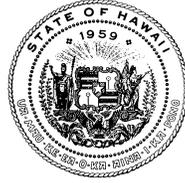


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII'



KENNETH S. FINK, M.D., M.G.A., M.P.H.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH
KA LUNA HO'ŌKELE

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
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WRITTEN
TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony in SUPPORT of SB0103 SD1
RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLE BATTERIES**

SENATOR DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

February 27, 2025, 10:30 AM, Room Number: 211

1 **Fiscal Implications:** N/A.

2 **Department Position:** The Department of Health (Department) supports this measure and
3 offers comments.

4 **Department Testimony:** The Environmental Management Division, Solid and Hazardous Waste
5 Branch (EMD-SHWB) provides the following testimony on behalf of the Department.

6 The Department supports this measure, which establishes an electric vehicle (EV)
7 battery recycling and reuse working group in the Hawai'i State Energy Office. The Department
8 agrees that it is prudent to gather more information about the current options for end-of-life
9 EV batteries and develop policy to encourage proper recycling and disposal, as this waste
10 stream will increase in the future. The Department defers to the Hawai'i State Energy Office on
11 any specific recommendations relating to the working group's structure, purpose, and financing
12 and looks forward to participating as co-chair.

13 **Offered Amendments:** None.

14 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

C. Kimo Alameda, Ph.D.
Mayor

William V. Brillhante, Jr.
Managing Director



Wesley R. Segawa
Director

Craig Kawaguchi
Deputy Director

County of Hawai'i

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

345 Kekūānāo'a Street, Suite 41 · Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 · cohdem@hawaiicounty.gov

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February 18, 2025

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Sen. Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Sen. Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair

Re: Testimony in Support of Senate Bill (SB) 103 Relating to Electric Vehicle Batteries, which establishes the Hawai'i State Energy Office's Electric Vehicle Battery Recycling and Reuse Working Group.

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki and Committee Members,

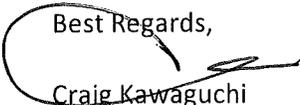
The County of Hawai'i Department of Environmental Management is pleased to submit testimony in **support of Senate Bill 103 with comments**, which will establish a Hawai'i State Energy Office Electric Vehicle Battery Recycling & Reuse working group to examine EV battery management practices.

As a result of the increased popularity of electric and hybrid vehicles a plan (e.g., extended producer responsibility system) for the reuse, recycling or disposal of vehicle propulsion batteries is long overdue. The County of Hawai'i does not have the resources to manage this emerging waste stream and believes that producers have the expertise and incentive to reuse or recycle their batteries in an environmentally sound manner.

The County offers the following comments on the bill to improve clarity. Hybrid vehicles with batteries should also be included in the bill. A representative from each County's environmental management department should be included in the working group.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best Regards,


Craig Kawaguchi
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

cc: Mayor Kimo Alameda
Gene Quiamas, Acting Hawai'i County Solid Waste Division Chief
Tanya Buckley, Acting Hawai'i County Recycling Coordinator



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

February 27, 2025

10:30 AM

Conference Room 211

In **SUPPORT** of **SB103 SD1**: Relating to Electric Vehicle Batteries

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of our over 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i **SUPPORTS** SB103 SD1, which will help to address the growing waste stream concerns associated with lithium ion batteries used in electric vehicles.

Our islands' failure to account for our continuous production of solid waste, and the externalized costs of our consumption-based economy, have resulted in significant and ever-growing impacts to our environment, our public health, and overall quality of life. Leachates from our landfills threaten to contaminate our water resources and nearshore areas; toxic emissions and ash from O'ahu's waste-to-energy facility have raised the risks of lung and heart disease, neurological complications, reproductive issues, and cancer in nearby, largely Native Hawaiian communities; and our limited land areas and our sensitive environments and groundwater sources severely limit the space we have available to receive and store our waste byproducts.

Unfortunately, while electric vehicles are helping to reduce our dependency on fossil fuels and further our progress towards a net negative carbon footprint by 2045, the lithium ion batteries that power them may exacerbate our solid waste conundrum. Notably, the storage, transportation, and disposition of such batteries present unique waste management challenges, particularly given the potential for fires and toxic chemical releases, the limited options for affordably off-shipping used and damaged batteries, and the lack of any proper lithium battery processing much less recycling facilities in our islands. As more and more electric vehicles are imported, these unique challenges will only increase over time.

Accordingly, the Sierra Club supports this measure's efforts to begin the process of researching and planning for the management of electric vehicle batteries entering our waste stream, including through potential battery recycling and reuse. Not only may this head off a looming hazardous waste crisis, but innovative strategies for recycling and reuse could also result in educational opportunities and economic benefits for local residents and businesses.

Accordingly, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i respectfully urges the Committee to **PASS** SB103 SD1. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.

Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association

hawaiiev.org
noel@hawaiieva.com



February 23, 2025

SUPPORT FOR SB103 SD1 (RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLE BATTERIES)

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Moriwaki, and members of the Committee,

My name is Noel Morin. I am submitting testimony on behalf of Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association (Hawaii EV) in STRONG SUPPORT of SB103 SD1, which *Establishes a two-year Electric Vehicle Battery Recycling and Reuse Working Group within the Hawai'i State Energy Office. Requires the working group to examine how to maximize the recycling and reuse of electric vehicle batteries and recommend electric vehicle battery management practices.*

As the number of EVs on our roads continues to grow, it will be critical that we establish clear pathways to maximize the value of EV batteries and unlock economic benefits that exist in upcycling and recycling.

Batteries are valuable even after they are no longer of use in EVs – they may have 70-80% of their useful capacity. At this stage of their lifecycle, they can be repurposed as stationary batteries, which is already being done in other markets. These stationary batteries can be used to store energy in commercial and residential applications.

Of course, once fully depleted, these batteries must be recycled as they contain valuable minerals that can be repurposed to create new batteries. 'Mining' minerals already concentrated in depleted batteries is many times better economically and environmentally than virgin mineral mining.

SB103 SD1 is a critical step toward establishing an effective EV battery upcycling and recycling framework. The proposed working group will help Hawaii establish a best practice for this framework, ensure coordination with various stakeholders throughout the battery lifecycle (local and offshore), and ensure that we establish a process that prioritizes economic viability and environmental sustainability.

Hawaii EV urges the committee to pass SB103 SD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

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.



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Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Committee on Ways and Means

RE: SB 103 SD1 - Relating to Electric Vehicle Batteries – In Support
February 27, 2025; 10:30 AM
Conference room 211 & Videoconference

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki and members of the committee:

Servco appreciates this opportunity to offer testimony in support of SB 103 SD1, which establishes a two-year Electric Vehicle Battery Recycling and Reuse Working Group within the Hawaii State Energy Office to examine how to maximize the recycling and reuse of electric vehicle batteries and recommend electric vehicle battery management practices.

As the exclusive distributor for Lexus, Toyota, and Subaru in Hawaii, Servco has a strong presence in both sales and service aspects of the automotive industry in the state. Our experience in Japan and Australia also supports the adoption and efficient use of alternative fuel vehicles through consumer education and services.

Given the rapid adoption of EVs and the eventual end-of-life cycle of batteries, establishing a working group is appropriate. Servco would be interested in participating and sharing insights on management, regulation, and recommendations for developing a recycling and reuse framework for EV batteries.

This initiative aligns with Hawaii's efforts to address the growing need for proper EV battery management. As the number of EVs on Hawaii's roads increases, establishing clear pathways for maximizing the value of EV batteries and unlocking economic benefits through upcycling and recycling becomes critical. The working group will help Hawaii establish best practices, ensure coordination with various stakeholders, and prioritize economic viability and environmental sustainability in the EV battery lifecycle management process.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support.

Peter Dames
President & CEO



SanHi

GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES

A LIMITED LIABILITY LAW PARTNERSHIP

DATE: February 25, 2025

TO: Senator Donovan Dela Cruz
Chair, Committee on Ways and Means

Senator Sharon Moriwaki
Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means

Submitted Via Capitol Website

FROM: Tiffany Yajima

RE: **S.B. 103, S.D.1 – Relating to Electric Vehicle Batteries**

Decision Making Hearing Date: Thursday, February 27, 2025 at 10:30 a.m.
Conference Room: 211

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means,

On behalf of the Alliance for Automotive Innovation (“Auto Innovators”) we submit this testimony in **support** of S.B. 103, S.D.1, Relating to Electric Vehicle Batteries, which establishes a two-year working group to study how to maximize the recycling and reuse of electric vehicle batteries. This measure also tasks the group to make recommendations on electric vehicle battery management practices with a report to the legislature before the 2027 legislative session.

The Alliance for Automotive Innovation is the singular, authoritative and respected voice of the automotive industry. Focused on creating a safe and transformative path for sustainable industry growth, the Alliance for Automotive Innovation represents the manufacturers producing nearly 99 percent of cars and light trucks sold in the U.S. Members include motor vehicle manufacturers, original equipment suppliers, technology, and other automotive-related companies and trade associations.

As the representative of both the makers of electric vehicles and electric vehicle batteries, Auto Innovators is willing to and interested in serving as a resource to the state on this working group.

Currently, in the life cycle of a battery, when an EV battery begins to show signs of failure, these battery modules or packs can first be refurbished to as good or better quality and performance levels through the replacement of worn or

deteriorated components which can be re-certified to OEM specifications. If a battery module or pack cannot be reused, these batteries and components can also be refurbished on the secondary market to fulfill a different use from what was originally intended. At the end of the life of a battery, EV batteries can be processed to recover the maximum amount of raw materials for reuse in similar or alternative industries.

For vehicles that have reached their end-of-life and that are unwanted without parts removed by a dismantler, Automakers have adopted a “Full Vehicle Backstop” program. The Full Vehicle Backstop program covers the whole electric vehicle and not just the battery. Under the program, the vehicle manufacturer is responsible to accept the vehicle and ensure that it is properly dismantled and the lithium-ion battery is properly reused, refurbished, or recycled.

As we continue the shift to an electric vehicle future, Auto Innovators is interested in supporting this working group to provide input on EV battery management practices.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

SB-103-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 4:43:34 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/27/2025 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Claire Cea	Testifying for Mr. K's Recycle & Redemption Center Inc.	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mr. K's is in strong support of SB103. Although we have not received an abundance of EV batteries for recycling yet, we know that it is eminent that it will be a more requested service in the future. As an e-waste recycler, Mr. K's is willing to offer any insight or help to construct a future plan for the handling of these batteries.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



February 27, 2025

Tony Belot

91-56 Hanua Street

Kapolei, HI 96707

abelot@rdus.com

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Sharon Moriwaki, Vice Chair, Committee on Ways and Means

RE: SB 103 SD1, Relating to Electric Vehicle Batteries

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and members of the committee,

Radius Recycling (formerly Schnitzer Steel Industries), is a world leader in sustainable and environmentally responsible recycling. The Company was listed as one of TIME's 100 Most Influential Companies of 2023, recognized as the Most Sustainable Company in the World by Corporate Knights in 2025, and has been honored by Ethisphere as one of the World's Most Ethical Companies® for ten consecutive years.

SB 103 SD1 recognizes the need for Hawai'i to maximize the recycling and reuse of electric vehicle batteries and establishes a working group to recommend electric vehicle battery management practices. An important goal for the state is to preserve our local environment while concurrently optimally utilizing resources through recycling.

As our organization routinely encounters these batteries in our recycling stream, we strongly support the inclusion of at least one or more representatives from the automotive recycling industry. Such a representative will, we believe, contribute a significant and valuable viewpoint, grounded in practical experience, concerning the safe, environmentally responsible, and efficient handling of end-of-life electric vehicles.

Radius Recycling is deeply appreciative of the intent of this measure to assure that there is proper recycling and disposal of EV batteries. We look forward to serving as a resource to policymakers on EV recycling.

Sincerely,

Tony Belot, Government and Public Affairs Manager, Radius Recycling

SB-103-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 9:36:29 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/27/2025 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
chris c.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

An Extended Producer Responsibility law for electric and hybrid vehicle batteries is long overdue. Manufacturers and consumers have benefitted from these increasingly popular products but have attempted to externalize their battery disposal costs onto County taxpayers. Two years for a study group is too long.

SB-103-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/22/2025 10:42:19 AM

Testimony for WAM on 2/27/2025 10:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support SB103, as a state policy to direct the recycling of EV batteries is urgently needed. However, this bill would be much improved by adding some funding to cover at least one staff member to do the needed research and coordinate meetings.

SB-103-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2025 5:16:56 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/27/2025 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jacob Wiencek	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee Members,

I am glad to see this bill continue through the legislative process. The widespread proliferation of electric vehicles is a major public policy win for a cleaner environment and economy. However, we need to do better ensuring we properly handle and recycle the batteries of these vehicles. I believe this bill helps us accomplish that goal.

I urge the Committee to SUPPORT this bill!