
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Hawaii currently has
2 over one million gasoline-powered vehicles on its roads, which
3 emit nearly five million metric tons of climate-changing carbon
4 pollution annually. Hawaii residents, businesses, and visitors
5 spent over \$1,500,000,000 on gasoline in 2018.

6 Electric vehicles play an integral role in Hawaii's clean
7 energy future. Electric vehicles are much less expensive to
8 power per mile than their gasoline counterparts. By using
9 stored electrical energy, electric vehicles can take advantage
10 of intermittent solar, wind, and other clean energy resources.
11 With the continued growth of an intelligent electricity grid,
12 electric vehicles become an essential component to electricity
13 load and clean energy resource balancing. They also provide
14 clean mobility solutions for Hawaii residents and visitors.

15 The legislature finds that about one per cent of all
16 registered vehicles in Hawaii are electric. This number is
17 expected to rise exponentially as more electric vehicles come to



1 market, vehicle ranges increase, and the cost of electric
2 vehicles decreases. Sales of electric vehicles in Hawaii
3 increased about twenty-five per cent in 2018 since 2017, while
4 sales of gasoline-powered vehicles only increased about one per
5 cent.

6 While there is growing interest in electric vehicles among
7 Hawaii residents, the lack of adequate vehicle charging
8 infrastructure presents a key barrier to adoption. The
9 International Energy Agency has found that "the availability of
10 chargers emerged as one of the key factors for contributing to
11 the market penetration of electric vehicles". Unlike gasoline
12 car owners, charging behavior for electric vehicle owners
13 indicates that more than eighty per cent of electric vehicle
14 drivers charge their cars at home or work. In addition, a large
15 share of the Hawaii population lives in high density, multi-
16 family dwellings. The vast majority of parking facilities are
17 not currently being built to accommodate electric vehicle
18 chargers.

19 The legislature finds that requiring that a percentage of
20 parking stalls be electric vehicle ready results in significant
21 long-term savings for residents. When electric vehicle



1 readiness is considered in the design of a building or parking
2 area, decisions about the lowest cost layout can be made,
3 allowing building owners and operators to reduce the financial
4 burden of modifying or upgrading electrical systems later, as
5 well as avoid the construction costs and means of trenching or
6 boring to lay conduit for electric vehicle charger installation.
7 To be electric vehicle ready, the parking stall would need to
8 have sufficient wire, conduit, electrical panel service
9 capacity, overcurrent protection devices, and suitable
10 termination points to connect to an electric vehicle charger.

11 The purpose of this Act is to prohibit, on or after
12 January 1, 2020, the issuance of building permits for certain
13 new multi-family dwelling and commercial parking areas unless at
14 least twenty per cent of the parking stalls are electric vehicle
15 charger ready.

16 SECTION 2. Chapter 196, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
17 amended by adding a new section to part I to be appropriately
18 designated and to read as follows:

19 "§196- Electric vehicle charging required for new multi-
20 family residential buildings and commercial buildings. On or
21 after January 1, 2020, no building permit shall be issued for a



1 new multi-family residential building that has ten or more
2 parking stalls, or a new commercial building that has twenty or
3 more parking stalls, unless at least twenty per cent of the
4 building's parking stalls are electric vehicle charger ready, as
5 defined in this chapter."

6 SECTION 3. Section 196-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended by adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted
8 and to read as follows:

9 "Electric vehicle charger ready" means having sufficient
10 wire, conduit, raceway, termination point, and electrical panel
11 capacity, suitable to provide level two charging consistent with
12 an electric vehicle charging system as that term is defined in
13 section 196-7.5."

14 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Electric Vehicles; Charger Ready; New Construction; Parking Stalls

Description:

Prohibits, on or after January 1, 2020, the issuance of building permits for all new residential multi-family buildings that have ten or more parking stalls and new commercial buildings that have twenty or more parking stalls unless at least twenty per cent of the parking stalls are electric vehicle charger ready.
(SD2)

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