♥ NEIL ABERCROMBIE GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION **869 PUNCHBOWL STREET** HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 4, 2013 10:00 a.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 309

#### H.B. 687 **RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES**

House Committee on Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) opposes HB 687 as it is not necessary. The State Fire Council (SFC), which is comprised of the fire chiefs of each county are aware of this issue. In addition, although the DOT agrees with the objectives of HB 687 to provide additional emergency response training relating to electric vehicles, we have the following concerns:

- 1. The DOT does not have the appropriate abilities and resources to develop a training program and conduct a safety study relating to emergency response involving electric vehicles; and
- 2. There are existing resources available to educate emergency responders in addressing emergency situations involving electric vehicles. For example, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)'s Electric Vehicle Safety Training project is a nationwide program to help firefighters and other first responders prepare for the growing number of electric vehicles on the road in the United States. NFPA's online resources including research, articles, newsletters, interim guidance, and videos.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



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Testimony of GLENN M. OKIMOTO DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors

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#### HADA testimony in SUPPORT (With Comments) of HB 687

Relating to Electric Vehicles

Presented to the House Committee on Transportation at the hearing 10 a.m. Monday, February 4, 2013 in Room 309 at the Hawaii State Capitol

by the members of the Hawaii Automobile Dealers Association Hawaii's franchised new car dealers

Chair Yamane, Vice Chair Ichiyama, and members of the committee:

HADA supports HB 687 which will assist in developing first and second responder training relating to safety issues surrounding the safe handling of electric vehicles.

J.D. Powers reports that there will be 13 electric vehicle models in production this year, and even estimates as many as 61 EV models by 2016, as the Corporate Average Fuel Economy standards provide additional credits to automakers for producing these vehicles which will help reduce the use of fossil fuels in the transportation sector.

Hawaii has taken a leading role in the introduction of EVs. (Please see the attached EV adoption chart-showing adoption needed to meet the goals of the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative).

Some 600 EVs have been registered in Hawaii in the past two years, and DBEDT estimates that the number of EVs in the state may now be approaching 1,000.

The electric vehicle has elements which require special handling in servicing and dealerships have been trained in the procedures.

Our association is working with Professor John Frala, of Rio Hondo Community College in California, who has trained over 7,000 first responders in California. We are developing a first responder course using some of the federal grant monies received through America's Reinvest and Recovery Act funds.

The association welcomes the opportunity to work with the State in developing this muchneeded training.

HADA supports HB 687 and offers to work with State of Hawaii officials in coordinating a first responder EV training program for the State of Hawaii.

Respectfully submitted,

David H. Rolf, executive director, HADA, PH: 808 593-0031 email: drolf@hawaiidealer.com



The meaning of the APEC2011HAWAI'I mural: In the center stands the iconic image of Diamond Head and rising majestically into the blue sky, the statue of a visionary great Hawaiian leader extending his arm saying to all...behold. While nearby, the statue of a world-famous priest --now a saint-- represents a focus on service to others. Surrounding it all is Hawaii's extraordinary beauty; its abundance of natural resources being harnessed for the production of clean energy; its depths-of-the-sea-to-the-top-of-the-mountain topography that contrasts use of cold-water technology from the nearby, off-shore, ocean depths with mountaintop gazes into the far reaches of a star-filled universe; a defense industry that uses clean-energy-fueled jet aircraft and ships powered by Hawaii's emerging algae-based fuel operations; electric cars powered, in part, by the isles abundant wind, wave, sun, ocean-thermal and geo-thermal and bio-energy resources. Near the center of the exhibit, a palace, which, in the latter part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, was home to the world's first monarchs to circumnavigate the globe. The travel and lodging industry, represented by the hotels lining Waikiki Beach show the convenient access to what many consider to be the world's most famous beach--one of the more than 400 beautiful beaches in our island state. The Isamu Noguchi sculpture, Sky gate, has become a metaphorical representation—through its three supporting legs—of how APEC governments, businesses and customers come together here in Hawaii to embrace new ideas and technology. And the sculpture on the far right completes the message that all works together to pass on this beautiful world and the new business found here to the next generation.

The central theme communicated is "HAWAII IS A SPECIAL PLACE TO DO BUSINESS, and a BIG place to do business." World-wide capital investments in clean energy alone will need to amount to \$30 billion as Hawaii reaches to attain its world leader role in this key area. Capital investments in new business throughout the islands are what one may call majestic and visionary. The meaning of the mural and the accompanying four-pillar messages is that Hawaii is a fertile bed for great business ideas.













### A Lahaina Noon news conference at Skygate highlighted the Hawaii auto industry's unique position in the world

he association chose to use a piece of well-known public art and a unique solar phenomenon to illustrate a point. Hawaii's position in the world is unique with regard to having the widest variety of available resources to produce renewable energy (particularly electric energy) for cars.

Last year, a call from a Honolulu Star-Advertiser reporter asking for comments about the incoming electric cars came just moments before the circular shadow phenomenon on Lahaina Noon was to occur at the Skygate sculpture in the city park in Honolulu across from the old Honolulu Advertiser's news building.

The Skygate's three legs metaphorically represent how three entities in Hawaii --government, business, and customers--need to come together to bring about a move away from fossil fuel use in cars. So, the Lahaina Noon moment, when the sun is directly overhead and the round shadow forms was chosen to illustrate a point about Hawaii's unique position in the world.

Reporter Alan Yonan walked over to ask some questions about electric cars and it serendipitously happened that Duane Prebble a member of the Mayor's commission on the Arts, who had helped bring sculptor Isamu Noguchi to Hawaii in the 70's to create the piece of public art, was on hand to witness the shadow phenomenon, and he overheard the questions from Yonan. Prebble, a well-known former UH art professor, who lives in a 2,000-square-foot home built up in a large tree in Manoa Valley, had recently put photovoltaic voltaic cells on his roof so as to charge the Nissan LEAF electric vehicle he had ordered. He explained his excited anticipation of the car's arrival.

Prebble hoped to use the federal \$7,500 tax credit and the state's \$4,500 tax rebate to reduce the LEAF's initial cost to the low \$20,000s.

It was a news story that illustrated how three entities are coming together...1) government, 2) customers like Prebble and 3) EV automakers and dealerships, to create a new phenomenon in Hawaii.



Note: The 2011 Lahaina noon dates and times for Honolulu are: May 27, 2011 at 12:28 p.m. and July 16, 2011 at 12:37 p.m. Every location in the tropics has two days when the sun is directly overhead.



## **The Situation**



ur situation is the period in time and space we find ourselves in.

It still is the "most beautiful set of islands anchored in any ocean," as Mark Twain summed, and more melodiously wrote.... "Hawaii, that peaceful land, that beautiful land, that far-off home of profound repose, and soft indolence, and dreamy solitude, where life is one long slumberous Sabbath, the climate one long delicious summer day."

From this long delicious time we awake Monday morning here in 2011 with what George Washington once described as being faced with "enlarged prospects of happiness." mobility which can provide a freedom of travel on new smooth-flowing roadways to a dispersed variety of new technology jobs can show a model path for world leaders to follow.

At the First Hawaiian International Auto Show, showgoers have a chance to see how the electric company plays a large role in distributing one of the renewable new fuels for cars—electricity.

The cars of the future will have a variety of power plants being developed for freedom of choice by customers. Freedom to snap your head back with acceleration; Freedom to drive techno-styles that turn heads.

This special place has created a spirit of self-reliance, selfdiscipline, industry, courage, character, faith, hope and charity that girds Hawaii warriors for battles with Monday mornings.

Here's our Monday morning situation.

The world is finding Hawaii. Venture capital is coming in what some see as a building tsunami.

The nation drinks in the islands' beauty on tv sets with Hawaii 5-0. The world sees the turquoise waters and pristine beaches with each visit by the president. The world press has Hawaii on its calendar. This is the year for the world leaders Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit, happening right at our own Hawaii Convention Center.



The Tadashi Sato mosaic at the state capitol is another piece of public art that HADA uses to illustrate a point. There are 650,000 blue and green tiles in the mosaic — there are 654,000 passenger vehicles registered on Oahu.

When that beautiful building with its palm-tree motif and

uplifting plate glass sails was built, just 13 years ago, who would have thought then that soon world heads of state would be coming here to Hawaii to be hosted by a president of the United States who has the spirit of the islands ingrained in him?

The auto show will occupy that building a few months prior to the president and the world press coming.

It is hoped that the same new technology vehicles so fundamental to personal freedom and personal There are definitely enlarged prospects for happiness.

There's adventure ahead.

Now, the new alternative fuels are providing a light to the future.

And Hawaii is at that time and place for the development of it all.

It's our situation.





## Display at the First Hawaiian International Auto Show, March 18-20, 2011 shows how Hawaii's new energy sources will fuel the cars of the future.



HADA 2011

The Cars and Energy display at the auto show uses the fact that there are 650,000 blue/green tiles in the Tadashi Sato mosaic in the State Capitol rotunda. This number coincidently coincides with the 654,000 passenger vehicles on Oahu. According to the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative, these 654,000 vehicles will have to transition, at least 46% we believe, to electric, hydrogen, or some other type of alternative energy use—in one generation—by 2030, to hit the state's Hawaii clean energy in vehicles goal.

The display shows that as the alternative energy sources come on line (propellers and turbines turn, etc.) the tiles in the mosaic turn red, up to 46%, symbolizing Hawaii's transition to electric vehicles, plugin hybrids, hydrogen vehicles, and others, during the 20 year period, while the 500 million gallon barrel of oil drains down to 150 million gallons—the goal in 2030.





\*Source: The Hawaii Auto Outlook, using the AutoCount, an Experian Company, registration data on new, retail cars, and trucks in the Hawaii market. U-Drive/Fleet sales are excluded. 2002-2010 The Hawaii Auto Outlook, using RL Polk Co. 1989-2001 data provided by Nissan Motor Corp.

# Electric /Hydrogen Vehicle Adoption Rate 2011-2030



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