

HB 2085, HD2
RELATING TO ENERGY

LATE TESTIMONY



Par Hawaii

March 15, 2016

**TESTIMONY OPPOSING TO HOUSE BILL 2085, HOUSE DRAFT 2,
RELATING TO ENERGY**

Senate Committee on Transportation & Energy

The Honorable Lorraine Inouye, Chair

The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 15, 2016 – 2:45 p.m.

State Capitol, Room 229

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Gabbard and members of the Committee,

Thank you for this opportunity to offer testimony on House Bill 2085, House Draft 2, Relating to Energy. My name is Lance Tanaka, director of government and public affairs for Par Hawaii. Par Hawaii, Inc., formerly Mid Pac Petroleum, and Par Hawaii Refining, LLC, formerly Hawaii Independent Energy, are subsidiaries of Texas-based Par Pacific Holdings, Inc., formerly known as Par Petroleum Corporation.

HB 2085, HD 2 aims to reduce and ultimately eliminate Hawaii's dependence on imported fossil for electrical generation and ground transportation by 2045. **While Par Hawaii understands the State's desire to set aspirational goals for achieving energy independence, we are unable to support HB 2085, HD 2.**

Par Hawaii believes that setting such a goal in statute could lead to unintended consequences for Hawaii's consumers. A more prudent approach is to conduct in-depth analyses through the collaboration of key stakeholders for the purpose of establishing appropriate and achievable milestones for reducing fossil fuel use over time.

To this end, we support the passage of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 144 and Senate Resolution No. 106, both of which require the state Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism and the Hawaii State Energy Office to conduct a study towards establishing incremental goals to achieve 100 percent renewable energy use in ground transportation by the year 2045.

Thank you for allowing Par Hawaii the opportunity to testify on House Bill 2085, HD 2, Relating to Energy.

Lance N. Tanaka
Director, Government & Public Affairs
Par Hawaii

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Kaala Coleman

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 3:12 AM
To: TRE Testimony
Cc: nmorin99@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2085 on Mar 15, 2016 14:45PM

HB2085

Submitted on: 3/15/2016

Testimony for TRE on Mar 15, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Noel Morin	Big Island EV Association	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chair and Committee members. Please support HB2085. The Big Island Electric Vehicle Association is dedicated to increasing the adoption of sustainable transportation on the Big Island. Our membership is comprised of EV owners and would-be owners, and EV advocates. We educate the public about the benefits of electric vehicles and work to address barriers to adoption. We believe that sustainable transportation is critical for Hawaii to meet its Clean Energy goals and that meeting these goals will ultimately result in a better environment for future generations. We have the opportunity to contribute to the net reduction in carbon emissions and the reversal of climate change. HB2085 will help create a path for us to reduce and, hopefully, eliminate the need for fossil fuel to power our transportation. EVs are becoming popular, given the dropping costs and an increasing number of makes and models. In some states and countries, we're seeing buses and even large trucks being powered by electricity. Additionally, there are new technologies that offer alternative 'fuels' – hydrogen and biofuels, for instance. These and other developments will make it increasingly feasible to transition to a petroleum-independent transportation system. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB2085.

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Senator Lorraine Inouye
Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy
Testimony for Hearing Scheduled for Tuesday, March 15, 2015, 2:45PM, Room 229

RE: Support for HB 2085 HD2

My grandchildren live in Hawaii and California. Big deal, you may be thinking to yourself. Well, I am very concerned about how climate change is, and will continue to, negatively impact these sensitive and special geographic areas and consequently my grandchildren's lives. It is our responsibility to do what we can to reduce our use of fossil fuels now to keep the impacts from climate change from getting any worse than it will. This is why I support HB 2085 HD2.

Passage of HB 2085 HD2 will support the positive trends that are already taking place in the transportation sector. For example, the age at which new drivers receive their driver's license has been increasing over the last twenty years nationwide. In Hawaii, DBEDT found that 99% of all 25-to-29-year olds had their driver's license in 1999, but that the rate had dropped to 65% in that age group in 2014. This trend is even more pronounced for 15-to-19-year olds where over 50% had their driver's license in 1989, but only 29% did in 2014.

Electric vehicles are another positive trend passage of HB 2085 HD2 would support. As an EV driver, it's fun to let someone drive my car and have them marvel at how quiet, smooth and powerful it is. The public EV charging infrastructure is generally convenient, although there are far more EVs wanting to charge than there are spaces available. In my experience, AOA Boards are a serious impediment to getting more EV chargers installed, which puts pressure on the public charging infrastructure. The passage of HB 2085 HD2 will hopefully work to find solutions to this problem.

Reducing our use of fossil fuels until we totally eliminate their use in the future is the right thing to do for many reasons; I have only touched on one of the major reasons. Leaving my grandchildren a world where Waikiki or Makaha Beach is accessible only with scuba gear is unacceptable. I urge you to pass HB 2085 HD2 and let's accelerate the change that is needed to eliminate fossil fuel use in Hawaii. Mahalo.

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