



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) 451-6648
energy.hawaii.gov

Testimony of **MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer**

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Tuesday, February 3, 2026
3:01 PM

State Capitol, Conference Room 224 and Videoconference

Providing Comments on
SENATE BILL NO. 2241

RELATING TO ZERO-EMISSIONS VEHICLES.

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Chang and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) offers the following comments on Senate Bill No. 2241, which appropriates funds for HSEO to analyze zero-emissions vehicle infrastructure in the State.

HSEO provides a brief update on progress taking place in this regard and acknowledges the challenges and additional work to identify necessary charging infrastructure, policies and programs and develop transition plans for State fleets to accelerate the adoption of zero-emission vehicles by government agencies, private sector businesses, and the general public.

HSEO's analysts are currently developing a data-driven statewide EV charging infrastructure roadmap to guide efficient investments and address market gaps. The roadmap is informed by a census-tract-level analytical model that identifies charging needs by location and charger type, benchmark progress, and target areas where charging access limits EV adoption. This work includes expanding the EVI-Pro Lite model in coordination with Hawaiian Electric and the National Laboratory of the Rockies (NLR) to assess statewide and localized charging demand based on projected EV adoption, travel behavior, and grid impacts. Next steps are to refine assumptions,

improve data resolution, and incorporate evolving vehicle adoption trends, utility planning inputs, and site-specific considerations to support effective long-term infrastructure planning, policies and programs. An important feature will be HSEO’s use of state registration data to identify, benchmark, and measure effectiveness of EV adoption and charging policies and programs by evaluating adoption of ZEVs by region, housing type, and demographic information.

State progress on EV charging will also be improved by HSEO’s collaboration with DAGS to pilot public and workplace charging at State facilities. The partnership will provide critical data for HSEO to support long-term infrastructure planning and development of charging at State facilities broadly. HSEO is finalizing a memorandum of agreement with DAGS to leverage ~\$1.2 million in Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust funds to deploy 100 to 200 chargers depending on site-specific conditions and available cost match. For State fleets, HSEO is also developing the Zero-Emission Vehicle Planning and Charging (ZPAC) Tool with NLR to serve as a fleet electrification transition plan including charging infrastructure needs. HSEO is working with DAGS to beta test the template utilizing DAGS fleet data. Once complete, the tool will be available for State agencies to utilize for their fleet transition plans. HSEO was also awarded a federal grant intended to support planning and analysis related to resilient zero-emission vehicle charging infrastructure for government fleets and essential services during all-hazard events. Implementation of the project is currently on hold pending resolution of federal attempts to terminate the award. HSEO continues to engage through appropriate administrative and legal processes to resolve the dispute.

HSEO also manages the Diesel Replacement Rebate Program, implemented in coordination with the Department of Health and coordinated with federal Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) formula funding. Program success led to an additional \$4.5M in funding through a DERA competitive award.

These activities are noted here as part of HSEO’s ongoing activities in providing technical analysis, planning, and interagency coordination related to zero-emissions vehicle infrastructure planning and implementation under its EV transportation strategy.

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In terms of adding general funds to HSEO for its work on EV charging as contemplated in SB 2241, HSEO defers to the Department of Budget and Finance on the budgetary impact of the legislation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

DATE: February 3, 2026

TO: Senator Glenn Wakai
Chair, Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs

FROM: Tiffany Yajima

RE: **S.B. 2241 - Relating to Zero-Emissions Vehicles**
Hearing Date: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 3:01 p.m.
Conference Room: 224

Dear Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs:

On behalf of the Alliance for Automotive Innovation (“Auto Innovators”) we submit this testimony in **support** of S.B. 2241, Relating to Zero-Emissions Vehicles.

The Alliance for Automotive Innovation represents the full auto industry, a sector supporting 10 million American jobs and five percent of the economy. From the manufacturers producing most vehicles sold in the U.S. to autonomous vehicle innovators to equipment suppliers, battery producers and semiconductor makers – the association is committed to a cleaner, safer and smarter personal transportation future.

Automakers support federal and state policies that facilitate the transition to a zero-emission transportation future. Charging infrastructure is a key component to a comprehensive vision and strategy for electric vehicles. By 2025, the auto industry will have invested more than \$330 billion to reach the goal of an electrified future. In addition, the auto industry is ramping up by delivering a new generation of ZEVs that includes 130 models for sale in the U.S. market by 2026, up from over 70 models today.

This measure would help to ensure that the infrastructure needed to support EV charging is planned for and developed statewide, strengthening Hawai‘i’s ability to expand ZEV charging capacity and meet our future transportation needs.

For this reason, Auto Innovators support this measure and ask the committee to pass this bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

SB-2241

Submitted on: 2/2/2026 7:32:13 AM
Testimony for EIG on 2/3/2026 3:01:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSE this bill. I STRONGLY disagree with the zero emmission goal for our state. It takes away the consumers choice to purchase affordable gas vehicle. More importantly, the cost to generate so called "green" energy to meet said zero emmission goal is and will continue to be astronomical.