access for more Hawai'i residents to purchase electric motor vehicles and bicycles and be part of our clean transportation future. Purchasing an electric vehicle is financially out of reach for many Hawai'i residents. Unlike a dozen other states that offer financial incentives to make EVs more affordable to a wider range of residents, Hawai'i currently offers no incentives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lauren Armstrong".

Lauren Armstrong
Executive Director, Maui MPO
On behalf of the Maui MPO Policy Board



**Written Statement of Elemental Excelerator
before the House Committees on Finance**

In consideration of SB 3158, SD2 HD1 RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION

April 1, 2022

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee:

Elemental Excelerator respectfully submits **strong support** for SB 3158, SD2 HD1.

Elemental Excelerator is a Honolulu-based non-profit organization that supports climate positive startup companies that are helping solve Hawai'i's most urgent environmental problems. Each year, we select 15-20 companies annually that best fit our mission and fund each company up to \$1 million. To date, we have awarded over \$48 million to 135 companies resulting in 80 demonstration projects in Hawai'i & the Asia Pacific.

We strongly support SB 3158, SD2 HD1 and the effort to provide support to increase emissions-free micro-mobility solutions in an equitable way for those who would benefit most from the cost savings in our community, and to assist our state to meet our climate and sustainability goals. Elemental Excelerator has invested directly in climate and clean tech solutions in the micro-mobility and clean transportation space, and we welcome additional tools to support the adoption of transportation solutions that our better for our planet and reduce the cost of living for our community members.

Elemental Excelerator has helped support dozens of climate tech solution companies that create good jobs, help transition our economy to 100% clean energy, and advance progress in the areas of local agriculture, water security, circular economies, and clean transportation. SB 3158, SD2 HD1 will help foster continued progress for the State of Hawai'i as well as help increase the number of green jobs in our economy.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

SB-3158-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 10:09:07 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Douglas Perrine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Incentives will be needed to kick start adoption of electric bicycles & mopeds, which can be an important component of our transportation decarbonization movement.

SB-3158-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 11:43:07 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chad K Taniguchi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you to the House Transportation Committee for changing the objectionable parts of SB3158SD2.

I support SB3158HD1 for rebates to encourage more electric vehicle purchases including electric bicycles. Internal combustion engines contribute more to climate catastrophe, are noisy, and bad for the air--let's encourage people to switch to cleaner, more efficient vehicles.

Electric bicycles give more people more range and more options to replace their cars with a smaller, lighter, cleaner means of travel. They work well in Hawaii.

Please pass this bill.

SB-3158-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 2:16:35 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephanie Hall Morin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Mahalo for encouraging our community to adopt electric transportation in whatever form works best for the individuals and families. Now more than ever our transition to clean energy is critical.

Mahalo for your service.

SB-3158-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 2:40:03 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rob Weltman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Encouraging the use of zero-emission means of transportation, including electric bicycles and mopeds, is an important element of getting Hawaii off its dependence on fossil fuels. While the well-to-do are able to acquire electric bicycles easily, equity requires that we subsidize acquisition by lower income families and individuals.

SB-3158-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 5:19:06 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lorn Hoku Douglas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Yes these vehicles will cut down our iol use. Please support!

Lorn Douglas

lower Puna

SB-3158-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 8:37:29 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gary Miller	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill which provides purchase incentives for electric bicycles and mopeds since it no longer negatively impacts the EV Charger rebate program.

Mahalo for your consideration on this bill.

Gary Miller

SB-3158-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 9:37:53 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sharon Geiken Westerberg	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support a rebate for electric bicycle and electric mopeds. I have an elderly friend who lives very modestly due to low income. She does not own a car.. She has bravely purchased an electric bicycle to get around to get to the store, the Dr etc, via bicycle and bus. I know that this bill would help enable a lot of low income people to travel economically and at the same time be climate friendly.

Thank you for considering my testimony

Sharon Geiken Westerberg

SB-3158-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 8:53:20 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Richard Wang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hi, I support the electric bike/moped rebate bill, as increased sales and use of such would reduce traffic and air pollution. I would, however, change the effective date of the rebate to be for any purchase starting 1/1/2022. Thanks.

SB-3158-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 11:13:58 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paula Miller	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Paula Miller and I am a resident of Ninole, on the Hamakua Coast of the Big Island.

I strongly urge you to support SB3158 SD2 HD1, which “Establishes the electric bicycle and electric moped rebate program and subaccount to encourage the purchase and use of electric bicycles and electric mopeds. Allocates a portion of the barrel tax for the rebate program.” HD1 addresses prior concerns related to funding. This version calls for funding that does not impact the EV Charger Rebate program.

I support the intention of this measure as it will serve to diversify our transportation mix. It is recognized that a multi-modal transportation system is critical for the timely decarbonization of our transportation sector. A program that incentivizes the purchase of electric bikes and mopeds will help increase the number of consumers and mitigate the need for cars. This will be especially helpful in urban areas.

To address the consumer needs in rural markets, I encourage expanding this program to include electric cars. In parts of the state, e.g., the Big Island, cars are indispensable for residents who commute long distances for employment and services. A rebate program for new and pre-owned electric vehicles geared to low-moderate income residents will go a long way to enable an equitable transition to clean transportation.

Please consider an amendment to include cars for low-moderate income households.

I urge you to support SB3158 SD2 HD1.

SB-3158-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 1:27:35 PM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Diana Bethel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB3158 SD2 HD1 will increase the use of electric bicycles and mopeds and reduce the use of gasoline-powered two wheelers which emit pollutants and particulate matter that worsen air quality. Please pass SB3158 SD2 HD1.

SB-3158-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2022 10:19:03 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steve Parsons	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Trusted Lawmakers,

I fully support this bill to help, working class folks save money. More importantly, save their health and the health of the community. Lastly, Climate change should give us plenty of reasons to prioritize this, but with the backdrop of bad players in the world like Putin, let's do ALL we can to move off fossil Fuels faster than anyone thought possible AND Grow Green Jobs Here!!!!

Steve Parsons, Wailua Kauai

SB-3158-HD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2022 10:29:20 AM

Testimony for FIN on 4/1/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicole Shintani	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Nickie Shintani. I write this testimony in support of SB3158 SD2 HD1 to establish a rebate program and encourage the purchase of Electric bicycles and electric mopeds. I grew up on Oahu and I used an electric bicycle to get around for most of my college years. Even now, it continues to be a major means of mobility for me. Adoption of Electric bicycles need to be a part of the conversation around reducing our dependance on fossil fuels and in our transition to 100% clean energy. Electric bicycles help get people out of the cars which clog up our roads and pollute our air, and are of less environmental impact than an electric car due to significantly less materials used to create them. They require much less power to carry a person the same distance as a car, and ultimately they take up less space, which shows opportunities for reducing traffic if people take trips in town by the bike than by car. For many people the barrier to using a bicycle as a mode of transit is hills and electric bicycles largely get rid of that barrier, helping to ensure that a person will adopt it as a mode of transit. Electric bicycles are also generally much more accessible to the average person than an electric vehicle, and this bill would be very helpful for people to get an extra push in adopting them. Please support a rebate on electric bikes and mopeds. Mahalo.