JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR

> SYLVIA LUKE LT. GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION 465 S. KING STREET, #103 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 LEODOLOFF R. ASUNCION, JR. CHAIR

> NAOMI U. KUWAYE COMMISSIONER

COLIN A. YOST COMMISSIONER

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Testimony of the Public Utilities Commission

To the Senate Committees on Energy & Intergovernmental Affairs and Transportation & Culture and the Arts

> Tuesday, February 11, 2025 3:00 p.m.

Chairs Wakai and Lee, Vice Chairs Chang and Inouye , and Members of the Committees:

Measure:S.B. No. 1088Title:RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE.

Position:

The Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") supports this measure and offers the following comments for consideration.

Comments:

The Commission supports this measure to increase access to Electrical Vehicle ("EV") charging infrastructure in new construction of affordable housing.

The Commission currently manages the Electric Vehicle Charging System ("EVCS") Rebate Program in consultation with EV stakeholders and in cooperation with the program's administrator, Hawaii Energy. The program directly supports the state's decarbonization goals and provide benefits to Hawaii's residents and businesses. This measure would support meaningful expansion to the program.

Equity is a high priority for the Commission, and we support the provisions of this measure to increase EV charging access for low-income communities. The Commission has worked with EV stakeholders to begin identifying communities that are underserved by EV charging infrastructure and may further explore equity measures related to transportation electrification in the Energy Equity proceeding, Docket No. 2022-0250. The Commission also notes that Hawaii Energy has partnered with Ulupono Initiative to offer a bonus rebate for the installation of Level 2 EVCS at affordable housing projects. The

S.B. No. 1088 Page 2

Commission supports the language of the measure that allows entities to simultaneously claim a rebate for a charging system as well as for an EV-ready parking stall. This will help to ensure that EV-ready stalls are actually furnished with charging systems, while also ensuring Hawaii's low and moderate-income residents have equitable access to electrification of transportation resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR

> SYLVIA LUKE LT. GOVERNOR

MARK B. GLICK CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

(808) 451-6648 energy.hawaii.gov

Telephone:

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HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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

> Testimony of MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the SENATE COMMITTEES ON ENERGY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS & TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 3:00 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 224 and Videoconference

In Support of SB 1088

RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE.

Chairs Wakai and Lee, Vice Chairs Chang and Inouye, and Members of the Committees, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) support SB1088 which provides rebates for the installation of eligible electric vehicle-ready parking stalls for new construction of affordable housing.

To meet Hawai'i's decarbonization goals, significant emissions reductions from ground transportation are required by 2030 to place the state on a trajectory toward achieving a net-negative carbon economy by 2045. HSEO's *Hawai'i Pathways to Decarbonization* report,¹ submitted to the Legislature in December 2023 pursuant to Act 238 (2022), emphasizes the transition to Zero-Emission Vehicles (ZEV) as a key strategy to reducing emissions in ground transportation. Expanding access to reliable electric vehicle (EV) charging, particularly for residents of multi-unit dwellings and affordable housing, is an essential component of this strategy.

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

Currently, Hawai'i has approximately 47 registered EVs per public charging port statewide,² the second worst ratio in the nation. This marks a decline from the previous year, when Hawai'i ranked third worst with 38 EVs per charging port.³ While EV adoption continues to grow, the expansion of charging infrastructure has not kept pace—widening the gap by roughly 24% year over year. This lag in charging availability risks slowing the potential growth of EV adoption, particularly among residents without reliable access to home charging. Without expanded access to charging, particularly in underserved communities, achieving equitable EV adoption will remain challenging.

SB 1088 directly addresses this challenge by incentivizing EV-ready parking stalls in affordable housing developments. This measure ensures that low- and moderate-income communities, who are often the most affected by transportation costs and environmental burdens, can participate in and benefit from the state's transition to a cleaner transportation system.

All three mitigation scenarios in the *Hawai'i Pathways to Decarbonization* report assume Hawai'i will achieve 100% ZEV light-duty vehicle sales by 2035, with 21% of registered light-duty passenger vehicles needing to be ZEVs by 2030. Achieving these goals requires policies that remove barriers to EV adoption, including access to charging infrastructure for residents in affordable housing. The HSEO supports SB 1088 as long as its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities indicated in the Executive Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

² Alliance for Automotive Innovation: Get Connected Electric Vehicle Quarterly Report, Third Quarter 2024

³ Alliance for Automotive Innovation: Get Connected Electric Vehicle Quarterly Report, Third Quarter 2023

OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

NALANI BRUN, DIRECTOR



DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR REIKO MATSUYAMA, MANAGING DIRECTOR

Testimony of Christina Kaser Energy Coordinator, Office of Economic Development

Before the Senate Committees on Transportation and Culture and the Arts and Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs February 11, 2025; 3:00 p.m. Conference Room 3 Via Videoconference

In consideration of Senate Bill 1088 Relating to Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

Honorable Chair Lee, Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committees:

The County of Kaua'i is in **support** of Senate Bill 1088, which provides rebates for the installation of eligible electric vehicle-ready parking stalls for new construction of affordable housing.

The County of Kaua'i values Hawaii Energy's existing rebate program and has demonstrated its effect to stimulate electric vehicle charging adoption.

In 2021, the Kaua'i County Council passed a bill requiring new construction and major renovations of multi-family sites, including affordable housing, to include EV Ready for fifteen percent of parking stalls. Given that Kaua'i County already has requirements for EV-ready for our affordable housing projects, we support a targeted financial incentive to reduce the burden on the cost to developers. We also acknowledge that if we are advocating for increased electrification, it is especially important to build out infrastructure during construction to position property managers to more easily install chargers. This will allow people of any income bracket to be in a better position to adopt electric vehicles, whether it happens immediately or sometime in the future.

A rebate made specifically for affordable housing will support more equitable electrification of transportation across the state. Often, a barrier to electric vehicle charging adoption is not necessarily the purchase of the charger itself, but in the high costs associated with the charging infrastructure. *'EV Ready'* construction is one of the most cost-effective strategies for expanding EVSE installations, exhibiting substantial savings as opposed to installing infrastructure post-construction. Not only is it more affordable to install EV ready during construction compared to retrofitting, but it also reduces the risk of a potential burden for higher costs to fall on residents down the line if housing projects eventually install EV chargers. By taking this action, the legislature can leverage valuable state funding to accelerate EVSE installations state-wide.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of Senate Bill 1088.



TESTIMONY BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS & ENERGY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

SB 1088 Relating to Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

> Tuesday, February 11, 2025 3:00 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 224

Timur Tufail Commercial Strategy & Innovation Manager Electrification of Transportation Hawaiian Electric

Dear Chairs Lee and Wakai, Vice Chairs Inouye and Chang, and Members of the Committees,

My name is Timur Tufail and I am testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Electric in support of SB 1088, which provides rebates for the installation of eligible electric vehicle- ready parking stalls for new construction of affordable housing.

Hawaiian Electric recognizes that the transition to electric vehicles (EV) is a critical component of the State's efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve our renewable energy goals, especially to achieve the 2030 goal of reducing carbon emissions by 50% from 2005 levels. The 2024 Report to the Hawaii State Legislature, "Hawaii Pathways to Decarbonization," forecasts scenarios where all light-duty vehicle sales are zero-emission vehicles by 2035. However, limited availability of EV charging infrastructure, particularly for residents of apartment buildings, presents a significant barrier to widespread EV adoption. By providing rebates for the installation of

EV-ready parking stalls in new affordable housing construction, this bill ensures that all residents, regardless of income level, can access the benefits of EV ownership. This measure promotes environmental sustainability while also fostering equity by making clean transportation options available to low-income families.

SB 1088 will also alleviate the financial burden on affordable housing developers to include EV charging infrastructure in their plans for new construction with the additional benefit of avoiding higher costs associated with retrofitting existing parking spaces.¹

Accordingly, Hawaiian Electric supports SB 1088. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

¹ See page 71 of the EoT Strategic Roadmap 2.0 at <u>https://www.hawaiianelectric.com/documents/products_and_services/electric_vehicles/electrification_of_tr</u> ansportation_roadmap/20240531_eot_roadmap_2.pdf



Email: <u>communications@ulupono.com</u>

SENATE COMMITTEES ON TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS & ENERGY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS Tuesday, February 11, 2025 — 3:00 p.m.

Ulupono Initiative <u>supports</u> SB 1088, Relating to Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure.

Dear Chair Lee, Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committees:

My name is Mariah Yoshizu, and I am the Government Affairs Associate 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, clean transportation choices, and better management of freshwater resources.

Ulupono <u>supports</u> **SB 1088**, which provides rebates for the installation of eligible electric vehicle-ready parking stalls for new construction of affordable housing.

Ulupono supports Hawai'i's reduction of fossil fuel use as we strive to meet the State's 100% renewable energy goal and its carbon net neutral goal by 2045. The current Electric Vehicle Charging System Rebate Program has been a critical catalyst to infrastructure development within the State.

In December 2023, the Hawai'i State Energy Office specifically recommended that we needed to "[p]ursue incentives for and streamline permitting for public EV charging infrastructure[,]"to meet our climate goals and exceed the current projected reductions of 54%.¹

Ulupono is very supportive of policies and programs that can accelerate the state's transition to greater electric vehicle (EV) adoption, especially ones that increase access to EV charging for low- to moderate-income households. The lack of access to charging is one of the top barriers to EV adoption.² This clearly plays out here since 80% of Hawai'i EV drivers predominantly charge at home.³ However, more than 40% of Hawai'i residents live in multi-family unit housing and likely lack convenient home charging options.⁴

² <u>https://www.osti.gov/biblio/1854730</u>

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i

¹ <u>https://energy.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Act-238 HSEO Decarbonization Report.pdf</u>

³ https://www.ulupono.com/media/xj4cayeh/the-extra-mile-why-electric-vehicles-make-sense-for-hawaii-economy-environment-andcommunities.pdf

⁴ https://dbedt.hawaii.gov/hhfdc/files/2017/03/Inventory-Report-2016.pdf



Significant impact has been made from the rebate program with more than \$1.3 million expended so far to help install almost 300 charging stations, including those at affordable housing developments.⁵ Continued support is still needed as we increase our dependence of charging infrastructure to transition the economy away from fossil fuel-based mobility. We are supportive of the on-going attempt to serve low- and moderate-income communities more effectively, which helps to ensure that all community members stand to benefit from access to EVs.

As Hawai'i's energy issues become increasingly complex and challenging, we appreciate this committee's efforts to look at policies that support the continued implementation of renewable energy resources throughout the islands.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Mariah Yoshizu Government Affairs Associate

⁵ https://hawaiienergy.com/for-business/rebates-for-business/electric-vehicle-charging-stations/



 To: The Senate Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs (EIG) and The Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts (TCA)
From: Sherry Pollack, 350Hawaii.org
Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025, 3pm

In strong support of SB1088

Aloha Chairs Wakai and Lee, Vice Chairs Chang and Inouye, and members of the EIG and TCA committees,

I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii.org is in **strong support of SB1088** that provides rebates for the installation of eligible electric vehicle-ready parking stalls for new construction of affordable housing.

Parking stalls for affordable housing units are not constructed to be electric vehicle ready because of the added cost and because affordable housing is exempted from electric vehicle ready county requirements. But for Hawaii to achieve its sustainable transportation and climate goals, we must electrify ground transportation on our islands as soon as possible. And in a just transition, no one is left behind.

Access to vehicle charging infrastructure presents a barrier and an equity issue for low-income families who are unable to access the savings and other benefits associated with electric vehicle ownership because they lack access to charging infrastructure. Clearly, adequate vehicle charging infrastructure is a MUST for the democratization of transportation. To adopt electric cars, everyone must have access to charging. Providing incentives for electric vehicle ready new construction for affordable housing, as in SB1088, is an effective step to address this important equity issue.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sherry Pollack Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association hawaiiev.org info@hawaiieva.com



February 9, 2025

SUPPORT FOR SB1088 (RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE)

Dear Chairs Lee and Wakai, Vice-Chairs Inouye and Chang, and Committee members,

Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association supports SB1088, which provides rebates for the installation of eligible electric vehicle-ready parking stalls for new construction of affordable housing.

SB1088 incentivizes the installation of EV-ready parking stalls in affordable housing projects. This measure will allow lower-income households and renters to own and operate cost-effective electric vehicles by providing on-site EV charging infrastructure access.

SB1088 facilitates the installation of EV-ready infrastructure during construction.

If passed, SB1088 will help future-proof new housing projects, reduce the overall costs of the required infrastructure, and enable a more equitable adoption of electric vehicles.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely, 10

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.



SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS and ENERGY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

FEBRUARY 11TH, 2025

SB 1088, RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE

POSITION: SUPPORT

Coalition Earth <u>supports</u> SB 1088, relating to electric vehicle charging infrastructure, which provides rebates for the installation of eligible electric vehicle-ready parking stalls for new construction of affordable housing.

According to a report produced by the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission, global sea levels could rise more than three feet by 2100, with more recent projections showing this occurring as early as 2060. In turn, over the next 30 to 70 years, approximately 6,500 structures and 19,800 people statewide will be exposed to chronic flooding. Additionally, an estimated \$19 billion in economic loss would result from chronic flooding of land and structures located in exposure areas. Finally, approximately 38 miles of coastal roads and 550 cultural sites would be chronically flooded, on top of the 13 miles of beaches that have already been lost on Kaua'i, O'ahu, and Maui to erosion fronting shoreline armoring.

As we work to reduce carbon emissions and stave off the worst consequences of climate change, we must begin preparing for the adverse impact of sea level rise on our shores. We are now quantifying the speed at which we must act. We cannot continue to develop the 25,800-acre statewide sea level rise exposure area–one-third of which is designated for urban use–without risking massive structural damage and, potentially, great loss of life.

Just two years ago, we witnessed the impact of the climate emergency on our shores. On August 8, 2023, wildfires swept across Maui and killed at least 100 people, making it one of the nation's deadliest natural disasters. The spread of the fires has been attributed to climate change conditions, such as unusually dry landscapes and the confluence of a strong high-pressure system to the north and Hurricane Dora to the south. The wildfires destroyed over 2,200 structures,

including numerous residential buildings, historic landmarks, and school facilities. In September 2023, a report from the United States Department of Commerce estimated the total economic damage of the wildfires to be roughly \$5.5 billion. Investing in renewable energy generation could not be more urgent, given the growing threat of climate catastrophes to our island home.

Therefore, <u>our state should take steps to accelerate our transition to a clean energy</u> <u>economy and continue our fight against climate change, including by increasing access to</u> <u>electric vehicles and EV-ready charging stations.</u> A growing number of people are adopting electric vehicles in Hawai'i. As of March 2022, there were about 19,000 registered electric vehicles in the state—a 35 percent increase from the prior year—and 24,000 hybrid vehicles. Yet, a lack of sufficient charging infrastructure presents a persistent impediment to expansion, especially for renters or and residents who live in apartment buildings, especially with regard to construction for low- and middle-income families.

We note that according to the National Low-Income Housing Coalition's *Out of Reach* 2023 report, there are 38,606 renter households earning below 30 percent of area median income (21 percent of renter households) in the islands and 66,692 renter households earning below (36 percent of renter households) earning below 50 percent of area median income. This barrier creates an equity issue for low-income families who are unable to access the savings associated with electric vehicle ownership because they lack access to charging infrastructure and the fundamental financial security necessary to pursue clean transportation opportunities.

Coalition Earth is a nongovernmental organization that works to preserve the well-being of people and our planet. We champion policies that advance climate resilience, clean energy, public health, and economic fairness for working families. Contact us at info@coalitionearth.org.



45 North King Street, Suite 500 • Honolulu, Hawai'i 96817 • HawaiiEnergy.com • P: (808) 839-8880 • F: (808) 441-6068

Before the Senate Committees on Transportation and Culture and the Arts, and Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.

Testimony in Support of SB 1088: Relating to Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

Chairs Lee and Wakai, Vice Chairs Inouye and Chang, and Members of the Committees:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of and provide comments on Senate Bill 1088.

Hawai'i Energy works to empower island families and businesses on behalf of the Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to make smart energy choices to reduce energy consumption, save money, and pursue a 100% clean energy future. Energy efficiency – the energy we do not use – is the cheapest option to help us achieve our 100% clean energy goal by eliminating waste and being more efficient.

Hawai'i Energy applauds the legislature's efforts to support the continued impact of electrical vehicle charging station (EVCS) infrastructure on Hawai'i's residents and businesses as an integral component of the State's Clean Energy Initiative, which calls for Hawai'i to achieve 100% clean energy by 2045.

On behalf of the PUC, Hawai'i Energy administers the state-funded EVCS Incentive Program, which was established through Act 75 (2021) and Act 202 (2022) by the Hawai'i State Legislature. We are proud to already be emphasizing EVCS installations for our underserved communities via a bonus incentive for affordable housing developments for AC Level 2 single- and multi-port EV charging stations with network connectivity. The bonus incentive, which is in addition to the state-funded rebate, is \$5,000 per station for existing affordable housing developments, and \$1,500 per station for new affordable housing developments.

Senate Bill 1088 expands the state-funded EVCS Incentive Program to offer rebates to new affordable housing developments to install the power-capacity and wiring necessary to make parking lots "electric vehicle ready." Giving rebates to affordable housing developments that are built as "electric vehicle ready" will only further accelerate our important momentum toward making electric vehicles more affordable to our local families. That, in turn, will only further accelerate Hawai'i's overall pursuit of a 100% clean energy future.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 1088.

Sincerely, Caroline Carl Executive Director Hawai'i Energy



DATE: February 10, 2025

Senator Glenn Wakai Chair, Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs

Senator Chris Lee Chair, Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts

Submitted Via Capitol Website

FROM: Tiffany Yajima

RE:

TO:

S.B. 1088 – Relating to Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Hearing Date: Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. Conference Room: 224

Dear Chair Wakai, Chair Lee and Members of the Joint Committees,

On behalf of the Alliance for Automotive Innovation ("Auto Innovators") we submit this testimony in **support** of S.B. 1088, Relating to Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure, which would provide rebates for the installation of EV-ready parking stalls for new construction of affordable housing.

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.

This measure would broaden the eligibility requirements for the state's EV rebate program to include EV-ready parking stalls in new construction of affordable housing, in addition to the existing rebates for new and existing EV charging systems. Expanding the program to affordable housing development not only

First Hawaiian Center 999 Bishop Street, Suite 1400 Honolulu, HI 96813 incentivizes developers to plan for EV infrastructure but also make electric vehicle adoption more accessible and affordable for consumers. For these reasons, we support this measure and ask you to pass this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

<u>SB-1088</u> Submitted on: 2/6/2025 1:48:50 AM Testimony for EIG on 2/11/2025 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this important bill. Mahalo.

OFFICE OF CLIMATE CHANGE SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY KE KE'ENA LOLI ANIAU MĀLAMA 'ĀINA A ME KE OLA LOA CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

650 SOUTH KING STREET, 11th FLOOR • HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96813 PHONE: (808) 768-2277 • EMAIL: resilientoahu@honolulu.gov • INTERNET: www.resilientoahu.org

RICK BLANGIARDI MAYOR *MEIA*





BENJAMIN SULLIVAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER PO'O HO'OKŌ & KAHU OLA LOA

KEALOHA FOX DEPUTY DIRECTOR & CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER HOPE PO'O & HOPE KAHU OLA LOA

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025, 3:00 P.M.

STATE OF HAWAI'I SENATE COMMITTEES ON ENERGY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1088 RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE

BY,

BENJAMIN SULLIVAN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CHIEF RESILIENCE OFFICER OFFICE OF CLIMATE CHANGE, SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY

Dear Chair Wakai, Chair Lee, and Members of the Committees:

The City and County of Honolulu ("City") Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency ("Resilience Office") **strongly supports** SB1088, which provides rebates for eligible electric vehicle-ready ("EV-ready") parking stalls in new construction of affordable housing.

The Resilience Office recognizes the need for solutions that drive down upfront and long-term costs of living, particularly for low- to- moderate (LMI) residents, and simultaneously reduce greenhouse gas pollution to meet our island's pollution reduction goals. Zero emissions solutions for ground transportation are a key component to achieving our goals; however, as electric vehicle (EV) adoption expands exponentially, the cost of establishing a robust network of EV charging infrastructure remains a barrier.

Preparing our buildings and their residents for EVs at the time of new construction is one of the most cost-effective strategies we can utilize for expanding EV charging networks in Hawai'i. Without this preparation, retrofits can be prohibitively expensive later on when there is increased demand for charging from tenants. The Resilience Office is particularly concerned for the impact of these latent costs on affordable housing projects and their occupants, which are currently exempt from EV-ready requirement provisions of the City's energy conservation code. Incentives, like

Chair Wakai and Chair Lee SB1088 February 11, 2025 Page 2

those provided in SB1088, support long-term savings for LMI residents.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB1088. We look forward to continued discussions on how to provide adequate rebate amounts to help effectively cover the costs of supporting affordable housing in the transition to a clean economy.