# TESTIMONY OF LEODOLOFF R. ASUNCION, JR. CHAIR, PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION STATE OF HAWAII

# TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

# February 23, 2023 10:00 a.m.

Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Committee:

MEASURE: S.B. No. 506 TITLE: RELATING TO CONSUMER PROTECTION.

**DESCRIPTION:** Requires self-service stations to put labels on gas dispensing equipment that advise consumers on the effects of fossil fuel consumption to human health and the environment.

# POSITION:

The Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") offers the following comments for consideration.

# COMMENTS:

The Commission appreciates the intent of this measure to inform users of self-service gas pump dispensing equipment in a retail service station of the human health and environmental impacts of fossil fuel consumption.

The Commission notes that there may already be requirements for signage on selfservice gas pump dispensing equipment in Hawaii State law, county ordinances, and private contracts outside Commission jurisdiction and that those with jurisdiction over any existing signage may be better suited to administer, implement and/or enforce the intent of this bill.

The Commission also notes that other agencies may have more relevant expertise on the human health and environmental impacts associated with burning gasoline, diesel, and ethanol, and therefore may be better suited to carry out the duties established in this measure.

S.B. No. 506 Page 2

However, should the Legislature continue with the measure as currently proposed, the Commission observes that additional information on implementing such a program would be helpful, such as clarity on timing requirements and enforcement mechanisms.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**STATE OF HAWAI'I** 

HAWAI'I CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION & ADAPTATION COMMISSION

POST OFFICE BOX 621

Co-Chairs: Chair, DLNR Director, OPSD

> Commissioners: Chair, Senate AEN Chair, Senate WTL Chair, House EEP Chair, House WAL Chairperson, DAA Chairperson, DOA CEO, OHA Chairperson, DOH Director, DBEDT Director, DBEDT Director, DOH Chairperson, DOE Director, C+C DPP Director, Hawai'I DP Director, Hawai'I DP The Adjutant General Manager, CZM

#### HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809 Director, Maui Director, Maui Director, Kaua'i Director, Kaua'i The Adjutant G Manager, CZM Leah Laramee Coordinator, Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission

# Before the Senate Committees on COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

# Thursday, February 23, 2023 10:00 AM State Capitol, Via Videoconference, Conference Room 229

# In consideration of SENATE BILL 506 RELATING TO CONSUMER PROTECTION

Senate Bill 506 requires self-service stations to put labels on gas dispensing equipment that advise consumers on the effects of fossil fuel consumption to human health and the environment. The Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission (Commission) supports this bill.

The Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission consists of a multijurisdictional effort between 20 different departments, committees, and counties. The Climate Commission recognizes that ground transportation contributes significantly to Hawai'i's share of greenhouse gas emissions. It is important that buyers of fossil fuels in the State understand the hazards and risks they are assuming in purchasing them, in the spirit of transparency and disclosure and to support informed decision making by buyers and government agencies.

There is no single solution to addressing climate change community, state and federal governments, along with advocacy groups and community members, must work together to implement policies and guide investments that will allow for information sharing to understand the impacts of carbon emitting personal vehicles. Labels on gas dispensing equipment is a good first step in achieving this.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.



# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

235 South Beretania Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804 Telephone: Web: (808) 587-3807 energy.hawaii.gov

# Testimony of MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

> Thursday, February 23, 2023 10:00 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 229 and Videoconference

> > Providing COMMENTS on SB 506

# **RELATING TO CONSUMER PROTECTION.**

Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports the intent of SB 506 which requires self-service stations to put labels on gas dispensing equipment that advise consumers on the effects of fossil fuel consumption to human health and the environment.

HSEO appreciates increasing public awareness of the harmful effects of the burning of fossil fuels on human health and the environment with a desired outcome of decreased fossil fuel usage which supports the State's clean energy goals. HSEO understands the effectiveness of the measure is subject to having an independent third party with a nexus to retail gas dispensing to efficiently administer the program.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR

CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

MARK B. GLICK



To: The Honorable Senator Jarrett Keoholole, Chair, the Honorable Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection.

From: Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)

# Re: Hearing SB506 RELATING TO CONSUMER PROTECTION

Hearing: Thursday, February 23, 2023, 10:00 a.m., room 229

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection:

The mission of the Climate Protectors Hawai'i is to educate and engage the local community in climate change action, to help Hawai'i show the world the way back to a safe and stable climate.

# The Climate Protectors Hawai'i STRONGLY SUPPORTS SB506!

SB506 would require retail self-service gas stations to have warning labels on gas dispensing equipment, which would advise consumers that burning gasoline, diesel, and ethanol has major consequences on human health and the environment, including its contribution to climate change.

Burning these fossil fuels releases pollutants that are warming the planet, resulting in more intense storms, sea level rise, coastal erosion, floods, droughts, and fires, among numerous dire consequences. Hawaii is particularly vulnerable to these climate impacts and so it is appropriate that Hawaii consumers be warned.

Gasoline often includes toxic additives such as benzene, toluene and xylene. Burning gasoline, diesel, and ethanol can lead to early death, heart attacks, respiratory disorders including damage to lungs, stroke, and asthma. EPA has classified benzene as a known human carcinogen, based on convincing evidence in humans supported by evidence from animal studies.

Consumers should be warned at the pump of these risks: that burning gasoline, diesel, and ethanol has major consequences on human health and the environment, particularly by contributing to the climate crisis we are facing. Warning at the pump will not only help protect consumers from health risks, it will raise awareness of the climate crisis and help consumers to connect their individual behavior with the health, environmental, and climate impacts of their individual choices. It will educate consumers in a non-coercive way.

Please protect consumers and the environment by passing this important bill!

Mahalo!

Climate Protectors Hawai'i (by Ted Bohlen)

Chair; Senate Agriculture & Environment Committee, Mike Gabbard: <u>sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov</u>

Chair; House Committee on Energy & Environment, Nicole E. Lowen: <u>replowen@capitol.hawaii.gov</u>

Chair; Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health: Rosalyn H. Baker: <u>senbaker@capitol.hawaii.gov</u>

Chair; House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, Mark M. Nakashima: repnakashima@capitol.hawaii.gov

Chair; House Committee on Finance, Kyle T. Yamashita: repyamashita@capitol.hawaii.gov

Dear Senate and House Committees,

I write **in support** of SB 506 and HB 1277 in Hawai'i: Public health and climate change information labels on gas pumps.

My name is Drew Shindell and I am Distinguished Professor of Climate Sciences in the Earth and Climate Sciences Division at Duke University in Durham, NC. My research evaluates, among other things, environmental damages associated with the effects of climate and air pollution on public health, on labor productivity, and on agriculture. Though such costs are typically not accounted for in the market and are therefore called 'external' costs, they are real effects of changes we cause in our environment through activities such as burning fossil fuels.

Our <u>estimates</u> of the economic damages from burning transportation fuels like gasoline and diesel for regular unleaded gasoline amount to \$6.50 per gallon. Diesel fuel, with higher PM<sub>2.5</sub> concentrations, causes damages of about \$8 per gallon. These climate change and health costs from combustion of these fuels have increased by roughly 70% from original publishing of my research in 2015 due to improved understanding of the severity of health impacts of exposure to both air pollution and heat. I <u>testified</u> before Congress in 2017, and again in 2020, regarding the dangerous effects from the combustion of these fuels and the true, but hidden, costs society pays when they utilize them. The Hawai'ian bills create greater transparency in fossil fuel markets and consumers have a right to know about the health and climate impacts when they buy conventional petroleum fuels. Additionally, mandating oil company transparency through government regulation is essential as these costs *are* hidden, continue to accrue, and purchaser of these fuels need to be notified to have the ability to make better choices.

Health and climate labels available at the pump make sense in markets that don't currently pay the full societal costs when they burn gas, especially with the increased availability of electric vehicles as an affordable alternative.

The harms resulting from fossil fuel combustion are not well-understood by consumers of gas but should be since a transition off fossil fuels is required to keep human-caused climate change from having far more damaging consequences than those we are already seeing. Gas pump labels should be essential policy for other states and countries to follow.

Sincerely,

Am J. Shull

Dr. Drew Shindell For identification purposes: Distinguished Professor Nicholas School of the Environment Duke University, Durham, NC

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

### 15 February 2023

Chair; Senate Agriculture & Environment Committee, Mike Gabbard: <u>sengabbard@capitol.hawaii.gov</u>

Chair; Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health: Jarrett Keohokalole: <u>senkeohokalole@capitol.hawaii.gov</u>

Chair; House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce, Mark M. Nakashima: repnakashima@capitol.hawaii.gov

Chair; House Committee on Finance, Kyle T. Yamashita: repyamashita@capitol.hawaii.gov

*Re:* Support of SB 506 and HB 1277 in Hawai'i: public health and climate change information labels on gas pumps

Dear Senate and House Committees,

I write in my personal capacity to support SB 506 and HB 1277 in Hawai'i: public health and climate change information labels on gas pumps.

Studies and systematic reviews of policies and technologies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions have repeatedly found that taking specific mitigation actions can lead to near-term improvements in local and regional air quality, transportation behaviors, and dietary intake. These improvements have significant health benefits by reducing premature mortality and avoiding hospitalizations. Worldwide, outdoor air pollution alone, including from transportation, is responsible for 4.2 million deaths annually. Economic valuations of health benefits indicate they are of the same order of magnitude, if not larger, than the costs of mitigation.

Public health and climate change information labels on gas pumps can engage consumers in mitigation actions to reduce local and regional air pollution, including greenhouse gases, reducing climate change and benefiting health.

Thank you for your leadership in making Hawai'i a pioneer in climate policy.

Mahalo nui loa,

Kiiste h lui

Kristie L. Ebi, PhD, MPH Professor, Center for Health and the Global Environment University of Washington Seattle WA 98105 <u>krisebi@uw.edu</u>

References:

Hans Rosling Center, Global Health | 3980 15th Ave. NE | Seattle, WA 98195

Brooks and Ebi (2021) https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34631148/ Chang et al. (2017) https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/aa8f7b/meta Hess et al. (2020) <u>https://ehp.niehs.nih.gov/doi/10.1289/EHP6745</u> Gao et al. (2018) <u>https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/29426161/</u> https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/ambient-(outdoor)-air-quality-and-health Dear Senators,

I represent *Green Mobilists Sweden*, an NGO which campaigns for eco-labels with climate impact rating on fuel pumps and charging stations. In fall 2021, such eco-labels <u>became mandatory</u> all across Sweden. A few months before that, climate and health warning labels <u>were placed</u> on all gas pumps in Cambridge, MA. These are the world's first labelling schemes of this kind.

To help shift attitudes to fossil fuels, and contribute to behaviour change, these labels must be disseminated widely.

Placing climate and health warning labels on gas pumps across Hawai'i according to bill SB506 would be a major step forward. As the first mandatory such labels at state level, they would attract considerable attention, which would increase the odds of this idea spreading to other states – and to more countries.

Therefore, Green Mobilists Sweden urge you to pass SB506.

Information and warnings relating to climate and health at the point of sale of fossil fuels will help breaking the normality of filling our cars with gasoline or diesel, just like information and warnings on cigarette packages helped breaking the normality of smoking.

Seeing warnings or alarming information at the gas pump also helps bridging the gap between abstract long-term threats and the choices we make here and now. That may catalyse behaviour changes.

Of course, many measures are needed to end the fossil fuel era besides warning labels or eco-labels. They are small pieces of the puzzle. However, as renowned public health professors and environmental psychologists wrote in an <u>op-ed in BMJ</u> about the matter:

"Although individual action alone is insufficient to achieve the aims of the Paris Agreement, it is critical."

#### References

BMJ, March 31, 2020: *We need health warning labels on points of sale of fossil fuels* <u>https://blogs.bmj.com/bmj/2020/03/31/we-need-health-warning-labels-on-points-of-sale-of-fossil-fuels/</u>

The Guardian, December 25, 2020: *Massachusetts city to post climate change warning stickers at gas stations* <u>https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2020/dec/25/massachusetts-city-to-post-climate-change-warning-stickers-at-gas-stations</u>

The Guardian, October 1, 2021: *Swedish fuel retailers required to display eco-labels at pumps* <u>https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/oct/01/swedish-fuel-retailers-required-to-display-eco-labels-at-pumps</u>

Best regards,

Per Östborn

*Campaign Manager,* <u>Green Mobilists Sweden</u> (The Swedish Association of Green Motorists) +46 (0)73 819 61 54, <u>per.ostborn@gronamobilister.se</u>



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Steve Wetter Hawaii Petroleum, LLC Testimony of Eric Wright President of the Hawaii Energy Marketers Association (HEMA)

### SENATE BILL 506 RELATING TO CONSUMER PROTECTION - IN OPPOSITION

The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair The Honorable Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

> Thursday, February 23, 2023 @ 10:00 AM Conference Room 229 & Videoconference <u>Written Testimony</u>

Aloha Chair Keohokalole, Vice Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Committee:

I am Eric Wright, president of the Hawaii Energy Marketers Association (HEMA). HEMA is a nonprofit trade association comprised of members who market motor fuel products and operate convenience stores across the Hawaiian Islands.

Senate Bill 506 would require services stations to affix, bear or attach an environmental warning label at each dispensing gas pump subject to Public Utility Commission approval.

While HEMA understand the intent of this measure, but we believe <u>this bill</u> <u>is unnecessary</u> because we already have adequate warning labels at dispensing gas pumps. <u>Foremost warning has been the safety of life and</u> <u>property</u>.

Hawaii Administrative Rules: §12-45.5-104 Fuel dispensing signs. Section 42.7.2.6.4 requires warning signs to be conspicuously posted in the dispensing area and incorporate the following or equivalent wording:

#### WARNING:

It is unlawful and dangerous to dispense gasoline into unapproved containers.

No smoking.

Stop motor.

No filling of portable containers in or on a motor vehicle.

Place container on ground before filling.

Discharge your static electricity before fueling by touching a metal

Hawaii Energy Marketers Association (HEMA) Senate Bill 506 Relating to Consumer Protection Page 2

> surface away from the nozzle. Do not re-enter your vehicle while gasoline is pumping. If a fire starts, do not remove nozzle — back away immediately. Do not allow individuals under licensed age to use the pump. The placement of a foreign object(s), that allows the fuel dispensing lever to remain in the open position, is prohibited at all times. (Auth: HRS §132-3) (Imp: HRS §132-3)

Additionally, we believe this measure unfairly targets a specific industry when many other every day decisions consumers make have an impact on the environment. In fact, given that 70% of power generation in the State of Hawaii is produced from oil, an equal argument could be made to affix the same warning labels to EV charging stations; especially considering that the fuels used to produce that power generate both CO2 as well as significantly higher levels of sulfur dioxide air pollution than fuels used in traditional motor vehicles.

We believe this measure is unnecessary and has the potential to distract from the more urgent safety warning information already posted on fuel dispensers.

Thank you for allowing HEMA the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill.

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • MERCED • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO

INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION STUDIES



• SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

ONE SHIELDS AVENUE DAVIS, CALIFORNIA 95616-8576

7 February 2023

E aloha e Senate and House Committees,

This letter is in support of SB 506; public health and climate change information labels on gas pumps.

I have supported this idea of climate-health warning labels on fossil fuel points of purchase, since it was first presented to me in 2015. Most people have a <u>poor understanding</u> of the public health implications of the fuels that power their vehicles, and this remains an obstacle when it comes to people choosing cleaner transport options. Consumers choosing cleaner transport will have the greatest impact on the health of others and in particular, the health of the most vulnerable communities who often live in close proximity to major transportation hubs.

As a Distinguished Professor of Transportation Engineering and Founding Director of the Institute of Transportation Studies at University of California, Davis, and elected member of the National Academy of Engineering, I have long studied the power of social norms programs like this one, and the role of behavioral modifications required to create low-carbon transportation. In my view, health-climate labels on gas pumps educating the public at scale have the potential to alter preferences away from gasoline and diesel fuels.

This needed public education program cannot happen without government intervention. Healthclimate warning labels at gas pumps will help people understand the urgent need for cleaner transport alternatives, and the essential role they play in a low carbon transportation future.

I applaud Hawai'i, its people, and its global climate leadership. Providing more information is a good low-cost strategy to mitigate fossil fuel harms.

Sincerely yours,

Don for

Dan Sperling Distinguished Blue Planet Prize Professor of Civil Engineering and Environmental Science & Policy Founding Director, Institute of Transportation Studies The associated cost on the passage of this Bill is ludacrious. Even its' intended effectiveness would be deemed to be ludacrious.

Should this Bill pass then every contributor of carbon emmissions will need to be fullfill the this labeling mantra. I'm not sure if you all need to be reminded we are not as igonorant as the Bill implies. Basic mainstreaming of carbon emmissions is adequate we don't need to be insulted by passage of this Bill.

# <u>SB-506</u> Submitted on: 2/18/2023 12:46:35 PM Testimony for CPN on 2/23/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Caroline Azelski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support. Thank you.

### <u>SB-506</u> Submitted on: 2/19/2023 7:31:19 PM Testimony for CPN on 2/23/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Lionel Delos Santos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha legislature, i strongly oppose this bill sb506 becasue its like waste of money time they should use that money to grow trees or make farm land to grow food so the plants and trees can turn carbon into oxygen and keep hawaii green again instead of glass with panels , not going matter if they put it on any way , they put labals on alcohal, cigarites and on medacation about there side affect just as bad.

thank you

### <u>SB-506</u> Submitted on: 2/19/2023 7:50:06 PM Testimony for CPN on 2/23/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
chris p pang	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To whom it may concern,

I oppose the SB 506 because it's a waste of money and time to put stickers on the gas pumps. Cellular phones are hazardous too. I feel that the state should order the phone stores to install stickers about the dangers of phone use.

### <u>SB-506</u> Submitted on: 2/20/2023 12:28:10 PM Testimony for CPN on 2/23/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
James Brooks	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senate Committee on Consumer Protection,

I urge the committee to vote yes on SB 506.

Here are some suggestions for potential enforcement of a gas pump climate-health warning label program in Hawai'i. Given limited oversight of gas stations by the Hawaii Public Utilities Commision, we suggest a working group to help introduce this idea to other stakeholders either later in the session or after the law is enacted. Brainstorm on ideas for an opt-in pilot project starting in Waimea, BI. The program would provide a monthly bounty to local students (max 1 student per month taken at random) for students to advertise the lack-thereof of the opt-in climate-health warning label. Design and location of label on pump to be specified in the opt-in program. Potentially by having this program there would only be an upside for students to "report" on businesses that do not opt in, but there would be no financial impact for businesses. This opt-in program would be advertised in schools upon approval from DOE, as there are likely some guidelines that are needed to be followed for any posters, or even any cash rewards associated with outside of school activities. This opt-in, "climate kuleana program" of enforcement would be repeated through the different districts of the State of Hawai'i. Gas station compliance targets and dates to be specified in the program.

Mahalo nui loa Senators on your pioneering efforts to combat climate change!

James Brooks

### <u>SB-506</u> Submitted on: 2/21/2023 7:25:46 AM Testimony for CPN on 2/23/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Suiko McCall	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a concerned citizen, I would like to offer my support for the movement to require warning labels about the harmful effects of petroleum products at the gas pump. These chemicals are deeply harmful to our bodies and to our environment. A label stating what is true at the point where a consumer can connect their own participation in this toxic industry is not only reasonable, but beneficial to us all. I believe it is our civic duty to bring awareness to this issue in this practical way.

Thank you so much.

Suiko McCall

Hawi, Hawai'i

# <u>SB-506</u> Submitted on: 2/21/2023 8:04:55 AM Testimony for CPN on 2/23/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Bryan Montanio	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I think this is an important measure to promote awareness and generate small but meaningful action toward a carbon-neutral world. Also, what is the down side?!

### <u>SB-506</u> Submitted on: 2/21/2023 1:07:45 PM Testimony for CPN on 2/23/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
Jack Lucero Fleck	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senate Committee on Consumer Protection,

I urge you to pass SB506, which will provide climate change and public health information available for people buying gasoline.

The science is clear that combustion of gasoline and diesel fuels cause global warming and dangerous pollution.

We put warnings on all sorts of products--why not on a product that is threatening to disrupt the world's climate, and causes nine million deaths each year due to pollution (Lancet Planetary Health report).

Consumers have a right to know about the dangers of using fossil fuels.

Thank you for supporting this important bill.

Jack Lucero Fleck

TO:	Members of the Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
FROM:	Natalie Iwasa 808-395-3233
HEARING:	10 a.m. Thursday, February 23, 2023
SUBJECT:	SB 506 -Requiring Labels on Fuel Pumps - <b>OPPOSED</b>
Aloha Chair	Keohokalole and Committee Members,

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 506, which would require self-service stations to put labels on their fuel pumps specifying the impact of "fuel consumption."

If you're going to require labels on gas pumps, you should require labels on EV charging stations. Charging station labels could include any one or more of the following concerns.

- Transition to electric vehicles is estimated to require an 87,000% increase in supply of specific metals by 2060 that need to be mined initially . . . . According to IEA 2021 study, mineral supplies need to increase from 400 kilotonnes in 2020 to 11,800 kilotonnes in 2040 in order to cover the demand by EV. This increase creates a number of key challenges, from supply chain (as 60% of production is concentrated in China) to significant impact on climate and environment as result of such a large increase in mining operations.<sup>1</sup> (Emphasis added.)
- The manufacturing processes of lithium . . . presents significant environmental and health hazards. Lithium extraction can be fatal to aquatic life due to <u>water pollution</u>. It is known to cause surface water contamination, drinking water contamination, respiratory problems, ecosystem degradation and landscape damage. It also leads to unsustainable water consumption in arid regions (1.9 million liters per ton of lithium). Massive byproduct generation of lithium extraction also presents unsolved problems, such as large amounts of magnesium and lime waste.

In the United States, there is active competition between environmentally catastrophic <u>open-pit mining</u>, <u>mountaintop removal mining</u> and less damaging <u>brine extraction mining</u> in an effort to drastically expand domestic lithium mining capacity. **Environmental concerns** include wildlife habitat degradation, potable water pollution including <u>arsenic</u> and <u>antimony</u> contamination, unsustainable <u>water table</u> reduction, and massive <u>mining waste</u>, including radioactive <u>uranium</u> byproduct and <u>sulfuric acid</u> discharge.<sup>2</sup> (*Emphasis added.*)

# Please vote "no" on SB 506.

- <sup>1</sup> Wikipedia.org, <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Electric\_vehicle\_battery</u>
- <sup>2</sup> Wikipedia.org, <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lithium</u>



### <u>SB-506</u> Submitted on: 2/22/2023 10:53:14 AM Testimony for CPN on 2/23/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Testify
LIBRADO COBIAN	Testifying for AAC	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Li Cobian I am a DOD Environmental Contractor Professional of 35 years with a extensive background of hazardous materials and environmental contamination of land, air, and water.

The subject of "Climate Change" or its definition is not a scientific term with any proven contribution origins. It used to be "Global Warming" but after record snow systems it was changed to "Climate Change". The Climate is always changing. There is no proven or disproven contribution source that makes the "climate change " from one way to another. Every opinion can be disputed. And the Ocean is NOT Boiling, like the privet jet flying ( mega ton CO2 Spewing) jet setter, Al Gore said at the World Economic Forum.

This is a campaign to promote Electric cars under the un-proven claim that fossil fuels can change the climate of the earth and EV's are better for the environment . The cause of " Climate Change " is neither proven nor unproven . It's only a Partison opinion or a theory at best taught promoted by GOOGLE's preferred and approved scientists and at our schools today by liberal arts teachers .

It is scientifically proven by World Atlas and a fact that the manufacturing process of Batteries entailes the top three most Polluting industries on the planet .

1 Used Lead-Acid Batteries (ULAB):

2 Mining and Ore Processing. And

3 Lead Smelting:

Regardless if is Lead, Lithium, Cadnium, Sodium Sulfer or other minerals . Also the mining of these mineral ores are produced from the most Environmentally wreckless and polluting and corrupt countries in the world that uses child labor to mine these minerals .

Think of this, when was the last time you saw a child in a hard hat drilling for oil.

This labeling is a campaign to promote Electric cars under the un-proven claim that fossil fuels can change the climate of the earth and EV's are better and will save the environment. The source affects of " Climate Change " is neither proven nor unproven . It's only a Partison opinion or a theory at best. For this reason I oppose this labeling because it forces a retailer to promote a partisan opinion that they may disagree with .

This bill is a campaign to demonize people who still prefer the use gas cars, because the same people who want such labeling would NEVER ever support the same label at EV Charging stations warning EV users that the EV battery in their vehicle is produced through the top 3 most polluting industry on the planet and the mining of it's materials pollutes the environment and comes from the most currupt contries that use child slave labor to obtain the minerals for the batteries. No they would not , because the purpose of this labeling is to promote EV's , a Partison issue , and a preference being imposed on others that don't want a EV who's battery replacement costs 75% of the MSRP of the vehicle.

The travesty of this, is that todays youth (who hate math and science) are being brainwashed to only see one side and not examine the science of both sides. They refuse to even look at the environmental impact of the production of Batteries. Nothing to see there. Gas Cars BAD ... EV's Good. And as a result they are ploys to frivilous law suits against Hawaii's DOT because these children ( with no science knowledge) demand more free EV charging stations at Parking lots, and they refuse and don't care about the Environmental Detriment from the production of the most environmental polluting product..... THE BATTERY. Because the goal is to Promote Electric Cars .

It's that simple. Li Cobian

# <u>SB-506</u> Submitted on: 2/22/2023 5:45:37 PM Testimony for CPN on 2/23/2023 10:00:00 AM



Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier</b> Position	Testify
Camille Stough	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Senate Committee on Consumer Protection,

I urge you to pass SB 506. Your constituent consumers deserve full disclosure of the connection between fossil fuel consumption and climate change and public health. In the past decade, the level of global awareness of climate change issues has increased; though many people find themselves powerless in fostering change and rely on national government to take the lead. However, climate change mitigation could and SHOULD be addressed at EVERY level of government and through various channels available to us be it regulation, policy, technology, or informational disclosures. SB 506 would put Hawaii at the forefront of utilizing direct government information to raise awareness and modify consumer behavior. But most importantly, it will forge a path for other states to become empowered to inform and support their constituents about fossil fuel consumption. I strongly support Hawaii's groundbreaking legislation and commend you for taking the lead in this country's continued work to mitigate climate change.