

HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Tuesday, January 28, 2025
9:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325 and Videoconference

In Support of
HOUSE BILL NO. 243
RELATING TO ENERGY.

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports HB243, which requires solar conduit- and electrical panel-readiness for new residential construction and electric vehicle (EV)-readiness when electrical panels and parking areas are installed, beginning January 1, 2026. This measure is an important step in ensuring that Hawai'i's new construction is aligned with our renewable energy and decarbonization goals, helping to reduce future retrofitting costs and providing foundational readiness for clean energy adoption.

Meeting Hawai'i's target of a net-negative carbon economy by 2045 requires significant action across all sectors, including electricity and ground transportation. By incorporating photovoltaic (PV) and EV infrastructure readiness into new construction, this bill helps minimize future retrofitting costs and ensures that homes and multi-family residences are built to support the adoption of renewable energy and zero-emission vehicles.

The HSEO's *Hawai'i Pathways to Decarbonization* report,¹ submitted to the Legislature in December 2023 pursuant to Act 238 (2022), highlights the importance of transitioning to renewable energy and increasing the adoption of Zero Emission

¹ <https://energy.hawaii.gov/what-we-do/clean-energy-vision/decarbonization-strategy/>

Vehicles (ZEVs) to achieve the state's decarbonization goals. Analysis from the City and County of Honolulu's Office of Climate Change, Sustainability, and Resiliency as well as Ulupono shows that retrofitting existing buildings to accommodate PV and EV infrastructure can be 3 to 8 times more expensive than incorporating readiness measures during initial construction. A disproportionate percentage of the cost increase is associated with permitting, project management, and raceway. Permitting has been a priority issue especially as it can be dealt with upfront, saving time and money.

This proactive approach is critical, as retrofitting completed homes often involves costly and disruptive activities such as trenching, demolition, and re-paving. By requiring readiness at the construction stage, HB243 ensures that future homeowners can more easily and affordably install PV systems and EV chargers, which will support broader adoption of renewable energy and clean transportation statewide.

Hawai'i's decarbonization goals depend on forward-thinking policies like HB243, which remove barriers to PV and EV adoption while ensuring that infrastructure development aligns with long-term sustainability objectives. HSEO supports this measure as it complements ongoing efforts to accelerate the state's transition to clean energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 2:09:45 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan B Roberts Emery	Green Party of Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Committee Members,

I write today on behalf of the Green Party of Hawai'i offering our support for HB243. The county of Honolulu enacted a measure to require solar conduit and electrical panel readiness for new construction, and a measure to require electric vehicle readiness when an electrical panel and parking area are installed. This helped lower energy costs and carbon footprint of new homes. Families across our state deserve to be afforded these same benefits. Please support HB243.

Mahalo nui ,

Susan RobertsEmery

Greenn Party of Hawai'i

Paauilo

**Citizens' Climate Lobby
Hawaii**

hi.ccl.lobby@gmail.com



January 26, 2025

Strong Support for HB243 Relating to Energy

Dear Chair Lowen, Chair Kahaloa, and Members of the EEP Committee,

On behalf of the Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) Hawai'i, I'm testifying in **Strong Support of HB243**, which if enacted would reduce the carbon footprint of new housing. CCL Hawaii has over 960 members in four chapters: Hawaii Island, Honolulu, Kauai, and Maui. We advocate for effective, efficient, and fair climate legislation.

CCL Hawaii supports HB243 as it meets the requirements for effective climate action: It

- Requires "solar-ready" roofs and some "EV-ready" parking are low-cost measures that expand access to solar panels and chargers for electric vehicles (EVs). The cost of retrofitting buildings and parking infrastructure for EVs is far higher than designing and installing it from the start,
- Gives residents access to clean, affordable energy, helping people save money on their monthly bills at a time when so many are struggling, and at the same time helping to save the planet from climate-destroying greenhouse gases. This policy effectively corrects a market failure, and allows homeowners to make the best financial decision for themselves by allowing them to see the full lifecycle costs of energy use,
- Helps Hawai'i meet its climate goals, reduce costs for residents, and become more resilient; and
- Complements action taken by the city and county of Honolulu that enacted a measure to require solar conduit and electrical panel readiness for new construction, and a measure to require electric vehicle readiness when an electrical panel and parking area are installed. By doing so, these actions helped lower the energy costs and carbon footprint of new homes, a big win-win for residents in the city and county of Honolulu.

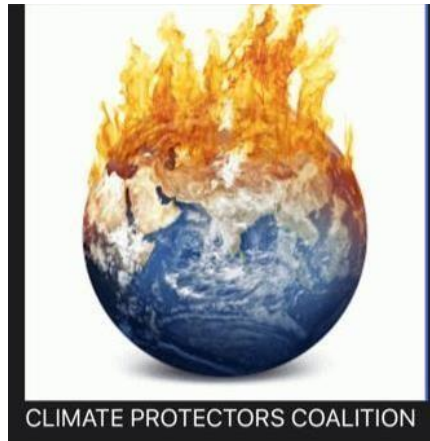
Please support HB243.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Paul Bernstein'.

Paul Bernstein

CCL Hawai'i State Co-Coordinator



To: The Honorable Representative Nicole Lowen, Chair, the Honorable Amy Perruso, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection.

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

Re: Hearing **HB243 RELATING TO ENERGY**

Hearing: Tuesday January 28, 2025 9:00 a.m.

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Energy and Environmental Protection Committee Members:

The mission of the Climate Protectors Hawai'i is to educate and engage the local community in climate change action, to help Hawai'i show the world the way back to a safe and stable climate.

The Climate Protectors Hawai'i STRONGLY SUPPORTS HB243!

At a time when many residents of Hawaii are struggling to make ends meet, our State has an excellent opportunity to **save our people money** by transitioning to solar energy with storage systems and electric vehicles.

This bill would require solar conduit and electrical panel readiness for new residential construction and electric vehicle readiness when an electrical panel and parking area are installed. It is far less expensive to install the needed infrastructure when a building is being constructed than to retrofit later.

Installing the infrastructure for solar energy with storage and electric vehicles when a building is being constructed potentially would save customers the costs many times over.

The development of residential solar and electric vehicle charging would also **help Hawaii reach its carbon negative** target by 2045.

Please pass this bill.

Mahalo!

Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)



To: The House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection
From: Sherry Pollack, Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2025, 9am

In support of HB243

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Energy and Environmental Protection Committee members,

I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii.org **supports HB243** that would require solar conduit- and electrical panel-readiness for new residential construction offered for sale at fair market value and electric vehicle-readiness when an electrical panel and parking area are installed.

In 2020, the city and county of Honolulu smartly enacted a measure to require solar conduit and electrical panel readiness for new construction, and a measure to require electric vehicle readiness when an electrical panel and parking area are installed. By doing so, these actions helped lower the energy costs and carbon footprint of new houses, a big win-win for residents in the city and county of Honolulu. However, families from communities from all counties across the state deserve to be afforded these same benefits, and thus these same actions should be adopted on a statewide basis.

Requiring “solar-ready” roofs and some “EV-ready” parking are low-cost measures that expand access to solar panels and chargers for electric vehicles (EVs), and unlock big additional savings that residents can get by installing these technologies. Without a doubt, the cost of retrofitting buildings and parking infrastructure for EVs is far higher than designing it in from the start.

In addition, requiring “solar-ready” roofs and some “EV-ready” parking will help Hawaii build its way out of the climate crisis instead of making it worse. Hawaii has committed to meeting its energy needs with 100 percent renewable energy by 2045. With rising seas, a worsening hurricane season, struggling coral reefs, and varying supplies of drinking water, the state is already feeling the effects of climate change. Given that new housing and building infrastructure lasts over 50 years, the best time for Hawaii to start setting more ambitious guidelines towards decarbonization for new construction should have started decades ago. The second-best time is now.

Bottomline, HB243 gives residents access to clean, affordable energy, helping people save money on their monthly bills at a time when so many are struggling, and at the same time helping to save the planet from climate-destroying greenhouse gases. This is an important step to help Hawaii meet its climate goals, reduce costs for residents, and become more resilient.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important legislation.

Sherry Pollack
Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org

Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association

hawaiiev.org
info@hawaiieva.com



January 26, 2025

SUPPORT FOR HB 243 (RELATING TO ENERGY)

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Perruso, and members of the Committee,

Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association supports HB 243, which **requires solar conduit- and electrical panel-readiness for new residential construction offered for sale at fair market value and electric vehicle-readiness when an electrical panel and parking area are installed.**

Installing EV-ready infrastructure during construction costs much less than retrofits, making residential projects future-proofed and resilient. This investment will allow property owners to deploy renewable energy and charging infrastructure cost-efficiently, allowing for a more equitable transition to clean energy and transportation.

Thank you for the 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 Solar Energy Association
Serving Hawaii Since 1977

**Testimony of the Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA) Regarding HB243, Relating to
Energy, Before the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection**

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and committee members,

As the Executive Director of the Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA), I am writing to express our **support for the intent of HB243**, which mandates solar conduit and electric panel readiness for new residential construction.

Upgrading our new and existing residences to be prepared for the Hawaii's clean energy future is essential; however, **we prefer the language and approach of HB340** (with amendments for electric vehicles, vehicle-to-home, and vehicle-to-grid (V2G) systems), which achieves the same policy objective in a more updated and comprehensive manner.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important legislation.

Sincerely,

/s/ Rocky Mould

Executive Director

About HSEA

Since 1977, HSEA has been advocating for policies that help Hawaii achieve critical climate, energy security, and resilience goals by enabling residents and businesses to invest in and benefit from the transition to clean energy. These investments provide reliable and affordable power, reducing energy cost burdens and contributing to Hawaii's economic sustainability as we decarbonize our economy and electric grid.

HSEA's membership includes the majority of locally owned and operated solar and energy storage companies doing business in Hawaii, along with leading global cleantech manufacturers and service providers active in our market. Together, we employ thousands of Hawaii residents in diverse green economy jobs that drive innovation, design, and construction of Hawaii's renewable energy infrastructure.



Hawaii Solar Energy Association
Serving Hawaii Since 1977

Hawaii is a global leader in renewable energy deployment, particularly in customer-sited rooftop solar and energy storage. Customer-sited rooftop solar accounts for 47% of renewable energy added to grids in Hawaiian Electric service areas (Oahu, Maui County, and the Big Island) and 21% in the Kauai Island Utility Cooperative area. Additionally, Hawaii leads the nation in pairing rooftop solar with battery storage, with 96% of new residential installations including storage. These achievements underscore Hawaii's role as a pioneer in clean energy transformation.



SanHi

GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

DATE: January 27, 2025

TO: Representative Nicole Lowen
Chair, Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

Representative Lisa Marten
Vice Chair, Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

Submitted Via Capitol Website

FROM: Tiffany Yajima

RE: **H.B. 243 – Relating to Energy**
Hearing Date: Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at 9:00 a.m.
Conference Room: 325

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Marten and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Alliance for Automotive Innovation (“Auto Innovators”) we submit this testimony in **support** of H.B. 243, Relating to Energy, which would support electric vehicle-readiness by requiring building permit applications for certain residential construction to include a dedicated receptacle for a level 2 electric-vehicle charger.

The Alliance for Automotive Innovation represents the full auto industry, a sector supporting 10 million American jobs and five percent of the economy. From the manufacturers producing most vehicles sold in the U.S. to autonomous vehicle innovators to equipment suppliers, battery producers and semiconductor makers – the association is committed to a cleaner, safer and smarter personal transportation future.

A sustainable and equitable transition to electrification will require public and private collaboration across various industries and sectors. By 2025, the auto industry will have invested more than \$330 billion to reach the goal of an electrified future. The auto industry is ramping up by delivering a new generation of ZEVs that includes 130 models for sale in the U.S. market by 2026, up from over 70 models today.

As the market for electric vehicles continues to grow, this measure ensures that residences are EV-ready and equipped to support charging capabilities. Because the installation of EV chargers in new construction can be five times as cost

effective as retrofitting existing facilities to add chargers after the fact, this measure also makes good financial sense.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 8:53:17 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steve Parsons	KCAC-Kauai Climate ACTION Coalition, Small Biz Owner	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Kauai Climate Action Coalition Strongly Support this solar and EV readiness bill that will help lower income residents financially the most and give all residents and visitors cleaner air to breathe and reduce Ocean Acidification that is Killing our precious coral reefs and harming other Ocean wildlife! Bidirectional Charging is available today that can help stabilize the grid and serve as back up solar storage after the sun goes down. This also helps prepare homes for natural disasters...allowing homes to produce their own power and even help their neighbors. Today, MANY EVs are cheaper at time of purchase and certainly total cost of ownership and EVs continue to fall in Price along with charging infrastructure hardware! In addition, this bill and any actions also stimulate good green jobs and stops sending money off island to for-profit fossil fuel companies that have and continue to destroy the 'ānia! Please act boldly on this bill!

Imua>>>



Hawaii Legislative Council Members

Joell Edwards
Wainiha Country Market
Hanalei

Russell Ruderman
Island Naturals
Hilo/Kona

Dr. Andrew Johnson
Niko Niko
Family Dentistry
Honolulu

Robert H. Pahia
Hawaii Taro Farm
Wailuku

Maile Meyer
Na Mea Hawaii
Honolulu

Tina Wildberger
Kihei Ice
Kihei

L. Malu Shizue Miki
Abundant Life
Natural Foods
Hilo

Tanya Aynessazian
Principal Contractor

Chamber of
Sustainable Commerce
P.O. Box 22394
Honolulu, HI 96823

Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Chair
Rep. Amy A. Perruso, Vice Chair

Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

Tuesday, January 28, 2025
9:00AM in Room 325

RE: **HB243** Solar Conduit and Electrical Panel Readiness - **Strong Support**

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso and Members of the Committee,

The Chamber of Sustainable Commerce represents over 450 small businesses and entrepreneurs across the State of Hawaii that strive for a triple bottom line: people, planet and prosperity; we know Hawaii can strengthen its economy without hurting workers, consumers, communities or the environment.

This is why we strongly support HB243, which requires solar-ready roofs and some EV-ready parking, both of which are low-cost measures that expand access to solar panels and chargers for electric vehicles and unlock additional savings for residents who install these technologies. The cost of retrofitting building and parking infrastructure for EVs is far higher than designing them from the start.

Rooftop solar power is a key tool in the fight against climate breakdown. These common-sense measures can streamline solar permitting and increase solar energy use, reducing cost while increasing community resiliency. The city and county of Honolulu has already enacted a similar measure to require solar conduit and electrical panel readiness for new construction, and communities across the state deserve these same benefits and steps toward stronger climate resiliency.



January 27, 2025

Representative Nicole Lowen, Chair
Representative Amy Perruso, Vice Chair
Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

RE: **HB 243– RELATING TO RELATING TO ENERGY**
Hearing date – January 28, 2025 at 9:00 AM

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso and members of the committee,

Thank you for allowing NAIOP Hawaii to submit testimony in **OPPOSITION** to **HB 243 – RELATING TO ENERGY**. NAIOP Hawaii is the Hawaii chapter of the nation’s leading organization for office, industrial, retail, residential and mixed-use real estate. NAIOP Hawaii has over 200 members in the State including local developers, owners, investors, asset managers, lenders, and other professionals.

HB 243 requires solar conduit- and electrical panel-readiness for new residential construction offered for sale at fair market value and electric vehicle-readiness when an electrical panel and parking area are installed. .

NAIOP opposes the requirement that new market value buildings be install solar conduit- and electrical panel-readiness. EV charger ready as it is unnecessary and would increase the cost of housing projects or prohibit the development of a housing project. Most developers are required to build 30% of their development to be housing. The increased cost associated with installation of EV, solar and electric panel readiness in new construction will be reflected in the cost of housing units for our residents or prevent a project from penciling out altogether.

Furthermore, as Hawaii is experiencing higher construction costs due to inflation, the additional costs of ensuring that new residential units are solar and electric panel readiness ready will prevent housing units from being constructed. In conjunction, interest rates have significantly risen in the past year making housing projects nearly infeasible due to rising costs and lower eligible unit sales prices due to AMI restrictions. Accordingly, housing is becoming increasingly more difficult to construct, and requiring EV, solar and electric panel readiness will prevent much needed housing units from being constructed for our residents.

NAIOP Hawaii understands the need for zero-emission transportation infrastructure, however, we disagree that the cost should be placed upon the developers of housing, and future homeowners. The financial and housing inventory impacts needs

to be analyzed and addressed before mandating further cost onto homebuilding in our state.

Furthermore, most residential properties are privately owned and maintained by an association. Therefore, mandating installation of EV readiness may significantly raise the monthly maintenance costs for each homeowner. This will be especially problematic if an association's maintenance fees are increased for the unit owners in each market rate project.

In addition, the proposed requirement is unnecessary since most counties already have EV infrastructure requirements on new construction. Requiring additional mandates of this nature is duplicative and may ultimately result in less housing units being constructed.

Hawaii is in a major housing crisis, which has only worsened over time. NAIOP Hawaii supports housing at every income level for our local residents. Requiring EV, solar and electrical panel readiness may prevent projects from being constructed. Consequently, for projects to be constructed developers will need to pass on the costs to buyers. Accordingly, this bill would be inconsistent with addressing the need to create more housing for Hawaii residents which is a priority of the legislature.

While NAIOP supports creative solutions to incentivize the installation of EV charging stations, it opposes mandating unnecessary and costly requirements that will ultimately have negative impacts on Hawaii's housing supply and local families. Alternatively, we support measures such as HB 346 to incentivize installation of EV charging without driving up the cost of a housing unit. For these reasons we urge you to defer HB 243. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Mahalo for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Reyn Tanaka', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Reyn Tanaka, President
NAIOP Hawaii

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 9:28:24 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
nicole tergeoglou	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB 243

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 10:34:22 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michele Nihipali	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Requiring “solar-ready” roofs and some “EV-ready” parking are low-cost measures that expand access to solar panels and chargers for electric vehicles (EVs), and unlock big additional savings that residents can get by installing these technologies. Without a doubt, the cost of retrofitting buildings and parking infrastructure for EVs is far higher than designing it from the start.

-- HB243 gives residents access to clean, affordable energy, helping people save money on their monthly bills at a time when so many are struggling, and at the same time helping to save the planet from climate-destroying greenhouse gases. This is an important step to help Hawaii meet its climate goals, reduce costs for residents, and become more resilient.

-- The city and county of Honolulu smartly enacted a measure to require solar conduit and electrical panel readiness for new construction, and a measure to require electric vehicle readiness when an electrical panel and parking area are installed. By doing so, these actions helped lower the energy costs and carbon footprint of new homes, a big win-win for residents in the city and county of Honolulu. However, **families from communities from all counties across the state deserve to be afforded these same benefits**, and thus these same actions should be adopted on a statewide basis.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Michele Nihipali

54-074 A Kam Hwy.

Hauula, HI 96717

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 12:41:38 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Caroline Azelski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong support. Thank you.

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 2:37:21 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Georgia L Hoopes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

STRONGLY SUPPORT HB243

Aloha Representatives,

I'm writing to urge you to support HB243.

Requiring “solar-ready” roofs and some “EV-ready” parking are low-cost measures that expand access to solar panels and chargers for electric vehicles (EVs), and unlock big additional savings that residents can get by installing these technologies. Without a doubt, the cost of retrofitting buildings and parking infrastructure for EVs is far higher than designing it from the start.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Georgia Hoopes, Kalaheo

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 5:51:43 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
MissT	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill gives residents access to clean, affordable energy, helps people save money on their monthly bills at a time when so many are struggling and it saves our planet from climate destroying greenhouse gases.

The big win win for residents in the city and county of Honolulu needs to be extended to the entire state.

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/25/2025 11:46:22 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
JON BRODZIAK	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Lowen and Members of the Energy & Environmental Protection Committee,

HB243 is a common-sense solution to a pressing challenge, requiring “solar-ready” roofs and “EV-ready” parking for new developments. These low-cost measures lay the groundwork for future solar panel installations and electric vehicle chargers, unlocking significant savings for residents while avoiding the high costs of retrofitting later. Planning ahead not only makes financial sense but ensures a smoother transition to cleaner energy solutions for Hawaii’s residents.

This bill is more than just good policy—it’s a lifeline for households struggling with rising costs. By expanding access to clean, affordable energy, HB243 helps residents lower their monthly bills while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. It’s an essential step toward Hawaii’s climate goals and strengthens our state’s resilience in the face of growing environmental challenges.

Honolulu has already demonstrated the value of these measures, making new homes more energy-efficient and cutting their carbon footprint. HB243 rightly seeks to extend these benefits statewide, ensuring families in every county enjoy the same opportunities for savings and sustainability. This legislation represents a win-win for Hawaii’s residents and environment, and I strongly urge its passage.

Thank you for your consideration, and I urge you to wholeheartedly support HB243.

Yours sincerely,

Jon Brodziak

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 3:18:04 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dylan Okihiro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support bill HB243 to future-proof new homeowners with essential infrastructure they may need to use in the future. This will save residents precious time and money.

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 2:24:09 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

HB243 provides for an essential element in our intended conversion to 100% clean renewable energy, and will save many homeowners a lot of money by greatly reducing their expenses to add solar pv power and ev charging equipment to their homes.

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 7:42:06 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruth Robison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso and Members of the COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION,

I am a voter who lives in Hilo. I am testifying in **support** of HB 243 RELATING TO ENERGY.

This bill requires solar conduit- and electrical panel-readiness for new residential construction offered for sale at fair market value and electric vehicle-readiness when an electrical panel and parking area are installed and would be effective 1/1/2026.

Of course we should have done this yesterday. The severe effects of ignoring climate change are upon us already. This bill is a move in the right direction. Better late than never.

The lack of chargers for electric vehicles is a serious impediment to our forward progress.

I urge you to pass HB 243 RELATING TO ENERGY and help us try to catch up with where we need to be relative to converting to clean energy and energy independence.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony. Thank you for your service to the people of Hawai'i.

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 9:07:43 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Victoria Anderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SUPPORT.

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 9:34:39 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kenneth Peck	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Kenneth Peck, and I am testifying in strong support of HB243, which requires new residential construction to incorporate solar conduit and electrical panel readiness and electric vehicle (EV) readiness, starting January 1, 2026. This forward-thinking measure addresses key infrastructure needs to help Hawai‘i achieve its renewable energy and sustainability goals.

1. **Cost-Effective Infrastructure Integration:**

Incorporating solar conduit and EV-ready infrastructure during new construction is far more cost-effective than retrofitting existing homes. The added cost during construction is minimal—ranging from \$100 to \$300 according to the City and County of Honolulu—but the savings in avoided demolition, reinstallation, and permitting for retrofits are substantial. This proactive measure ensures that Hawai‘i residents are not burdened with excessive costs when they choose to adopt renewable energy and EV technologies in the future.

2. **Advancing Hawai‘i’s Renewable Energy Goals:**

Hawai‘i has set an ambitious target to transition to 100% renewable energy by 2045. Meeting this goal requires a comprehensive approach, including the integration of photovoltaic and EV infrastructure into residential properties. By ensuring that new homes are solar- and EV-ready, this bill supports statewide efforts to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and increase the adoption of clean energy technologies.

3. **Support for Electric Vehicle Adoption:**

A significant barrier to EV adoption is the lack of accessible charging infrastructure, particularly in residential settings. By requiring Level 2 EV charging readiness in new construction, this bill directly addresses this barrier, ensuring that more residents can consider EV ownership. This supports Hawai‘i’s efforts to transition to clean transportation and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

4. **Environmental and Economic Benefits:**

Investing in renewable energy and EV infrastructure not only helps combat climate change but also reduces household energy and transportation costs over time. These investments can improve Hawai‘i’s energy independence, reduce reliance on imported fossil fuels, and support local job creation in the renewable energy and construction sectors.

5. **Aligning with State and County Leadership:**

The City and County of Honolulu has already enacted similar measures, demonstrating

their feasibility and effectiveness. Extending these requirements statewide ensures uniformity, accelerates the adoption of clean technologies, and positions Hawai‘i as a leader in sustainability.

6. **Future-Proofing Residential Development:**

By incorporating renewable energy and EV infrastructure into new homes, this measure anticipates future needs and market trends. As the demand for clean energy solutions continues to grow, homes with these features will be more attractive to buyers, adding long-term value to residential properties.

This bill represents a cost-effective, equitable, and forward-thinking approach to preparing Hawai‘i for a clean energy future. By ensuring that new residential construction includes solar conduit and EV readiness, Hawai‘i will take another step toward achieving its renewable energy goals while reducing costs and increasing accessibility for residents.

I strongly urge the committee to pass HB243 and support Hawai‘i’s clean energy transition.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Peck

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/26/2025 9:45:12 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Diane Ware	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

I support HB243 which gives residents access to clean, affordable energy, helping people save money on their monthly bills at a time when so many are struggling, and at the same time helping to save the planet from climate-destroying greenhouse gases. This is an important step to help Hawaii meet its climate goals, reduce costs for residents, and become more resilient.

-- The city and county of Honolulu smartly enacted a measure to require solar conduit and electrical panel readiness for new construction, and a measure to require electric vehicle readiness when an electrical panel and parking area are installed. By doing so, these actions helped lower the energy costs and carbon footprint of new homes, a big win-win for residents in the city and county of Honolulu. However, **families from communities from all counties across the state deserve to be afforded these same benefits**, and thus these same actions should be adopted on a statewide basis.

Mahalo for this opportunity to comment,

Diane Ware

Volcano HI 96785

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 12:41:35 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Caroline Kunitake	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support HB243

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 6:44:00 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniela Escontrela	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB243 gives residents access to clean, affordable energy, helping people save money on their monthly bills at a time when so many are struggling, and at the same time helping to save the planet from climate-destroying greenhouse gases. This is an important step to help Hawaii meet its climate goals, reduce costs for residents, and become more resilient.

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 6:50:52 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karin Hoida	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mahalo for your consideration and honest intentions to act in the best interest of our keiki and the many generations to come. We put our trust in you in this position of power, and are grateful for your dedication to serve now, more than ever.

We hope you will make the decisions you know are right, even if your own long term job security in this temporary but most honorable position of service is jeopardized for doing so.

We have elected you to do your part to support positive changes in our community - even if you know they may be painful to implement at first.

Please help move us away from expensive and harmful petroleum as quickly as possible and support this bill and others like it to make solar energy more accessible to everyone.

Requiring “solar-ready” roofs and some “EV-ready” parking are low-cost measures that expand access to solar panels and chargers for electric vehicles (EVs), and unlock big additional savings that residents can get by installing these technologies. Without a doubt, the cost of retrofitting buildings and parking infrastructure for EVs is far higher than designing it from the start.

HB243 gives residents access to clean, affordable energy, helping people save money on their monthly bills at a time when so many are struggling, and at the same time helping to save the planet from climate-destroying greenhouse gases. This is an important step to help Hawaii meet its climate goals, reduce costs for residents, and become more resilient.

The city and county of Honolulu smartly enacted a measure to require solar conduit and electrical panel readiness for new construction, and a measure to require electric vehicle readiness when an electrical panel and parking area are installed. By doing so, these actions helped lower the energy costs and carbon footprint of new homes, a big win-win for residents in the city and county of Honolulu. However, **families from communities from all counties across the state deserve to be afforded these same benefits**, and thus these same actions should be adopted on a statewide basis.

Mahalo nui loa!

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 8:20:22 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Durazzo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Requiring “solar-ready” roofs and some “EV-ready” parking are low-cost measures that expand access to solar panels and chargers for electric vehicles (EVs). This ultimately lowers the cost barrier for all residents to later install these technologies. Without a doubt, the cost of retrofitting buildings and parking infrastructure for EVs is far higher than designing it from the start.

Passed in 2018, HRS 225P-5 states Hawai'i shall sequester more atmospheric carbon and greenhouse gases than emitted within the State as quickly as practicable, but no later than 2045. Given the timeline to achieve that goal, HB243 needs to be passed now to significantly increase renewable energy sources and greater adoption of electric vehicles. A study commissioned by Hawaiian Electric in 2023 found that aggressive action must be taken now as energy demand is expected to double by 2045.

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 8:26:49 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Zaden Jay Brub	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The use of renewable energy is needed if we want our children and grandchildren to live in a world without fear of rising sea level and global warming.

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 10:34:21 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello,

*I am writing in **STRONG SUPPORT** [HB243](#)*

[HB243](#) requires solar conduit and electrical panel readiness for new residential construction offered for sale at fair market value and electric vehicle readiness when an electrical panel and parking area are installed.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT? The installation of solar and EV charger - ready infrastructure is a means to accelerate the decarbonization of our economy as it enables homeowners to adopt renewable energy solutions.

-- Requiring “solar-ready” roofs and some “EV-ready” parking are low-cost measures that expand access to solar panels and chargers for electric vehicles (EVs), and unlock big additional savings that residents can get by installing these technologies. Without a doubt, the cost of retrofitting buildings and parking infrastructure for EVs is far higher than designing it from the start.

-- HB243 gives residents access to clean, affordable energy, helping people save money on their monthly bills at a time when so many are struggling, and at the same time helping to save the planet from climate-destroying greenhouse gases. This is an important step to help Hawaii meet its climate goals, reduce costs for residents, and become more resilient.

-- The city and county of Honolulu smartly enacted a measure to require solar conduit and electrical panel readiness for new construction, and a measure to require electric vehicle readiness when an electrical panel and parking area are installed. By doing so, these actions helped lower the energy costs and carbon footprint of new homes, a big win-win for residents in the city and county of Honolulu. However, **families from communities from all counties across the state deserve to be afforded these same benefits**, and thus these same actions should be adopted on a statewide basis.

me ke aloha ‘āina,

Nanea Lo

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 11:02:33 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keith Neal	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Perruso, and Members of the Committee,

I strongly support of HB243.

Hawaii's isolation and remoteness necessitates we use resources wisely. Provisioning new residential construction to be EV and PV ready makes sense for a structure that will stand for decades.

Keith Neal

Waimea

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 11:21:45 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Glenn Choy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill

HB-243

Submitted on: 1/27/2025 3:00:28 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/28/2025 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maureen Brock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of HB243.