



# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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SCOTT J. GLENN  
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Testimony of  
**SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer**

before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, ARTS, & INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS**

Wednesday, February 17, 2021  
10:00 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room Number 329

In SUPPORT of  
**HB627**  
**RELATING TO SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES**

Chair Gates, Vice Chair LoPresti and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) supports HB 627 which authorizes the issuance of special number license plates for the Polynesian Voyaging Society for electric vehicles.

Emissions from ground transportation such as passenger cars, light trucks, motorcycles, and heavy-duty vehicles still account for the largest share of energy sector emissions in the state. As noted in the 2016 Greenhouse Gas Inventory, transportation emissions in Hawaii were at 8.69 million metric tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents, accounting for 51 percent of energy sector emissions. Ground transportation accounted for 47 percent of transportation emissions. For Hawaii to meet its target to sequester more greenhouse gases than we emit as soon as practicable but no later than 2045 (Hawaii Revised Statutes, Section 201-12.8 Energy Security Special Fund), programs that encourage the adoption of cleaner transportation options are extremely important.

Increased adoption of electric vehicles aligns with the state's clean energy goals, supports the HSEO's efforts to decarbonize the transportation sector, and reflects the Polynesian Voyaging Society's core value of mālama honua, to care for our Island Earth. The license plate would commemorate the proud history of the Polynesian Voyaging Society and allowing it to serve as a fundraiser would perpetuate the mission of the Polynesian Voyaging Society and advance Hawaii's clean energy goals.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**Hawai'i  
Arts  
Alliance**



*Affiliated with the  
Wolf Trap Institute for Early  
Childhood Arts Integration*

*State Captain –  
Americans for the Arts*

*Member of State Arts  
Advocacy Network*

February 12, 21

Rep. Gates, Chair  
House Committee on Culture, Art, and International Affairs

Re: Support for HB627 RELATING TO SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES

Dear Chair Gates and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on HB627. The Hawaii Arts Alliance SUPPORTS HB627.

As a nonprofit with a special license plate that honors the ARTS, the Hawai'i Arts Alliance supports the effort to have a license plate for electric vehicles that recognizes the importance of the Polynesian Voyaging Society and Hōkūle'a's contribution to environmental awareness globally. It is appropriate that PVS should be featured on a license plate for electric vehicles that will support more sustainable energy in the 21st century.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony,

Teri Skillman  
Executive Director

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**HB-627**

Submitted on: 2/12/2021 1:30:59 PM

Testimony for CAI on 2/17/2021 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ann Botticelli	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gates, Vice Chair LoPresti and members of the House Committee on Culture and the Arts,

My name is Ann Botticelli and I am a volunteer member of the Polynesian Voyaging Society's Board of Directors. First of all, please accept our gratitude for advancing HB627, which would allow us to create and sell commemorative PVS license plates for electric vehicles as a fundraising source for our organization.

PVS is entirely dependent on fundraising, grants and the incredible support of hundreds of volunteers. Our mission is to perpetuate the art and science of traditional Polynesian voyaging and the spirit of exploration through programs that inspire students and their communities to respect and care for themselves, each other and their natural and cultural environments.

The Malama Honua Worldwide Voyage included more than 360 ports and 18 nations. Our next journey, Moananuiakea – A Voyage Around the Pacific, which we plan to launch in 2022, will be a true beacon of hope and revitalization.

An August 2019 article in the Honolulu Star-Advertiser stated that at that time there were close to 10,000 electric vehicles in Hawai'i. We have every expectation that this number has grown and will continue to increase. Allowing those vehicles to carry a PVS commemorative license plate would both honor and financially support the history of voyaging and navigation that PVS represents.

I humbly request that your committee approve this measure.

**HB-627**

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 11:41:34 AM

Testimony for CAI on 2/17/2021 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Janice H Taketa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The Hokule'a is an important part of Hawaiian culture and history. It deserves all the financial and commercial support it can receive.

**HB-627**

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 12:17:45 PM

Testimony for CAI on 2/17/2021 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Adrian Kamali'i	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Gates and Vice Chair LoPresti -

I am submitting testimony in strong support. HÅ• kÅ«le'a is a glowing representation around the world of Hawai'i and the ingenuity of centuries of indigenous knowledge. This is an opportunity to show support for the many lives and hands that have sustained HÅ• kÅ«le'a's vision and mission since the 1970s.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support.

**HB-627**

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 5:12:40 PM

Testimony for CAI on 2/17/2021 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jeannine Johnson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support HB627 and PVS. Mahalo!

**HB-627**

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 5:22:20 PM

Testimony for CAI on 2/17/2021 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Pamela K. Omidyar	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

I support this bill wholeheartedly.

Most sincerely, Pam Omidyar, Hawaii resident

**HB-627**

Submitted on: 2/15/2021 9:04:41 PM

Testimony for CAI on 2/17/2021 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Marian Heidel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I have been enthralled with the building of the Hokuleia canoe and the journey conceived of and carried out by the Polynesian Voyaging Society. I followed their journey for the three years. I am so proud of the Hawaiians and their love of their culture, and the message of malama of our earth.

PVS operates entirely on donated funds and grants. This measure would provide source of dedicated income which would be very helpful to the operation.

The license plate would commemorate the proud history of Polynesian Voyaging in Hawai'i. Allowing it to serve as a fundraiser would perpetuate the mission of the PVS.

Sincerely, Marian Heidel, Kailua, Oahu



**HB-627**

Submitted on: 2/16/2021 9:07:38 AM

Testimony for CAI on 2/17/2021 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ernell Kamalu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am in support of the PV license plate as the organization strongly supports a cleaner environment and advocates to protect and educate others on the importance of keeping our 'aina clean. This license will help in supporting their efforts as a visible reminder as well as funding to support the efforts.

Mahalo

Ernell Kamalu

**HB-627**

Submitted on: 2/16/2021 12:31:59 PM

Testimony for CAI on 2/17/2021 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ryan Scott Gorrell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As the owner of an electric vehicle, I would like to be able to support the Polynesian Voyaging Society via a specialty license plate for my car. Mahalo.

**HB-627**

Submitted on: 2/16/2021 1:31:12 PM

Testimony for CAI on 2/17/2021 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Valerie Moore	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Polynesian Voyaging Society is a critical education component of Hawaii. As a must find creative and effective way to raise funds and continue their mission to Hawaii's keiki and population. PVS operates entirely on donated funds and grant measure would provide source of dedicated income which would be very helpful operation.

The license plate would commemorate the proud history of Polynesian Voyaging Hawai'i. Allowing it to serve as a fundraiser would perpetuate the mission of the