

February 27, 2023

Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair
Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair
Committee on Finance
Monday, February 27, 2023
11:30 am
via Video Conference



RE: **HB1415HD1** Relating to Energy (**Support**)

Dear Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa & Committee Members,

Chamber of Sustainable Commerce offers this testimony in SUPPORT of HB1415 HD1, which requires the public utilities commission to administer an electric vehicle (EV) charging system loan program to provide loans to applicants who install eligible EV charging systems and appropriates funds.

As business owners who believe we can strengthen our economy without hurting employees, consumers or the environment, we urge this committee to vote in favor of passing HB1415 HD1 because we need to ensure that low-moderate-income households can participate in the transition away from gas vehicles – we will not be able to achieve the state’s 2045 carbon emission goals without more drivers switching from gas-fueled vehicles to EV.

The transportation sector contributes more to the climate crisis than any other sector in Hawaii. Purchasing and installing an EV charging system is cost-prohibitive for many low- to moderate-income households. This bill will provide an opportunity to affordably finance this investment.

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