

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB - 7 2023

RE: S.B. No. 809  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirty-Second State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2023  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts, to which was referred S.B. No. 809 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO TRANSPORTATION,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Rename the Electric Bicycle and Electric Moped Rebate Program as the Electric Mobility Rebate Program;
- (2) Expand the scope of the program to include electric micro-mobility devices and an additional rebate type; and
- (3) Appropriate funds.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Hawaii State Energy Office, Department of Transportation, Ulupono Initiative, and PeopleForBikes Coalition.

Your Committee finds that the single greatest factor of the increasing cost of living in Hawaii is the rising cost of transportation. To address this factor, Act 306, Session Laws of Hawaii 2022, established the Electric Bicycle and Electric Moped Rebate Program, administered by the Department of Transportation, to offer eligible individuals a rebate of twenty percent or \$500



of the retail cost. However, as Hawaii's people find alternative electric-powered modes of transportation, greater accessibility to the rebate program is needed to ease cost-of-living expenses in the State.

Your Committee notes the testimony of the PeopleForBikes Coalition regarding the issuance of rebates under the Electric Mobility Rebate Program. While current provisions of the program offer a rebate to eligible individuals purchasing a micro-mobility device, according to the PeopleForBikes Coalition, low-income customers are less likely to have the funds available to purchase a micro-mobility device at full cost while waiting months for a rebate check. By providing an instant rebate to eligible individuals, there may be greater interest in the program, especially for individuals who could benefit from micro-mobility devices. Your Committee additionally notes that the Department of Transportation should consider the possibility of an instant rebate program as a component of the Electric Mobility Rebate Program.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting language that would have defined an electric that a micro-mobility device to be designed to transport a single person;
- (2) Repealing the requirement that eligible individuals under the Electric Mobility Rebate Program cannot own a motor vehicle with four or more wheels;
- (3) Inserting language to allow for ten percent of the appropriation out of the Electric Mobility Subaccount to be used for the Department of Transportation's administration of the program; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 809, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto



as S.B. No. 809, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Transportation and  
Culture and the Arts,



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CHRIS LEE, Chair



The Senate  
Thirty-Second Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts**  
**TCA**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <i>SB 909</i>	Committee Referral: <i>TCA, WAM</i>	Date: <i>1/31/2023</i>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
LEE, Chris (C)	✓			
INOUE, Lorraine R. (VC)	✓			
ELEFANTE, Brandon J.C.	✓			
KEOHOKALOOLE, Jarrett	✓			
AWA, Brenton	<i>[Signature]</i>		/	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<i>4</i>		<i>1</i>	
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <i>Lorraine R. Inoue</i>				
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\*Only one measure per Record of Votes