
SENATE 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

5
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

10
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

14
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

19
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

24
25 WHEREAS, it is imperative that the option to own an
26 electric vehicle be available to everyone, including low- and
27 moderate-income families who often live in smaller units and
28 condominiums; and



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

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

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

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

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

32 WHEREAS, many questions related to electric vehicle
33 charging system installations have remained unanswered; and
34

35 WHEREAS, since 2015, there have been substantial changes to
36 the market, state of the technology, and number of individuals
37 or entities that have actually undertaken efforts to install
38 electric vehicle charging systems in multi-unit dwellings; and
39

40 WHEREAS, more relevant and direct knowledge of electric
41 vehicle charging system installations in multi-unit dwellings



1 exists beyond the working group's initial recommendations; now,
2 therefore,

3
4 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first
5 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022,
6 that the Hawaii State Energy Office is requested to convene a
7 working group to examine issues and barriers to the installation
8 of electric vehicle charging systems in multi-unit dwellings and
9 make recommendations regarding changes to statutes, rules, or
10 other guidance to help clarify and facilitate the installation
11 of electric vehicle charging systems in multi-unit dwellings;
12 and

13
14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
15 to examine:

- 16
17 (1) Barriers to the installation of electric vehicle
18 charging systems at multi-unit dwellings and the
19 underlying issues that give rise to these barriers;
20
- 21 (2) Whether changes to state statutes, rules, or other
22 guidance could provide solutions and unburden
23 associations tasked with advising owners on technical
24 matters on which they lack expertise;
25
- 26 (3) Whether guidelines should be established for
27 reasonable technical solutions instead of leaving
28 associations to independently determine installation
29 practices pursuant to section 196-7.5, Hawaii Revised
30 Statutes, relating to the placement of electric
31 vehicle charging stations, and, if so, where those
32 guidelines should be identified in statute;
33
- 34 (4) A range of technical solutions, including cost
35 recovery and capacity management;
36
- 37 (5) Management recommendations for multiple owners who
38 wish to install a shared-use charging system as a
39 shared amenity;
40



1 (6) Alternatives to retrofitting multi-unit dwellings that
2 still ensure convenient access to electric vehicle
3 charging systems; and
4

5 (7) Other issues deemed relevant and necessary; and
6

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the members of the working
8 group include the following:
9

10 (1) A representative from the Hawaii State Energy Office;
11

12 (2) The Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, or the
13 Director's designee;
14

15 (3) A representative of the Public Benefits Fee
16 Administrator;
17

18 (4) A representative from the City and County of
19 Honolulu's Department of Planning and Permitting;
20

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;
24

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;
28

29 (7) A representative from the Hawaiian Electric Company,
30 Inc.;
31

32 (8) A representative from the Community Associations
33 Institute Hawaii Chapter;
34

35 (9) Two representatives from the electric vehicle charging
36 system industry;
37

38 (10) A representative from the Blue Planet Foundation; and
39

40 (11) A representative from the Hawaii Electric Vehicle
41 Association; and
42



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
4

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
6 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce and
7 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.

