

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 04 , 2026

RE: H.B. No. 1619  
H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2026  
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection, to which  
was referred H.B. No. 1619 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLE  
INFRASTRUCTURE,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to:

- (1) Exclude from the definition of "development", as it  
applies to special management areas, the construction,  
installation, maintenance, repair, and replacement of an  
electric vehicle charging system as a minor structure;  
and
- (2) Include the Public Utilities Commission in the  
development and implementation of plans to meet the  
long-term goals for zero-emissions transportation in the  
State.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Department of Transportation; Office of Planning and  
Sustainable Development; Public Utilities Commission; Climate  
Protectors Hawai'i; Hawaiian Electric; Hawaii Electric Vehicle  
Association; and one individual.



Your Committee finds that increasing electric vehicle usage and reducing greenhouse gas emissions are vital to achieving the State's clean energy goals. Your Committee further finds that projects involving electric vehicle charging systems are subject to special management area permitting requirements, delaying the rollout of these systems. Your Committee also finds that the Public Utilities Commission is not currently included in the planning process for the State's zero-emissions transportation goals, despite the Commission being directly involved in certain key transportation initiatives, such as managing the Electric Vehicle Charging System Rebate Program. This measure removes special management area permitting requirements for projects involving electric vehicle charging systems and ensures that the Public Utilities Commission is involved in the planning of the State's zero-emissions transportation goals.

Your Committee has amended this measure by changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1619, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1619, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Water & Land.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Energy &  
Environmental Protection,

  
NICOLE E. LOWEN, Chair



HSC R 12-26

| <b>Bill/Resolution No.:</b><br>HB 1619   | <b>Committee Referral:</b><br>EEP, WAL, CPC | <b>Date:</b><br>1/29/26 |      |         |
|--|---|-------------------------|------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.  |   |                         |      |         |
| <b>The recommendation is to:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold<br><input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit) |   |                         |      |         |
| EEP Members  | Ayes  | Ayes (WR)               | Nays | Excused |
| 1. LOWEN, Nicole E. (C)  | ✓   |                         |      |         |
| 2. PERRUSO, Amy A. (VC)  | ✓   |                         |      |         |
| 3. CHUN, Cory M.   |   |                         |      | ✓       |
| 4. KAHALOA, Kirstin  | ✓   |                         |      |         |
| 5. KUSCH, Matthias   | ✓   |                         |      |         |
| 6. QUINLAN, Sean   |   |                         |      | ✓       |
| 7. MATSUMOTO, Lauren   | ✓   |                         |      |         |
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| <b>TOTAL (7)</b>   | 5   |                         |      | 2       |
| <b>The recommendation is:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted<br>If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: -10px;">             committee acronym(s)         </div>          |   |                         |      |         |
| <b>Vice Chair's or designee's signature:</b> _____ <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: -10px;"> </div>   |   |                         |      |         |
| <b>Distribution:</b> Original (White) – Committee      Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office      Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO  |   |                         |      |         |