
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO EXAMINE ISSUES AND BARRIERS TO THE INSTALLATION OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING SYSTEMS IN MULTI-UNIT DWELLINGS AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING CHANGES TO STATUTES, RULES, AND OTHER GUIDANCE TO HELP CLARIFY AND FACILITATE THE INSTALLATION OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING SYSTEMS IN MULTI-UNIT DWELLINGS.

1 WHEREAS, Act 15, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018, established a
2 zero emissions clean economy target for the State to sequester
3 more atmospheric carbon and greenhouse gases than emitted by no
4 later than 2045; and

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6 WHEREAS, in 2021, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 44,
7 S.D. 1, H.D. 1, made Hawaii the first state in the nation to
8 declare a climate emergency and called for a statewide
9 commitment to a decarbonized economy; and

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11 WHEREAS, in 2017, the mayors of each county of the State
12 pledged to transition all ground transportation away from fossil
13 fuels; and

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15 WHEREAS, Act 142, Session Laws of Hawaii 2019, established
16 the electric vehicle charging system rebate program, and Act 75,
17 Session Laws of Hawaii 2021, increased and established sustained
18 funding for this rebate program via the barrel tax; and

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20 WHEREAS, there are currently over eighteen thousand
21 electric vehicles registered in the State, increasing the demand
22 for charging infrastructure as this number continues to grow;
23 and

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25 WHEREAS, it is imperative that the option to own an
26 electric vehicle be available to everyone, including low- and



1 moderate-income families who often live in smaller units and
2 condominiums; and

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4 WHEREAS, the lack of adequate electric vehicle
5 infrastructure, especially in multi-unit dwellings, is a major
6 barrier to the adoption of electric vehicles; and

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8 WHEREAS, Act 186, Session Laws of Hawaii 2010, provides
9 that condominium associations, homeowners' associations,
10 community associations, and other types of private entities
11 cannot prevent owners from installing an electric vehicle
12 charging system in their designated parking stall; and

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14 WHEREAS, despite its legal permissibility, there are
15 numerous logistical challenges involved with installing single-
16 user and shared-stall chargers, including high costs, the lack
17 of electric infrastructure capacity, parking facility
18 limitations, maintenance costs, questions about metering, and
19 questions about managing a charging system as a shared amenity;
20 and

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22 WHEREAS, among other challenges, associations of multi-
23 family residential dwellings or townhouse units do not have
24 electric vehicle charging system installation expertise, meet
25 infrequently, and often lack quorum, making it impractical for
26 associations to unilaterally develop installation guidelines
27 without guidance from government entities; and

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29 WHEREAS, Act 164, Session Laws of Hawaii 2015, established
30 a working group that recommended financial incentives for
31 electric vehicle charging system installations, that new
32 buildings be constructed with electric vehicle-ready parking,
33 and the deployment of submetering; and

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35 WHEREAS, many questions related to electric vehicle
36 charging system installations have remained unanswered; and

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38 WHEREAS, since 2015, there have been substantial changes to
39 the market, state of the technology, and number of individuals
40 or entities that have actually undertaken efforts to install
41 electric vehicle charging systems in multi-unit dwellings; and
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1 WHEREAS, more relevant and direct knowledge of electric
2 vehicle charging system installations in multi-unit dwellings
3 exists beyond the working group's initial recommendations; now,
4 therefore,
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6 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
7 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022, the
8 House of Representatives concurring, that the Hawaii State
9 Energy Office is requested to convene a working group to examine
10 issues and barriers to the installation of electric vehicle
11 charging systems in multi-unit dwellings and make
12 recommendations regarding changes to statutes, rules, or other
13 guidance to help clarify and facilitate the installation of
14 electric vehicle charging systems in multi-unit dwellings; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
17 to examine:
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- 19 (1) Barriers to the installation of electric vehicle
20 charging systems at multi-unit dwellings and the
21 underlying issues that give rise to these barriers;
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- 23 (2) Whether changes to state statutes, rules, or other
24 guidance could provide solutions and unburden
25 associations tasked with advising owners on technical
26 matters on which they lack expertise;
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- 28 (3) Whether guidelines should be established for
29 reasonable technical solutions instead of leaving
30 associations to independently determine installation
31 practices pursuant to section 196-7.5, Hawaii Revised
32 Statutes, relating to the placement of electric
33 vehicle charging stations, and, if so, where those
34 guidelines should be identified in statute;
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- 36 (4) A range of technical solutions, including cost
37 recovery and capacity management;
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- 39 (5) Management recommendations for multiple owners who
40 wish to install a shared-use charging system as a
41 shared amenity;
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1 (6) Alternatives to retrofitting multi-unit dwellings that
2 still ensure convenient access to electric vehicle
3 charging systems; and
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5 (7) Other issues deemed relevant and necessary; and
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7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the working
8 group include the following:
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10 (1) A representative from the Hawaii State Energy Office;
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12 (2) The Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, or the
13 Director's designee;
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15 (3) A representative of the Public Benefits Fee
16 Administrator;
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18 (4) A representative from the City and County of
19 Honolulu's Department of Planning and Permitting;
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21 (5) An individual who sits on the board of directors of an
22 association of apartment owners appointed by the
23 President of the Senate;
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25 (6) An individual who sits on the board of directors of an
26 association of apartment owners appointed by the
27 Speaker of the House of Representatives;
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29 (7) A representative from the Hawaiian Electric Company,
30 Inc.;
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32 (8) A representative from the Community Associations
33 Institute Hawaii Chapter;
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35 (9) Two representatives from the electric vehicle charging
36 system industry;
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38 (10) A representative from the Blue Planet Foundation; and
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40 (11) A representative from the Hawaii Electric Vehicle
41 Association; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
2 to invite other representatives from relevant industries to
3 participate on the working group as necessary; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
6 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce
7 and Consumer Affairs; Chief Energy Officer of the Hawaii State
8 Energy Office; Executive Director of Hawaii Energy; Director of
9 the City and County of Honolulu's Department of Planning and
10 Permitting; President of Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.;
11 President of the Community Associations Institute Hawaii
12 Chapter; Executive Director of the Blue Planet Foundation; and
13 President of the Hawaii Electric Vehicle Association.

