Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

Re: SB409 SD2 HD1 CD1

Pursuant to Section 16 of Article III of the State Constitution, SB409 SD2 HD1 CD1, entitled “A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES” became law as ACT 280 on July 10, 2019.

This bill establishes a $50 annual vehicle registration fee for electric and alternative fuel vehicles to be deposited into the State Highway Fund.

Although my administration supports the electrification of Hawai‘i’s transportation system, the increase in electric vehicles has significantly reduced revenues to our State Highway Fund due to reductions in gas tax collections. The reduction in our State Highway Fund limits the Hawaii Department of Transportation’s ability to capture matching federal funds. Unfortunately, the federal government operates through reimbursements and requires the state to front the money for transportation projects.

Electric vehicles will continue to receive incentives such as tax credits, free parking, and single driver zipper lane benefits. However, these drivers are equally responsible for the wear and tear to our road systems. My administration will continue looking for the appropriate balance between incentives and road usage equity.
For the foregoing reasons, I allowed SB409 SD2 HD1 CD1 to become law without my signature.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

DAVID Y. IGE
Governor, State of Hawaii
RELATING TO ELECTRIC VEHICLES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

SECTION 1. Section 249-31, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

"§249-31 State registration fee. (a) All vehicles and motor vehicles in the State as defined in section 249-1, including antique motor vehicles, except as otherwise provided in sections 249-4, 249-6, and 249-31.5, shall be subject to a $45 annual vehicle registration fee[.]; provided that electric vehicles and alternative fuel vehicles shall pay an annual vehicle registration surcharge fee of $50, which shall be assessed and collected beginning with the first registration renewal for every electric vehicle and alternative fuel vehicle and shall be deposited into the state highway fund established under section 248-8. The fee shall be paid each year together with all other taxes and fees levied by this chapter on a staggered basis as established by each county as authorized by section 286-51, and the state registration for that county shall likewise be staggered so that the state registration fee is due and payable at the same time and shall be collected together
with the county fee. The state registration fee shall be deemed
delinquent if not paid with the county registration fee. The
respective counties shall collect this fee together with the
vehicle registration tax collected for the county and shall
transfer the moneys collected under this section to the State.
(b) [From] In addition to the annual vehicle registration
surcharge fee, for each annual motor vehicle registration fee,
the director shall deposit $40 into the state highway fund and
$5 into the emergency medical services special fund."
SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2020.
THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAIʻI

Date: April 30, 2019
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Final Reading in the Senate of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaiʻi, Regular Session of 2019.

President of the Senate

Clerk of the Senate
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAI\textsc{i}

Date: April 30, 2019
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2019.

Scott K. Saiki
Speaker
House of Representatives

Brian L. Takeshita
Chief Clerk
House of Representatives