



Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission

Advocating for the Hawai'i LGBTQIA+ Community



Mailing Address: LGBTQ+ Commission, c/o The Department of Human Services,
P.O. Box 339, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96809-0339

Email: hawaiistatelgbtqpluscommission@gmail.com
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February 14, 2025

House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Hearing: Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 2:00 PM

RE: **Strong Support for House Bill 22**

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and committee members,

I am writing in strong support of House Bill 22, HD 1 on behalf of the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus. (LGBTQ+) Commission, which was established by the 2022 Hawai'i State Legislature with the following purpose:

“...to improve the State's interface with members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus community; identify the short- and long-range needs of its members; and ensure that there is an effective means of researching, planning, and advocating for the equity of this population in all aspects of state government.”

The Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission submits this testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of HB 22, which appropriately limits the collaboration of state and county law enforcement agencies with the federal government for immigration purposes, except in specific, narrowly defined circumstances.

HB 22 is essential to ensuring the safety, dignity, and civil rights of all residents of Hawai'i, particularly those who belong to marginalized communities, including LGBTQIA+ immigrants. Many LGBTQIA+ individuals who immigrate to the United States—often fleeing persecution, violence, or discrimination in their countries of origin—face unique vulnerabilities within the immigration system. When state and local law enforcement agencies engage in broad and indiscriminate collaboration with federal immigration authorities, it erodes trust between law enforcement and the communities they are meant to serve. This, in turn, discourages immigrants, including LGBTQ+ individuals, from reporting crimes, seeking assistance, or otherwise engaging with public safety resources due to fear of deportation and potential mistreatment.

The LGBTQIA+ community in Hawai'i has long championed policies that promote inclusion, fairness, and respect for human rights. HB 22 aligns with these values by ensuring that law enforcement agencies in our state do not overreach their role in

Proudly established pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statutes Chapter 369, as enacted through Act 41, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2022

HI State LGBTQ+ Commission Testimony in Strong Support of HB 22

immigration enforcement, instead focusing on fostering trust and safety within our diverse communities. It also strengthens protections against racial and gender-based profiling, which disproportionately affects LGBTQIA+ immigrants and people of color.

Furthermore, this measure is consistent with Hawai'i's deep-rooted commitment to being a welcoming and inclusive state. By allowing collaboration with federal immigration authorities only in limited, specific circumstances, HB 22 helps maintain Hawai'i as a place where all people—regardless of immigration status—can live without fear and access public services safely.

For these reasons, the Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission urges the Committee to pass HB 22.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration,

Kathleen O'Dell, Ph.D. (she/her)

Chair

[Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission](#)

STATE PUBLIC DEFENDER

ASSISTANT PUBLIC DEFENDER

DEFENDER COUNCIL
1130 NORTH NIMITZ HIGHWAY
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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

HONOLULU OFFICE
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STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

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MAU'I OFFICE
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WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793
TEL. NO. (808) 984-5018
FAX NO. (808) 984-5022

HB NO. 22 RELATING TO COLLABORATION WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Honorable Committee Members,

The Office of the Public Defender (OPD) **SUPPORTS THIS BILL WITH AN AMENDMENT**

We are in an uncertain era regarding the enforcement of federal law. We support the intent of the legislature to place reasonable limits on collaboration with the federal government in instances where individual rights enshrined in the state constitution and statute are implicated.

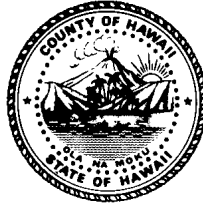
As noted in Section 1 of the bill, the federal courts have recognized the questionable constitutionality of civil immigration detainers. These are not criminal charges. They are for individuals suspected of violating civil immigration law, which is not a crime. To the individuals who are impacted, they are in custody and their lives in the United States are in jeopardy; the differentiation of federal and state law is an abstraction.

Through executive, legislative, and county action, the state of Hawaii has protected the human rights of immigrants for decades. The OPD supports the continuation of this precedent on behalf of our clients and diverse employees.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

Delete Section 2(b). Warrants are common in law enforcement, simple to procure, and necessary for due process concerns. There is no need for a warrantless exception in the instance an individual is a convicted felon as that individual is likely already flagged by the federal government, on parole, or has engaged in activity in which a warrant would be easily obtained. There is no need for a warrantless exception for an individual who has "engaged in terrorist activity" as there are numerous federal, state, and county charges which could lead to a warrant.

Jennifer Kagiwada
Council Member District 2 South Hilo



Office: (808) 961-8272
jennifer.kagiwada@hawaiicounty.gov

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL - DISTRICT 2

25 Aupuni Street • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

DATE: February 14, 2025

TO: House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

FROM: Jennifer Kagiwada, Council Member
Council District 2

SUBJECT: HB 22

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of HB 22, which allows state and county law enforcement (LEAs) to collaborate with the federal government for immigration purposes in only limited, specific circumstances.

Federal law does not require state and local entities to collect or share information with ICE. Federal law, under title 8 United States Code section 1373, instead, limits state and local governments from restricting communication with federal immigration authorities concerning "information regarding the citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual." Requests from ICE to hold a person of interest after the time when they are legally released from local custody, is just that, a request. Our LEAs have no obligation under federal or state law to respond affirmatively.

It is critical that our local law enforcement agencies maintain the trust and confidence of the residents that live here by clearly delineating their role. When police officers become entangled with Department of Homeland Security, immigrants will not come forth as witnesses, women feel they cannot report domestic violence, victims cannot come forward, and the security of entire communities is threatened.

Finally, Hawai'i LEAs are struggling with personnel and resource shortages to perform their mandated actions to serve and protect our communities. This bill protects our LEAs from additional strains on our county budgets and protects them from civil liability for potentially violating individual's Fourth Amendment rights against unlawful search and seizure.

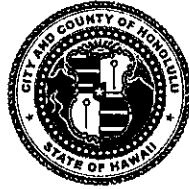
Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jenn Kagiwada", written in a cursive style.

Jenn Kagiwada

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
KE KE'ENA O KA MEIA
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
530 SOUTH KING STREET, ROOM 300 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA



MICHAEL D. FORMBY
MANAGING DIRECTOR
PO'O HO'OKELE

KRISHNA F. JAYARAM
DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR
HOPE PO'O HO'OKELE

February 18, 2025

The Honorable David A. Tarnas, Chair
The Honorable Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair
and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
House of Representatives
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: HB22, *Relating to Collaboration with the Federal Government*

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Honorable Members of the Committee on
Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs:

The Office of the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu ("Honolulu") supports
HB22 with the following suggested amendments.

The enforcement of federal immigration laws should be performed by federal
immigration officials, and not by local law enforcement. Utilizing local police authorities
to detain, transfer, or disclose non-public information about individuals because of their
immigration status will erode the trust between Honolulu's immigrant communities and
local law enforcement officials, and will exhaust already scarce police resources that
should be used for the residents and guests of Honolulu. Moreover, local law
enforcement actions to detain, transfer, or disclose personal information about
individuals without a judicial warrant or other court order, due to alleged federal *civil*
immigration offenses, raises serious constitutional due process concerns.

Honolulu proposes that Subsection _-2 of HB22 be amended to require a judicial
warrant for local law enforcement officers to detain or transfer an individual at the
request of federal immigration authorities. The warrant requirement should apply
regardless of an individual's criminal record, or whether there is probable cause to
believe they have engaged in terrorist activity, as a warrant in such instance would not
be onerous.

The Honorable David A. Tarnas, Chair
The Honorable Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair
and Members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
February 18, 2025
Page 2

Honolulu also proposes that Subsection __-3 be amended similarly to require a judicial warrant or court order for local law enforcement authorities to provide non-public information about an individual to federal immigration authorities. Unless required to be produced pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statutes Chapter 92 or a warrant, non-public information should not be produced regardless of the individual's criminal record, and even if local law enforcement has arrested the individual for a felony based on a probable cause finding made pursuant to HRS § 805-7.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'mformby', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michael D. Formby
Managing Director Designate



HAWAI‘I CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

KOMIKINA PONO KĪWILA O HAWAI‘I

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 411, HONOLULU, HI 96813 · PHONE: (808) 586-8636 · FAX: (808) 586-8655 · TDD: (808) 586-8692

Wednesday, February 19, 2025

2:00pm

Conference Room 325 & Videoconference
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

To: The Honorable David A. Tarnas, Chair
The Honorable Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

From: Dr. William J. Puette, Chair
and Commissioners of the Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission

Re: H.B. 22 Relating to Collaboration with the Federal Government **Testimony in SUPPORT**

The Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission (HCRC) carries out the Hawai‘i constitutional mandate that no person shall be discriminated against in the exercise of their civil rights. Art. I, Sec. 5. HCRC enforces laws protecting the people of Hawai‘i from discrimination in the areas of housing, employment, public accommodations, and in some state and state-funded services.

The State of Hawai‘i is proud of its civil rights protections and rich immigrant heritage. Hawai‘i has the highest level of diversity in the United States, and our values are based on a strong commitment to the protection of civil rights.

The Trump Administration is initiating an attack on immigrants that calls for a strong response from the State of Hawai‘i. The Trump plan calls for and raises the specter of a parade of horrors, that are reminiscent of dark chapters of our recent past:

- Mass deportations implemented with targeted raids, mass detention and family separation, and expedited removal. Although the priority target of the mass enforcement campaign has been identified as violent criminal offenders, early sweeps have ensnared non-criminal long-time residents whose arrest, detention, and removal have been characterized as “collateral” impact. Reversal of “sensitive locations” guidance that restricted Immigration and Customs Enforcement (“ICE”) and Customs and Border Protection making arrests and engaging in immigration enforcement actions in schools, hospitals, courthouses, and churches.
- Federal “encouragement” of ICE cooperation and collaboration with state and local law enforcement agencies in immigration law enforcement. Encouragement is a euphemism for

coercion, with the Trump administration threatening prosecution of state and local government officials and withholding federal funds from states and local governments who do not assist in enforcing federal immigration laws.

- Serious discussion of the suggestion that the Alien Enemies Act can be invoked as authority for summarily detaining and deporting civilians, based on characterization of the immigration crisis as an invasion that justifies the exercise of war powers. The Alien Enemies Act was last and most infamously invoked to justify the evacuation and incarceration of Japanese Americans without due process during WWII. And,
- Deployment of the U.S. military to the border to enforce the administration's removal and exclusion policies, the deployment of the military domestically in this manner likely runs afoul of the Posse Comitatus Act. However, State Governors may have broader authority to deploy National Guard forces.

H.B. 22 limits cooperation with federal immigration law enforcement agencies (ICE and Customs and Border Protection), expressly allowing cooperation under specific circumstances. Forcing the State of Hawai'i to use its own state and local governmental agencies and funding to collect or share non-citizen resident's information with ICE goes against Hawai'i's values and the best interests of our State.

H.B. 22 will also prevent further increased racial bias and breakdown in public safety resources and relationships between first responders in community policing and patrol. H.B. 22 will protect the people of Hawai'i from federal coercion and serious risks to the civil rights guaranteed by our Hawai'i State constitution to all persons.

HCRC supports H.B. 22



Where LGBTQIA+ Rights Meet the Labor Movement
A constituency group of the Hawai'i State AFL-CIO

February 15, 2025

House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian AFFAIRS
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Hearing: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 2:00 PM

RE: STRONG SUPPORT for House Bill 22

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and fellow committee members,

Pride at Work – Hawai'i is an official chapter of [Pride at Work](#) which is a national nonprofit organization that represents LGBTQIA+ union members and their allies. We are an officially recognized constituency group of the AFL-CIO that organizes mutual support between the organized Labor Movement and the LGBTQIA+ Community to further social and economic justice.

Pride at Work - Hawai'i stands in strong support of House Bill 22, which wisely limits the collaboration of state and county law enforcement agencies with federal immigration authorities to only very specific and limited circumstances. This bill represents an important step in ensuring that Hawai'i remains a welcoming and inclusive place for all people, regardless of immigration status.

The attacks on immigrant communities in recent years have been both relentless and deeply disturbing. The targeting of immigrants—many of whom are essential workers, family members, and long-standing members of our communities—is distasteful at best and dangerous at worst. Policies that encourage or allow local law enforcement to act as an extension of federal immigration enforcement only serve to instill fear, deter victims from reporting crimes, and weaken the trust between law enforcement and the communities they are sworn to protect.

Hawai'i has a long and proud history of diversity, shaped by generations of immigrants who have contributed to the cultural, social, and economic fabric of our state. HB 22 affirms our values by ensuring that local resources are used to protect and serve our residents rather than being diverted to support federal immigration enforcement efforts that have been widely criticized for their cruelty and inhumanity.

We urge this committee to pass HB 22 to protect the dignity and safety of all who call Hawai'i home.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

In solidarity,

Michael Golojuch, Jr. (he/him)
President
[Pride at Work – Hawai'i](#)



TESTIMONY FROM THE STONEWALL CAUCUS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

FEBRUARY 19, 2025

**Testimony in Support of House Bill 22
RELATING TO COLLABORATION WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.**

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and esteemed Members of the Committee:

My name is Abby Simmons, Chair of the Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and I am writing in strong support of HB22, which limits state and county law enforcement's collaboration with federal immigration authorities, except in specific, justified circumstances.

Protecting Public Safety and Community Trust

Hawai'i is a state built on diversity, and immigrants are an essential part of our communities, workplaces, and schools. Public safety depends on trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve. When local law enforcement acts as an arm of federal immigration enforcement, it discourages victims and witnesses from reporting crimes or seeking assistance out of fear of deportation. This makes our communities less safe for everyone.

Preserving State and Local Resources

Enforcing federal immigration laws is not a responsibility of state and local governments. When local law enforcement detains individuals at the request of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) without a judicial warrant, it drains our already limited resources and diverts attention away from pressing public safety concerns. This bill ensures that our officers are focused on their primary duty: protecting the people of Hawai'i.

Upholding Constitutional Rights

HB22 also prevents constitutional violations by requiring a judicial warrant before local law enforcement detains someone for federal immigration purposes. Civil immigration detainees lack judicial oversight and have been found unconstitutional by multiple courts. This bill protects due process while still allowing cooperation in cases involving serious felonies or national security threats.

**Stonewall Caucus Testimony in Strong Support of House Bill 22
RELATING TO COLLABORATION WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

Strengthening Hawaii's Commitment to Inclusion

Hawai'i has a long-standing tradition of welcoming immigrants and embracing diversity. HB22 reaffirms our state's values by ensuring that no person is unfairly targeted or denied their rights based on their immigration status.

For these reasons, I strongly urge the committee to pass HB22 and help make Hawai'i a safer, fairer, and more just place for all residents.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Abby Simmons (she/her)
Chair & SCC Representative
Stonewall Caucus
Democratic Party of Hawai'i
<https://linktr.ee/stonewalldph>
(808)352-6818



Statement Before The
Wednesday, February 19, 2025
2:00 PM
Conference Room 325 & Videoconference

in consideration of
HB22

RELATING TO COLLABORATION WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

Chair TARNAS, Vice Chair POEPOE, and Members of the
House Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs Committee

The Legal Clinic (TLC) supports HB22, which allows state and county law enforcement agencies to collaborate with the federal government for immigration purposes in only limited, specific circumstances.

TLC is a Hawai'i nonprofit, nonpartisan organization. TLC is a direct legal services provider, representing those in Hawai'i who meet income eligibility guidelines without regard to immigration status, national origin, ethnic background, race, religion, ideology, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, or disability. TLC works alongside immigrants so they can attain authorization to work and live with dignity, reunite with their families after years of separation and escape horrific violence to find refuge in the United States. TLC recognizes that every person needs and deserves to feel a sense of trust, welcome, and belonging.

According to the 2020 U.S. Census, Hawai'i is the most diverse state in the nation.¹ In 2023, Hawai'i had about 256,000 immigrants, which is approx. 18% of the State population.² The top countries of origin for immigrants were the Philippines (45 percent of immigrants), China (9 percent), Japan (8 percent), Korea (6 percent), and the Pacific Island Nations (4 percent).³ There are between 41,000 -50,500 undocumented immigrants in Hawai'i.⁴ Hawai'i is the only state where undocumented women (55%) outnumber men.⁵

Federal law does not require state and local entities to collect or share information with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). There is no affirmative duty for state and local

¹ See <https://thehill.com/homenews/state-watch/567625-hawaii-california-and-nevada-are-most-diverse-states-in-the-us-census/> (retrieved 1/14/2025).

² See <https://usafacts.org/answers/how-many-immigrants-are-in-the-us/state/hawaii/> and <https://data.census.gov/profile/Hawaii?g=040XX00US15#populations-and-people> (retrieved 1/14/2025).

³ See https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/sites/default/files/research/immigrants_in_hawaii.pdf (retrieved 1/14/2025).

⁴ See <https://www.civilbeat.org/2024/12/data-dive-hawaii%CA%BBi-deportation-cases-hit-quarter-century-high/> (retrieved 1/14/2025).

⁵ See <https://mchb.tvisdata.hrsa.gov/Narratives/Overview/a0ac94c0-8538-417e-85c9-da6ac5c06603> (retrieved 1/14/2025).

governments to collect or share citizenship or immigration status information, and there is no prohibition against the communication of other non-public information. Federal law, under title 8 United States Code section 1373, instead, limits state and local governments from restricting communication with federal immigration authorities concerning "information regarding the citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual."

An ICE civil immigration detainer -- or "immigration hold" -- is a written request to a local law enforcement agency to detain an individual for an additional 48 hours after the person's release date to provide ICE with extra time to decide whether to take the individual into federal custody for removal purposes.

These civil immigration detainers are problematic and imprison people without due process and, in many cases, without any charges pending or probable cause of any violation, which raises serious constitutional questions. Miranda-Olivares v. Clackamas Co., No. 3:12-cv-02317-ST *17 (D.Or. April 11, 2014); see also Morales v. Chadbourne, 996 F. Supp. 2d 19, 29 (D.R.I. 2014). Local law enforcement agencies run the risk of litigation and damages liability when they honor ICE civil immigration detainer requests.

Further, honoring civil immigration detainers can damage good community policing goals by eroding trust between law enforcement and immigrant communities, making it difficult for police to work with immigrant communities and for immigrants to report crimes.

HB22 provides that a state or local law enforcement agency should not comply with an ICE civil immigration detainer unless accompanied by a judicial warrant. However, TLC is concerned that HB22 does permit a state or local law enforcement agency to detain an individual for up to 48 hours with only an ICE civil immigration detainer if the individual has been convicted of a felony within five years prior to the day of the official request or if there is probable cause to believe that the individual has or is engaged in terrorist activity. Given that a state or local law enforcement agency may detain a person based on concerns of terrorist activity, this may give rise to racial profiling or other overreach. TLC respectfully requests that HB22 be amended to delete the provision allowing for civil detention based on probable cause.

HB22 also provides that a state or local law enforcement agency should not comply with ICE requests for non-public information about an individual, such as a person's release date, home address, or work address, unless accompanied by a judicial warrant or if the person has been convicted of a felony within five years prior to the date of the official request or if the person has been convicted as a repeat offender of any misdemeanor specified in HRS Sec. 706-606.5(5) within three years prior to the date of the request.

HB22 provides that a state or local law enforcement agency should limit immigration / citizenship status information collected from individuals to that necessary to perform its duties. Further, counties may provide for stronger standards and protections.

This bill will ensure that people are afforded the necessary protections under the law, families and communities are preserved, and our human rights and dignity are respected. To ensure that this bill is followed, TLC recommends an amendment including an enforcement provision if provisions are violated.

The purpose of this HB457, HD1 is to require state and local law enforcement agencies to notify an individual of their rights when in Hawaii law enforcement agency custody before any interview with U.S. ICE on certain matters regarding civil immigration violations. Prior to any interview between ICE and an individual, the individual shall be provided a written consent form in their native language that explains the purpose of the ICE interview, that the interview is voluntary, and that they may decline to be interviewed or may choose to be interviewed only with his or her attorney present.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB22, with two minor suggested changes, and TLC respectfully urges the Committee members to pass HB22 out of your Committee. If you have questions of me, please contact me at sma@tlchawaii.org.

Very respectfully yours,

Sandy Ma

Sandy Ma
Community & Policy Advocate
The Legal Clinic



TESTIMONY
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

HB22 RELATING TO COLLABORATION WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT
Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 10:00 am, State Capitol Conference Room

Honorable Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee

While State and Local government entities are not required to collect or share information with Federal law enforcement agencies, it is imperative that our State and Local government entities put the safety and well-being of our citizens first and foremost.

Submitted in **STRONG OPPOSITION** by Jamie Detwiler, President, Hawaiian Islands Republican Women for the following reasons:

1. Allowing our law enforcement to work with the federal government for immigration in only “limited” or “specific circumstances” prohibits them from removing all “illegal” immigrants from our country.
2. Illegal immigrants drain the resources of our state include welfare, food stamps, and Medicaid benefits intended for U.S. Citizens. They also occupy jobs that should be available for U.S. Citizens.
3. Criminal illegal immigrants who are involved in illegal activities such as drug trafficking, human trafficking, and forced labor should be arrested and deported.

Additionally, according to Pam Bondi, U.S. Attorney General, if you are violating Title 8, U.S.C. 1324, you run the risk of receiving consequences for violating the law including losing Federal funding.

Therefore, it would be in the best interest of Hawaii to cooperate and work with Federal law enforcement agencies such as U.S. Homeland Security and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

For these reasons, please vote NO on HB22. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Jamie Detwiler, President
Hawaiian Islands Republican Women

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 8:14:29 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Doris Matsunaga	Save Medicaid Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Save Medicaid Hawaii supports HB 22



Randy Perreira
President

HAWAII STATE AFL-CIO

888 Mililani Street, Suite 501 • Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Telephone: (808) 597-1441
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The Thirty-Third Legislature
House of Representatives
Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Testimony by
Hawaii State AFL-CIO

February 19, 2025

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB22 - RELATING TO COLLABORATION WITH THE FEDERAL
GOVERNMENT

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the committee:

The Hawaii State AFL-CIO is a state federation of 76 affiliate labor organizations representing over 69,000 union members across Hawaii in industries including healthcare, construction, hospitality, entertainment, transportation, and government. The AFL-CIO serves its affiliates by advocating for the rights of working families, promoting fair wages, ensuring safe working conditions, and supporting policies that strengthen Hawaii's workforce.

We are in support of HB22, which limits state and county law enforcement agencies' collaboration with federal immigration authorities to specific circumstances. Recent federal actions on immigration enforcement have created uncertainty for many immigrant workers, who play a vital role in Hawaii's economy. These workers are critical to sustaining key industries, and unnecessary entanglement between local law enforcement and federal immigration agencies risks creating fear and instability that harm not only individuals but also the broader workforce.

Providing clear boundaries for collaboration allows Hawaii to prioritize its own needs and focus on addressing challenges like worker shortages and economic growth. Ensuring that all workers feel secure contributes to stronger workplace environments and a more resilient economy overall.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randy Perreira". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Randy Perreira
President



Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
Chair David A. Tarnas, Vice Chair Mahina Poepoe

2/19/2025, CR 325 and Videoconference
HB 22 - Relating to collaboration with the federal government

TESTIMONY

Stephen Munkelt, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports BILL NUMBER HB 22

This bill would limit the ways in which law enforcement officers and officials in Hawai'i are allowed to share information and to collaborate with federal immigration authorities. Because this bill would decrease demands on state and local law enforcement, and would also protect the due process rights of the residents of the Hawaiian islands, it has garnered the support of both law enforcement and the public defender's office – a rare point of common ground.

There have been challenges to similar laws enacted in other states on grounds of pre-emption and interference with federal law. However, the federal courts have upheld this approach to limiting state assistance in immigration matters, for example in *United States v. California* 921 F.3d 865, 892 (9th Cir. 2019).

Civil immigration detainers, which are issued by ICE or CBP without judicial oversight and without a standard of proof, pose a significant risk of abuse. They do not impose any legal requirements on state or local law enforcement, and do not authorize an arrest or detention by state officers. HB 22 is drafted to make it clear that law enforcement will comply with judicial warrants, and provides other special exceptions for greater collaboration with the federal agencies. This is good State policy.

The League of Women Voters **supports HB 22** as a just, effective, equitable, transparent, policy and that fosters public trust in policing practices. Immigrants in Hawaii's diverse community may be less willing to report crimes, or seek appropriate education or medical care if there is a fear that contact with state and local officials could lead to referral to immigration authorities. If that were to occur the entire community would be less healthy and less safe.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.
Stephen Munkelt



HB 22, RELATING TO COLLABORATION WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

FEBRUARY 19, 2025 · JHA HEARING

POSITION: Support.

RATIONALE: Imua Alliance supports HB 22, relating to collaboration with the federal government, which allows state and county law enforcement agencies to collaborate with the federal government for immigration purposes in only limited, specific circumstances.

Imua Alliance is a victim service provider for survivors of sex trafficking, including numerous migrant survivors. Over the past 15 years, we have provided comprehensive direct intervention (victim rescue) services to over 200 victims, successfully emancipating them from slavery and assisting in their restoration, while providing a range of targeted services to over 1,000 victims and individuals at risk of sexual exploitation. During the pandemic, demand for services to our organization skyrocketed by 330 percent, driven in part by a fivefold increase in direct crisis calls.

Many of the victims we have assisted have suffered from complex and overlapping trauma, including post-traumatic stress disorder, depression and anxiety, dissociation, parasuicidal behavior, and substance abuse. Trafficking-related trauma and trauma-coerced attachment can even lead to a complete loss of identity and significant memory loss. Our survivor-clients require a tremendous amount of psychological, medical, and occupational support once outside of the commercial sex industry, as they painstakingly progress toward recovery.

Countless human trafficking survivors are migrants. Our state's migrant survivor population is difficult to estimate, but exceeds 500-1,000 people annually. These individuals are exploited in

local storefront brothels (such as fake massage parlors and relaxation therapy establishments), on local farms, and in our fishing industry, where they are forced to endure inhumane conditions and are stripped of any documentation and identification materials they may have.

We should provide assistance and a path to citizenship for immigrants, not punishment and fear. According to a report published by the American Immigration Council in 2020, Hawai'i is home to over 266,000 immigrants, including 45,000 thousand undocumented immigrants. As a society, we treasure our immigrant heritage, from which we have developed a legacy of multicultural cooperation and an abiding respect for the limitless value of diversity.

President Donald Trump has signaled his intent to implement a draconian, arbitrary, and cruel system of enforcement when it comes to immigration. Already, immigration raids have been initiated throughout the country, including in our island home. On January 27th, Hawai'i News Now reported that the local office of Homeland Security Investigations posted photos on social media of officers from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement and Drug Enforcement Administration arresting immigrants on our shores. Trump officials have also begun issuing quotas to ICE officers to ramp up arrests, according to the Washington Post.

Advocates and, of course, immigrants themselves—both documented and undocumented—are justifiably concerned about these mass deportation actions. As the American Immigration Council stated in its “After Day One” factsheet: “The initial wave of executive actions scales up a “mass deportation” operation that everyone without legal status in the United States will be highly vulnerable to on the first day these practices go into effect. Indeed, by invoking the registration provision, the Trump administration is threatening to turn all immigrants into criminals by setting them up for the ‘crime’ of failing to register,” which they have no way to do.

From a historical perspective, we are all immigrants. We urge your committee to act with haste to defend the many immigrants who make our communities proud and call the Aloha State home.

Contact us at imuaalliance.org/contact.



HOUSE BILL 22, RELATING TO COLLABORATION WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

FEBRUARY 19, 2025 · JHA HEARING

POSITION: Support.

RATIONALE: The Democratic Party of Hawai'i Education Caucus supports HB 22, relating to collaboration with the federal government, which allows state and county law enforcement agencies to collaborate with the federal government for immigration purposes in only limited, specific circumstances.

Hawai'i understands the value of immigration and cultural diversity. Our island home—like the United States—is defined by immigration and a legacy of migrant labor that has bestowed upon us a rich social tapestry, multifaceted economy, and an everlasting respect for the principles of democracy and pluralism. As Barack Obama once said, “What makes someone American isn’t just blood or birth, but allegiance to our founding principles and faith in the idea that anyone—from anywhere—can write the next chapter of our story.”

Today, however, we are witnessing a cruel campaign of mass deportation being implemented throughout the country—including in our state—which is undermining the roots of communities in which migrants are celebrated members. Recently, the Trump administration has removed restrictions that prevented Immigration and Customs Enforcement from conducting raids at so-called sensitive locations, including schools (as well as houses of worship and hospitals).

We cannot sit idly by while Donald Trump enacts a campaign of fear against our immigrant neighbors. These actions will not prop up the American economy. On the contrary, immigrant labor is essential to the preservation of our society's financial well-being. Immigrants boost overall economic growth by expanding the labor force and increasing consumer spending. The foreign born also start new businesses at higher rates than U.S.-born individuals. Immigrants were involved in the development of 30 percent of patents in strategic industries in recent years and more than 40 percent of Fortune 500 companies were founded by immigrants.

Higher-than-expected immigration is driving job growth and productivity and was projected to continue doing so in the coming years: The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that a greater level of immigration expected between 2024 and 2034 *could have* boosted gross domestic product (GDP) by \$8.9 trillion. Yet, these gains will be jeopardized by the Trump Administration's inhumane mass deportation actions, which harken back to the race-based policies of the 19th and early 20th Centuries and draw frightening parallels to the policies put in place by violent authoritarian governments throughout history, including the Nazi regime.

Immigrants exist in our neighborhoods, our schools, our workplaces, and all other spaces in our state. They empower our society to thrive, despite the social and political violence with which they are forced to endure. As a state, we have a responsibility to protect their well-being. If we fail, history will remember our complicity in the annihilation of human rights and civil liberties, and our unwillingness to do what is right to preserve the most fundamental tenets of our democracy.

Contact: educationcaucusdph@gmail.com



Cade Watanabe, Financial Secretary-Treasurer

Gemma G. Weinstein, President

Eric W. Gill, Senior Vice-President

February 18, 2025

House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
Rep. David A. Tarnas, Chair
Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Testimony in Support of HB22 for hearing on February 19, 2025, 2:00pm

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

UNITE HERE Local 5 represents 10,000 working people in the hotel, food service and health care industries across Hawaii.

We support HB22 as it clarifies how Hawaii will treat non-judicial warrants. As noted in the preamble, there are legitimate concerns about the constitutionality of civil immigration detainers compared to criminal warrants issued by a judge with probable cause. HB22 also provides reasonable and thoughtful exceptions in certain scenarios.

The United States is founded on the ideas of freedom. Migration is freedom. The ability to move freely to pursue a better life is freedom. The ability to safely leave a place and safely arrive in a new place is freedom of movement. When that freedom is threatened, we must act on our values and protect those people from policies designed to restrict human freedoms.

Hawaii, as a melting pot of immigrants and their descendants, is a beneficiary of that freedom to migrate. Many of our union members are immigrants or children of immigrants, they are the working-class families, friends and neighbors that make up the fabric of our Hawaii communities.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:01:27 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Austin Haleyalpiy	COFACAN	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committees,

My name is Austin Haleyalpiy with COFACAN and I am writing in strong support of HB22, which places necessary limitations on state and county law enforcement agencies' collaboration with ICE.

ICE civil immigration detainers frequently lead to the detention of individuals without due process, raising constitutional concerns and undermining public trust in law enforcement.

Establishing clear guidelines on when compliance with these detainers is appropriate will ensure fairness and maintain strong community-police relationships.

I urge the committee to pass HB22 to protect due process and uphold community trust.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Austin



Hawai'i Children's Action Network Speaks! is a nonpartisan 501c4 nonprofit committed to advocating for children and their families. Our core issues are safety, health, and education.

To: House Committee on Judiciary and Economic Affairs
Re: HB 22 Relating to Collaboration with the Federal Government

Hawai'i State Capitol, Conference Room 325 & Via Videoconference
Wednesday, February 19, 2025, 2:00PM

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Committee Members,

On behalf of HCANSpeaks!, I am writing in support of HB 22, relating to collaboration with the federal government. This bill allows state and county law enforcement agencies to collaborate with the federal government for immigration purposes in only limited, specific circumstances.

ICE civil immigration detainers frequently lead to the detention of individuals without due process, raising constitutional concerns and undermining public trust in law enforcement. Establishing clear guidelines on when compliance with these detainers is appropriate will ensure fairness and maintain strong community-police relationships.

Immigrant communities face increasing risks and threats, leading many families to fear that any interaction with local police could put themselves or their loved ones at risk. To maintain trust and confidence, it is essential for our local law enforcement agencies to clearly define their role and responsibilities to the community.

Furthermore, this bill shields our local law enforcement agencies and the counties that fund them from civil liability, even when they potentially violate individuals' Fourth Amendment rights against unlawful search and seizure.

I urge you to support this bill. Maintaining a clear distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents is essential for the safety and well-being of Hawai'i's children and families in immigrant communities. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of HB 22.

Kind regards,
Noreen Kohl, Ph.D.
Policy Researcher and Advocate



IATSE LOCAL 665

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OF THE UNITED STATES, ITS TERRITORIES AND CANADA, AFL-CIO, CLC



Thirty-Third Legislature, State of Hawai'i
Regular Session of 2025
House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Testimony by IATSE 665
February 19th, 2025

HB 22 – Relating to Collaboration with the Federal Government

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the House Committee,

My name is Tuia'ana Scanlan, president of IATSE 665 and IATSE International Trustee. Our union represents technicians and artisans in the Live Event, Tradeshow, and Film/TV sectors of Hawai'i's Entertainment industry. **Local 665 strongly supports HB 22 – Relating to Collaboration with the Federal Government.**

The residents of Hawai'i and our immigrant communities have long been a cornerstone of our economy, our culture, and our way of life. If we do not act, the current presidential administration will wreak havoc on our communities. Neighbors, businesses, and even school children will be directly impacted. In light of the current federal administration's priorities, it is imperative that Hawai'i enacts bold legislation for the protection of its residents. There is no affirmative duty for state and local governments to share nonpublic information, and there is no prohibition against preventing the communication of non-public information either. The burden of time, energy, and resources to investigate and discover information should be borne solely by federal entities. We thank the architects of this bill for their courage and foresight.

Local 665 strongly supports HB 22. We urge your committee to pass this measure. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

In Solidarity,

Tuia'ana Scanlan
President, IATSE Local 665
IATSE International Trustee
he/him/his



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

The Thirty-Third Legislature, State of Hawaii
The House of Representatives
Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association

February 19, 2025

H.B. 22 — RELATING TO COLLABORATION WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO supports the intent of H.B. 22, which allows state and county law enforcement agencies to collaborate with the federal government for immigration purposes in only limited, specific circumstances.

We represent state law enforcement officers organized in bargaining unit 14 that would be impacted by this measure. Given the drastic and extreme shift in our federal government policy on immigration, we appreciate the intent of this measure which aims to clarify the scope of our state's involvement on immigration. Our state law enforcement officers are already stretched thin in their existing services to the public. We find that it would be inappropriate and a disservice to taxpayers, to direct resources to a nonissue to accomplish an individual's political agenda. Pocketbook issues like cost of living and the development of more affordable housing, health and our homeless crisis, and public safety, among others, are significant challenges that our state faces. Immigration is not one of them.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of H.B. 22.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director



Committee: Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, February 19, 2025, at 2:00pm
Place: Conference Room 325 & Via Videoconference
Re: **Testimony of the ACLU of Hawai'i in SUPPORT of H.B. 22 Relating to Collaboration with the Federal Government**

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Committee Members:

The ACLU of Hawai'i supports H.B. 22, which would provide important and basic protections to residents of Hawai'i. Regardless of citizenship status, all people in the United States are entitled to due process protections.¹ This has long been established for the 4th Amendment², 5th Amendment³, 6th Amendment⁴, and 14th Amendment⁵, among others. The actions threatened by the new administration pose a serious risk to the rights and liberties guaranteed under the Constitution. The passage of H.B. 22 is important to limit the potential violations of resident rights, and is well within the rights of the State to resist federal commandeering in violation of the 10th Amendment.

H.B. 22 is necessary to protect Hawai'i individuals and communities:

The new presidential administration has promised massive, indiscriminate deportation operations. Some operations have already begun. Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE") will likely rely on local law enforcement, especially sheriff's departments, to provide information in support of mass raids and "at-large" arrest operations. These predatory operations create fear in communities regardless

¹ *Shaughnessy v. United States ex rel. Mezei*, 345 U.S. 206, 212 (1953) ("Aliens who have once passed through our gates, even illegally, may be expelled only after proceedings conforming to traditional standards of fairness encompassed in due process of law.");

Yamataya v. Fisher 189 U.S. 86 (1903) ("An alien who has entered the country, and has become subject in all respects to its jurisdiction, and a part of its population, although illegally here" cannot "be arrested and deported without giving such alien an opportunity, appropriate to the case, to be heard upon the questions involving his right to be and remain in the United States.")

² *Cotzoy v. Holder*, 725 F.3d 172, 181 (2d Cir. 2013) ("[I]t is uncontroversial that the Fourth Amendment applies to aliens and citizens alike."); *Melendres v. Arpaio*, 695 F.3d 990, 1000-01 (9th Cir. 2012) (applying Fourth Amendment to immigration arrests); *Ortega v. ICE*, 737 F.3d 435, 439 (6th Cir. 2013) ("transfer[ring] [a prisoner] from home confinement to prison confinement" based on an ICE detainer "amounts to a sufficiently severe change in conditions to implicate due process.")

³ *Zadvydas v. Davis*, 533 U.S. 678, 693 (2001) ("Once an alien enters the country, the legal circumstance changes, for the Due Process Clause applies to all persons within the United States, including aliens, whether their presence is lawful, unlawful, temporary, or permanent.")

⁴ *Wong Wing v. United States*, 163 U.S. 228, 238 (1896) ("Applying this reasoning to the Fifth and Sixth Amendments, it must be concluded that all persons within the territory of the United States are entitled to the protection guaranteed by those amendments.")

⁵ *Yick Wo v. Hopkins*, 118 U.S. 356, 369 ("The Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution is not confined to the protection of citizens....these provisions are universal in their application, to all persons within the territorial jurisdiction, without regard to any differences of race, of color, or of nationality; and the equal protection of the laws is a pledge of the protection of equal laws.")

of citizenship status and operate based upon racial bias.⁶ Hawai'i need not be complicit in such acts of violence against its own populace.

Nearly one in five Hawaii residents is an immigrant, while one in seven residents is a native-born U.S. citizen with at least one immigrant parent.⁷ Further, 40% of Hawai'i immigrants are not U.S. citizens, while more than a third are eligible for naturalization.⁸ Foreign-born residents also represent a vital share of the state's labor force in many sectors: over a third of healthcare support workers are immigrants, as are nearly two-fifths of the state's farmers, fishers, and foresters. Immigrants make up a third of Hawai'i's workers in the tourism industry and just under 40 percent of its farm workers, and many of these workers are undocumented. Immigrants in Hawai'i contributed \$17.6 billion to the local economy in 2018, with over \$874 million going to state and local taxes.⁹ More recent reporting notes that undocumented immigrants in Hawai'i contributed **\$157.2 million** in state and local taxes in 2022.¹⁰

As neighbors, business owners, taxpayers, and workers, immigrants are an integral part of Hawaii's diverse and thriving communities and make extensive contributions that benefit all.

Creating an oppressive environment of fear where Hawai'i residents cannot trust their own State and local government is destructive to Hawai'i's culture, communities, and fiscal well-being.

H.B. 22 is squarely within Hawai'i's legal authority:

The ACLU of Hawai'i is concerned that without the passage of H.B. 22 and similar bills, Hawai'i will be more vulnerable to unconstitutional actions by the federal executive. The provisions of H.B. 22 itself, on the other hand, are well supported by legal precedent.

First, the Tenth Amendment precludes federal government from commandeering state or local governments to use their resources to enforce a federal regulatory program, like immigration.¹¹

Hawaii Attorney General Lopez, along with 10 other state attorneys general, affirmed this on January 23rd, 2025.¹² H.B. 22 authorizes the state and localities to resist federal coercion that runs afoul of the constitution.

⁶ <https://www.civilbeat.org/2024/12/immigrant-community-braces-for-trump/>;
<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/immigrants-protected-legal-status-trump-era-rcna188754>
<https://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2025/01/25/hawaii-immigrants-rising-fears-after-white-house-says-deportations-started/>
<https://www.cnn.com/2025/01/26/politics/chicago-immigration-trump-ice/index.html>

⁷ https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/sites/default/files/research/immigrants_in_hawaii.pdf

⁸ <https://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/video/2024/08/20/40-hawaii-immigrants-are-not-us-citizens-more-than-third-are-eligible-be-naturalized/>

⁹ <https://research.newamericaneconomy.org/report/hawaii-immigrants-contributors-workforce-economy/>

¹⁰ <https://hiappleseed.org/blog/hardworking-undocumented-immigrants-support-hawaii-economy-communities>

¹¹ See *Printz v. United States*, 521 U.S. 898, 923-24 (1997); *City of Chicago v. Sessions* (2017); *City of Philadelphia v. Sessions* (2017)

¹² JOINT STATEMENT FROM 11 STATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL: STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT CANNOT BE COMMANDEERED FOR FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ("It is well-established—through longstanding Supreme Court precedent—that the U.S. Constitution prevents the federal government from commandeering states to enforce federal laws. While the federal government may use its own resources for federal immigration enforcement, the court ruled in *Printz v. United States* that the federal government cannot 'impress into its service—and at no cost to itself—the police officers of the 50 States.'")

Further, there is **no affirmative duty for state and local governments to collect or share information about non-citizen residents**. Similarly, there is no prohibition against preventing the communication of other non-public information, such as when a detained individual will be released or the individual's address. This is consistent with 8 U.S.C. § 1373. Compliance with immigration detainer orders has been found by the courts to be voluntary for state and local governments.¹³ Moreover, multiple federal courts have found detention by local agencies based on ICE detainers to be unconstitutional.¹⁴

Additionally, by limiting when Hawai'i will honor ICE detainers and the information that law enforcement agencies collect, H.B. 22 provides protection to vulnerable communities and signals that its law enforcement officers will not be weaponized against their neighbors. Of note, there is a federal bill, H.R. 32, that may affect how immigration actions are enforced. However, given both the uncertainty of this bill's passage and how it will be interpreted, the need for state legislation like H.B. 22 remains.

The ACLU Hawai'i joins the many community members and organizations working to assist our undocumented and immigrant neighbors and asks that you **support H.B. 22**. Doing so upholds Hawai'i's constitutional rights against federal interference and shields the civil rights of our residents.

Sincerely,

Nathan Lee
Policy Legislative Fellow, ACLU Hawai'i

C: Carrie Ann Shirota, Policy Director
Salmah Rizvi, Executive Director

The mission of the ACLU of Hawai'i is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawai'i fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawai'i is a non-partisan and private non-profit organization founded in 1965 that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds.

¹³ See *Galarza v. Szalczyk*, 745 F.3d 634, 645 (3d Cir. 2014).

¹⁴ *Miranda-Olivares v. Clackamas County*, No. 3:12-cv-02317-ST, 2014 WL 1414305 (D.Or. April 11, 2014); *Jimenez-Moreno v. Napolitano*, No. 1:11-cv-05452, Docket Entry 230 at 16-17 (N.D. Ill. Sept. 30, 2016); *Morales v. Chadbourne*, 996 F. Supp. 2d 19 (D.R.I. 2014) aff'd in part, dismissed in part, 793 F.3d 208, 215-216 (1st Cir. 2015); *Mercado et al. v. Dallas County*, No. 3:15-CV-3481 (N.D.Tex filed Jan. 17, 2017); *Orellana v. Nobles County*, No. 0:15-cv-03852 (D. Minn. Jan. 6, 2017).



CATHOLIC CHARITIES HAWAII

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB22: RELATING TO COLLABORATION WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

TO: House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
FROM: Tina Andrade, President and CEO, Catholic Charities Hawai'i
Hearing: **Wednesday, 2/19/25, 2:00 pm; Room 325 & Videoconference**

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe and Members, Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs:

Catholic Charities Hawai'i **Supports HB 22, Relating to Collaboration with the Federal Government**, which places necessary limitations on state and county law enforcement agencies' collaboration with ICE.

Catholic Charities Hawai'i (CCH) is a tax exempt, non-profit agency that has been providing social services in Hawai'i for over 75 years. CCH has programs serving elders, children, families, homeless and immigrants. Our mission is to provide services and advocacy to the most vulnerable of the people in Hawai'i. We service over 113,000 people each year throughout the state. We are a Department of Justice (DOJ) Recognized Organization and our General Immigration Service Program provides legal immigration services with staff who are accredited through the DOJ.ⁱ

ICE civil immigration detainers frequently lead to the detention of individuals without due process, raising constitutional concerns and undermining public trust in law enforcement.

Establishing clear guidelines on when compliance with these detainers is appropriate will ensure fairness and maintain strong community-police relationships.

Catholic Charities Hawai'i urges your support for this bill.

If you have any questions, please contact our Legislative Liaison, Betty Lou Larson, at (808) 5274813.

ⁱ <https://www.justice.gov/eoir/page/file/942306/dl#HAWAII>



www.hicir.org | Instagram @hicir
hicoalitionforimmigrantrights@gmail.com

Testimony of Liza Ryan-Gill

In SUPPORT of HB22

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Representative David Tarnas, Chair
Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: February 19, 2025

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of the Hawai‘i Coalition for Immigrant Rights (HCIR) in **strong support of HB22**, with suggested amendments to further strengthen its protections and align with Hawai‘i’s values of aloha, equity, and inclusion.

Hawai‘i is home to one of the most diverse populations in the nation, with nearly 18% of our residents being immigrants, many of whom contribute significantly to our economy, culture, and communities. Among these are undocumented individuals—estimated between 41,000 and 50,500—who often live in fear due to their immigration status. Hawai‘i is unique as the only state where undocumented women outnumber men, highlighting the need for policies that protect vulnerable populations and keep families together.

At HCIR, we advocate for immigrant rights rooted in justice and compassion. We believe HB22 is critical to ensuring that our state and local law enforcement agencies prioritize community trust and safety over immigration enforcement, which remains a federal responsibility.

When local law enforcement collaborates closely with ICE it is difficult for victims of crime, including domestic violence survivors, to determine whether or not they can call the police for support. Broken trust leads to unsafe communities.

While the bill provides much-needed clarity on collaboration with federal immigration authorities, certain provisions raise concerns about due process, racial profiling, and potential misuse.

We specifically highlight the following concerns:

1. **Civil Immigration Detainers:** Allowing detainment based on an ICE civil immigration detainer without a judicial warrant, particularly in cases of alleged terrorist activity, may lead to racial profiling and overreach. We respectfully request that this provision be removed to avoid eroding community trust. Trust is foundational to effective law enforcement and public safety. When immigrants fear interacting with police, crimes go



www.hicir.org | Instagram @hicir
hicoalitionforimmigrantrights@gmail.com

unreported, making everyone less safe.

2. **Non-Public Information Sharing:** We support the bill's limitation on sharing non-public information, such as release dates and home or work addresses, unless accompanied by a judicial warrant. However, the allowance to share such information for individuals convicted of certain offenses risks broad interpretation and unintended consequences. We recommend narrowing this provision to ensure safeguards against misuse.
3. **Stronger Enforcement and Accountability:** The inclusion of an enforcement provision is necessary to ensure compliance and to uphold the spirit of this bill. Without enforcement, the protections outlined risk becoming aspirational rather than actionable.

HB22 represents an opportunity for Hawai'i to lead with dignity and humanity, ensuring protections for immigrants while upholding public safety and constitutional principles. It is a critical step in preserving our communities, ensuring that families remain together, and fostering trust in the institutions meant to serve and protect us all.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I respectfully urge the Committee to pass HB22 with these recommended amendments to ensure its intent is fully realized.

Mahalo for your support and consideration.

Liza Ryan-Gill
Executive Director
Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 11:08:21 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Veronica Mendoza	Roots Reborn Maui	Support	In Person

Comments:

Re: Urgent Support for HB 22, Relating to Immigration; Collaboration with Federal Government; Law Enforcement Agencies

To: Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair, Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Hrg: Wednesday, February 19, 2025, 2:00, Conference Room 325

Dear Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committees,

As the founding director of Maui Roots Reborn, I've witnessed firsthand the resilience and vulnerability of our migrant and immigrant community. Forged in the fires of the 2023 Maui wildfires, our organization, comprised entirely of bilingual and bicultural migrants and children of immigrants, has become a lifeline for over a thousand individuals. We are trusted, we understand the cultural nuances, and we share the lived experiences of those we serve.

This is why we at Maui Roots Reborn strongly support HB22. The current Presidential administration's proposed Department of Homeland Security policies and the looming threat of ICE agents arriving in Hawai'i to carry out mass deportations are deeply alarming. Our immigrant families, already traumatized by the 2023 wildfires, now face the terrifying prospect of detention and deportation.

We cannot allow a repeat of past abuses in which immigrants were subjected to discriminatory targeting, family separation, indefinite detention without charge, and denial of due process rights. These actions are unacceptable and have no place in our society.

Collaborating with ICE is not only fiscally irresponsible but also deeply concerning for another crucial reason: it undermines the trust we have worked so hard to build. We have spent countless hours rebuilding our community's faith in institutions and organizations after the trauma of the wildfires. Most recently, we have carefully and deliberately worked to foster a sense of safety and trust between our immigrant community and the police department, assuring them that they can rely on law enforcement for protection and assistance. Forcing our police to act as ICE agents would shatter this fragile trust, undoing years of hard work and jeopardizing the safety and well-being of our community.

Furthermore, it would divert resources from our local law enforcement agencies and force them to participate in actions that fall outside their jurisdiction. Allowing ICE to conduct mass

deportations sets a dangerous precedent, undermining the civil liberties of all residents of our state. The Fifth Amendment guarantees due process protections for all persons, including immigrants, and these rights must be upheld.

To be clear, failure to pass HB22 would be nothing less than a racist act by the Hawai'i State Senate, and would fall in line with the current President's xenophobic rhetoric. If we vote to allow local law enforcement to cooperate with ICE in our state, we are sending the message to our most vulnerable immigrant population that they do not matter, that we allow people in our state to be discriminated against based on the color of their skin and their country of origin, and that they are not welcome here when, in fact, the majority of our residents are immigrants. According to a 2020 study conducted by the American Immigration Council, nearly one in five Hawaii residents is an immigrant, while one in seven residents is a native-born U.S. citizen with at least one immigrant parent.

Immigrants are vital members of our communities, contributing to our economy, enriching our culture, and strengthening our social fabric. They deserve to be treated with dignity and respect, not fear and persecution.

Roots Reborn urges Hawai'i to stand strong against these harmful policies. We must prevent mass deportations that would devastate our communities and tear families apart. By passing HB22, we can reaffirm our commitment to protecting the rights and well-being of all Hawai'i residents, regardless of immigration status.

Sincerely,

Veronica Mendoza Jachowski

Executive Director

Roots Reborn



STATE OF HAWAII ORGANIZATION OF POLICE OFFICERS

Robert Cavaco
State Board President

" A Police Organization for Police Officers Only "
Founded 1971

Term of Office
1-2022 to 12-2025

February 18, 2025

The Honorable David A. Tarnas, Chair
The Honorable Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair
House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: **HB 22 – Relating to Collaboration with the Federal Government**

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice-Chair Poepoe, and Honorable Committee members:

I serve as the President of the State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers ("SHOPO") and write to you on behalf of our Union in opposition to HB 22, which seeks to limit the collaboration between state and county law enforcement agencies and federal immigration authorities. We appreciate the legislature's intent to protect the rights and privacy of Hawaii's residents; however, we believe that the current legal framework adequately addresses these concerns and that HB 22 is unnecessary.

First, Hawaii's existing laws already provide a balanced approach to collaboration with federal immigration authorities. Under current regulations, state and local agencies have the discretion to decide whether and how to respond to federal requests, ensuring that any cooperation is conducted within the bounds of the law and with respect for individual rights. This discretion allows law enforcement agencies to prioritize public safety and community trust, which are essential to effective policing.

Second, HB 22 could hinder our officers' ability to address serious criminal activities. The bill restricts cooperation with federal authorities unless specific conditions are met, such as the presence of a judicial warrant or recent felony conviction. This limitation could prevent law enforcement from effectively managing situations involving individuals who pose a significant threat to public safety.

Third, the bill's restrictions may lead to increased administrative burdens on local law enforcement agencies. By requiring additional criteria for cooperation, HB 22 could divert valuable resources away from essential policing activities, thereby impacting the overall effectiveness of law enforcement operations. This is especially concerning given the critical shortage of police officers that we already are grappling with.

Fourth, while this bill aims to foster trust between law enforcement and immigrant communities, it may inadvertently create confusion and uncertainty about the role of county police in immigration matters. The current laws already allow for a nuanced approach that respects community relationships while ensuring public safety.

In conclusion, SHOPO believes that the existing legal framework provides sufficient safeguards to protect the rights of Hawaii's residents while allowing law enforcement to effectively collaborate with federal authorities when necessary. We urge the legislature to consider the potential negative impacts of HB 22 on public safety and law enforcement operations. We respectfully request that the bill be reconsidered in light of these concerns.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony. We are committed to working with the legislature to ensure that Hawaii remains a safe and welcoming place for all its residents.

Respectfully Submitted,
ROBERT CAVACO
SHOPO President

RC: ja

Testimony in SUPPORT of HB22
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair
Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: February 19th, 2025

Dear Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committees,

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

A.L.O.H.A. Latinos stand in strong support of **House Bill No. 22**, which seeks to outline the circumstances under which state and county law enforcement agencies in Hawai'i may collaborate with federal immigration authorities. This bill is pivotal in maintaining the trust and safety of our diverse communities.

Preserving Community Trust and Public Safety

Local law enforcement's primary mission is to ensure the safety and well-being of all residents. When local agencies engage in federal civil immigration enforcement, it can erode the trust that immigrant communities have in the police. This erosion of trust leads to several adverse outcomes:

- **Underreporting of Crimes:** Fear of deportation deters individuals from reporting crimes or cooperating with investigations, allowing criminal activities to go unchecked and posing a threat to the broader community.
- **Hindered Community Policing:** Effective policing relies on strong relationships between law enforcement and community members. Involvement in immigration enforcement can strain these relationships, making community members less likely to engage with or assist police.

Balancing Responsibilities and Resources

H.B. No. 22 ensures that local law enforcement resources are allocated to address state and local priorities rather than federal civil immigration matters. This focus is essential, as diverting local resources to federal immigration enforcement can overextend agencies, reducing their capacity to address pressing public safety concerns within our communities.

Impact on Mixed-Status Families

Hawai'i's rich diversity includes many mixed-status families, where members have varying immigration statuses. Collaborating with federal immigration authorities can lead to family separations, causing profound emotional and economic hardships. Such separations not only

affect undocumented individuals but also their U.S. citizen families, disrupting their lives and well-being.

Language Diversity and Due Process

Our state's linguistic diversity is a source of pride. However, language barriers can impede individuals' understanding of their rights and access to due process. Engaging local law enforcement in federal immigration tasks can exacerbate these challenges, placing additional burdens on both individuals and the system. Ensuring that all residents, regardless of language proficiency, have access to their rights is fundamental to justice and community trust.

Conclusion

By clearly defining the role of local law enforcement in federal immigration matters, H.B. No. 22 fosters a safer and more cohesive community. It allows law enforcement to concentrate on local priorities, preserves the trust of community members, and protects the integrity of families. We urge the committee to pass this bill to uphold the values of inclusivity and justice that define Hawai'i.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A.L.O.H.A. Latinos

Victoria Magaña Ledesma

Marlen Villatoro

Graciela Del Rio

Armando Rodriguez

Karina Rodriguez

Anna Marie Smith

Maria Alejandra Cisneros Zavala

Jazmin Allison

Claudia Hartz

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 1:00:07 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
amy agbayani	hawaii friends of civil rights	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Co-chairs Amy Agbayani and Paatricia McManaman the Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights. strongly supports hb22.

Our state has over 250,000 immigrants and less than 50,000 are undocumented. The top countries of origin were from the Philippines (45%), China (9%), Japan (8%), Korea (6%) and the Pacific island nations (4%). Most ICE arrests were from China and the Marshall Islands. Significant numbers of immigrants live in mixed status households where some members are US born or naturalized citizens, and permanent residents. Immigrants They continue to be part of our community and contribute to our economy and cultural fabric.

Please support this bill that ensures immigrants are afforded the necessary protections and due process.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/14/2025 5:33:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Crossland	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge this Committee to decisively **VOTE NO** vote on House Bill 22, which seeks to limit state and local law enforcement's cooperation with federal immigration authorities. This legislation, under the guise of protecting immigrant communities, fundamentally undermines public safety, national security, and the rule of law in our state.

1. Compromising Public Safety:

This bill restricts law enforcement's ability to collaborate with federal agencies on matters critical to our community's safety. By not allowing local agencies to honor detainer requests without judicial warrants, you're effectively giving sanctuary to individuals who might pose a threat to our communities. This includes those with recent felony convictions or those suspected of terrorism. The result? Criminals could be released back into our neighborhoods, increasing the risk to residents.

2. Undermining National Security:

The bill's exceptions are so narrow that they could hinder our ability to respond to national security threats. When local law enforcement cannot share basic, non-public information with federal immigration authorities unless under very specific conditions, we are potentially blinding ourselves to national security risks. This is not about immigration status; it's about ensuring that those who commit serious crimes or pose a threat do not slip through the cracks.

3. Legal and Constitutional Concerns:

The bill misinterprets and misapplies federal law. Title 8 U.S.C. § 1373 does not merely allow communication; it mandates cooperation regarding immigration status inquiries. By choosing to ignore federal law enforcement's requests unless backed by a judicial warrant, this bill sets up a direct conflict with federal mandates, potentially inviting legal challenges and chaos in law enforcement practices.

4. Encouraging Illegal Activity:

By signaling that Hawaii will not fully cooperate with federal immigration enforcement, this bill could inadvertently encourage illegal immigration and criminal activity. When individuals know

they can evade federal immigration consequences through local non-cooperation, it sends the wrong message about law enforcement and respect for our legal system.

5. Straining Law Enforcement Resources:

The administrative burden this bill places on local law enforcement to navigate these new rules, determine when exceptions apply, and manage the fallout from non-cooperation will stretch our resources thin. Instead of focusing on community policing and crime prevention, our officers will be bogged down with compliance issues, potentially at the expense of public safety.

6. Eroding Trust in Law Enforcement:

While the bill claims to foster trust between immigrant communities and police, in reality, it could do the opposite. By showing that local law enforcement's hands are tied when it comes to immigration, trust in the police's ability to maintain law and order could diminish. Trust is built on the belief that law enforcement can act decisively against all threats, not just selectively.

7. Conclusion

This bill does not serve the interests of public safety, legal coherence, or community trust. It is an ill-considered step towards fragmenting our law enforcement capabilities and national security framework. I strongly urge this committee to **VOTE NO** on House Bill 22. Let's keep our communities safe, our laws respected, and our cooperation with federal partners intact for the welfare of all Hawaii residents.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/14/2025 9:01:47 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nancy D Moser	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In STRONG SUPPORT of HB22.

Aloha Chairs and members of the Committees,

Please vote YES on this measure.

Nancy Moser in Waikoloa on Hawai'i Island

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 9:54:22 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brian Piotrowski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 10:59:17 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Peggy Kwi-Suk Hong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 11:06:50 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Deborah G. Nehmad	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 11:26:34 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelle Ma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 11:34:31 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
martha chantiny	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is imperative that we maintain a strong clear line between federal agents and state law enforcement agencies. keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can ask the local police for help rather than suffer from disaster and crime due to fear of being snatched for alleged illegal immigration

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 12:02:26 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Diann Karin Lynn	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The state and counties maintain their own police forces to support and protect their own people. It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 12:20:50 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Nelson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this bill for cooperation between State, City and Federal law enforcement for immigrants.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Nelson

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 12:27:53 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carol Maxym	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear.

Please vote for this bill.

Thank you

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 1:28:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Suellen Barton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Maintain the distinction between local police force & federal officers - be very specific about the description of the instances when the local and the feds are required to co-operate

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 1:29:44 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rebecca Redwine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 1:32:11 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chanara Casey Richmond	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB22. After knocking on doors in my District, I discovered the #1 concern in my community is crime. The effect of Hawaii's judge's and legislator's pro-criminal stance has impacted everyone in our state. Now you want to force our local and state law enforcement, who signed up to protect us, to fight against federal law enforcement and protect foreign illegals who are endangering the people in their communities? On Oahu, there is 1 police officer for every 9,000 residents. If this bill passes, more cops will quit. Forcing cops to fight cops is wrong.

Chanara Richmond HD42

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 1:45:25 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alice Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 2:11:36 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marc D Godt	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

ALOHA to my Elected Representatives,

Legislation designed to aid and abet a criminal activity is utterly insane. Tying the hands of our local law enforcement by prohibiting them from working with our Federal Government is ridiculous. Cooperation and teamwork is what our state needs in order to ensure all laws of the land are faithfully executed.

There is nothing racist in following existing federal immigration law. As a means to ensure our nation can function efficiently and for the benefit of American Citizens, it is necessary for local law enforcement to cooperate with federal partners.

PLEASE VOTE TO ENSURE LAWS ARE RESPECTED AND FOLLOWED.

Do NOT simply vote to ignore US Immigration Laws because our current President is not likeable.

VOTE NO ON HB 22 and tell the Residents of Hawaii you support them.

Respectfully Submitted,

marc d godt

maui

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 3:26:32 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brenda DuFresne	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB22

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 3:35:50 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James E Raymond	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 4:02:58 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Audrey Higbee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony in SUPPORT of HB22

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY

Representative Greggor Ilagan, Chair

Representative Ikaiki Hussey, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: January 29th, 2025

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of HB22, which allows state and county law enforcement (LEAs) to collaborate with the federal government for immigration purposes in only limited, specific circumstances.

Federal law does not require state and local entities to collect or share information with ICE. There is no affirmative duty for LEAs to collect or share citizen or immigration status information, and there is no prohibition against preventing the communication of other non-public information. Federal law, under title 8 United States Code section 1373, instead, limits state and local governments from restricting communication with federal immigration authorities concerning "information regarding the citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual." Requests from ICE to hold a person of interest after the time when they are legally released from local custody, is just that, a request. Our LEAs have no obligation under federal or state law to respond affirmatively.

In this time of heightened fear among immigrant communities many individuals believe that any interaction with local police could endanger themselves or their family members. It is critical that our local law enforcement agencies maintain the trust and confidence of the residents that live here by clearly delineating their role. When police officers become entangled with Department of Homeland Security immigrant women feel they cannot report domestic violence, victims cannot come forward with information, and the security of the entire Beverley Tobias of Kauai community is threatened.

Lastly, this bill protects our local law enforcement agencies and the counties that fund them from civil liability for potentially violating individuals' Fourth Amendment rights against unlawful search and seizure.

I urge you to support this bill. It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents.

Thank you for your support and consideration,

Audrey Higbee

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 4:53:31 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
G L Hutchinson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

aloha,

Its your/our duty to protect **our** police so our residents are not afraid of talking with them.

its our kuliana

mahalo

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 5:29:45 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tim Huycke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB22.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 6:20:58 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vivian S. Toellner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I don't want Hawai'i to participate in any immigration activities. ICE has arrested people in error for years,. In 2012, my friend was held at the Honolulu airport detention center for 29 days, before being released....all because of clerical error!!!

Taking local law enforcement away from their regular duties, just adds to our shortage of police officers.

Using Hawaii resouces contradicts Hawai'i's values of welcoming all people regardless of immigration status and diverts critical resources away from affordable housing, sustainable development, and infrastructure improvements. Mahalo

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 6:52:04 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tara Nash	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support state and county law enforcement agencies to collaborate with the federal government for immigration purposes in only limited, specific circumstances.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 6:58:02 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB22. Please pass this bill.

Mike Golojuch, Sr.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 10:27:01 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Lum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of HB22, which allows state and county law enforcement (LEAs) to collaborate with the federal government for immigration purposes in only limited, specific circumstances.

Federal law does not require state and local entities to collect or share information with ICE. There is no affirmative duty for LEAs to collect or share citizen or immigration status information, and there is no prohibition against preventing the communication of other non-public information. Federal law, under title 8 United States Code section 1373, instead, limits state and local governments from restricting communication with federal immigration authorities concerning "information regarding the citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual." Requests from ICE to hold a person of interest after the time when they are legally released from local custody, is just that, a request. Our LEAs have no obligation under federal or state law to respond affirmatively.

In this time of heightened fear among immigrant communities many individuals believe that any interaction with local police could endanger themselves or their family members. It is critical that our local law enforcement agencies maintain the trust and confidence of the residents that live here by clearly delineating their role. When police officers become entangled with Department of Homeland Security immigrant women feel they cannot report domestic violence, victims cannot come forward with information, and the security of the entire Beverley Tobias of Kauai community is threatened.

Lastly, this bill protects our local law enforcement agencies and the counties that fund them from civil liability for potentially violating individuals' Fourth Amendment rights against unlawful search and seizure.

I urge you to support this bill. It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents.

Thank you for your support and consideration,

Jennif said Lum, 'Ewa Beach

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/15/2025 11:33:34 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brett Kulbis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Tarnas and Committee Members,

My name is Brett Kulbis, I'm a 26yr Navy Veteran and Retired Civil Servant. I live in Ewa Beach.

I STRONGLY OPPOSE HB-22.

I am writing to express my strong opposition to Hawaii House Bill 22, which proposes to limit the collaboration between state and county law enforcement agencies and the federal government for immigration purposes.

Immigration is primarily a federal responsibility. Law enforcement agencies at all levels must work together to combat criminal activities, including illegal immigration. By allowing federal and state authorities to share resources and information, we can more effectively identify and apprehend individuals who pose a threat to our communities. By limiting local cooperation, we may be seen as obstructing federal law enforcement efforts, which could lead to legal challenges and potential loss of federal funding.

Hawai'i is a gateway to our great nation, and must take its role in border security seriously. By limiting collaboration, we risk creating loopholes that criminal elements can exploit. Human trafficking, drug smuggling, and other illegal activities often go hand in hand with illegal immigration.

The consequences of this bill will be far-reaching negative consequences for public safety, economic stability, and legal compliance impacting not just Hawai'i but the entire country. We must not allow our beautiful state to become a safe haven for those who break our laws and threaten our way of life.

Our nation's security, our state security, and the rule of law must come first. By working together, we can uphold the values of freedom and prosperity that make Hawai'i and America great.

Respectfully, I STRONGLY encourage you to vote NO on HB-22.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/16/2025 8:15:06 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Boyd Ready	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, Majority Caucus Legislators and Testifiers,

Few here knew that so many foreign nationals were unlawfully present in Hawaii. The many testifying organizations obviously do know, but most Hawaii citizens did not. Your national political party created this mess, so it is appropriate that you and the many associated testifiers must adjust while the newly ruling party tries to clean it up.

As a Christian, I agree it is our duty to treat strangers with civility and care. As a local historian I am grateful for Hawaii's past leaders who mitigated the evils of FDR's internments. But St. Thomas Aquinas stipulates that a nation ought lawfully to control its borders and national character, and that immigrants ought to assimilate and become part of the nation into which they have been invited or allowed.

Among the classic tactics of tyrants cataloged by Aristotle is to import a mass of migrants, then favor them over the citizenry. The American people have had enough. Since the migration is so large and pervasive, the corrective measures will necessarily include some harshness. Mitigate it in law, yes, but be not surprised at the swinging of the pendulum back to St. Thomas' recommendations.

Hawaii is marked by obeying law "more in the breach than in the observance." Fireworks, chicken fighting, gambling, non-citizen voting, transient accommodations, and camping in parks, public lands, and blocking sidewalks without permit, are all illegal, but common.

Similarly, businesses and residents routinely hire unlawfully present foreign nationals. There is no requirement to check I-9 information against any verifying database, so they do not, and fake ID is readily available and cheap.

Consequently, lower wages for working Hawaii citizens; large taxpayers' Medicaid, SNAP, and social services costs; unverifiable proportion of mailed-in ballots from foreign nationals; and competition for workforce-affordable housing, challenge us. Working local families often leave Hawaii. And more than half of native Hawaiians have left Polynesia for America.

In other words, most of our perennially unsolved problems are made worse by so many unlawfully present. It is not their fault, but it is the fault of the national party that opened the borders, used taxpayer money to hire NGOs to facilitate the migration of millions, and provided

free airplane rides into and around the country, often landing in the dark of night for deliberate concealment. Free trips to Hawaii were openly offered to migrants in East Coast cities.

Although the proposed law does appear a little unpatriotic by minimizing cooperation with national authorities, I say kudos to the Majority Caucus and so many obviously salaried representatives of allied organizations for spending so much time on the mess their fellow partisans have created.

Hopefully, we will continue to treat our resident foreign nationals with dignity while they face the firmness coming from national enforcement.

Boyd Ready

Haleiwa

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/16/2025 8:20:09 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
JANE TOLLEFSRUD	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/16/2025 9:00:27 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
DeWaine Tollefsrud	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Putting it plainly, it is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear. We need the trust of our local police not to be diluted!

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/16/2025 12:48:17 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jane Aquino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/16/2025 2:12:15 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sheryl Summers	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is imperative that we keep a clear deliniation between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear. And we do not need the energies of our local police to be diverted to serve this federal effort.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/16/2025 3:49:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leah Morse	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/16/2025 4:19:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Reed Bertollette	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/16/2025 6:23:11 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nikole McGreevey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of HB22, which allows state and county law enforcement (LEAs) to collaborate with the federal government for immigration purposes in only limited, specific circumstances.

Federal law does not require state and local entities to collect or share information with ICE. There is no affirmative duty for LEAs to collect or share citizen or immigration status information, and there is no prohibition against preventing the communication of other non-public information. Federal law, under title 8 United States Code section 1373, instead, limits state and local governments from restricting communication with federal immigration authorities concerning "information regarding the citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual." Requests from ICE to hold a person of interest after the time when they are legally released from local custody, is just that, a request. Our LEAs have no obligation under federal or state law to respond affirmatively.

In this time of heightened fear among immigrant communities many individuals believe that any interaction with local police could endanger themselves or their family members. It is critical that our local law enforcement agencies maintain the trust and confidence of the residents that live here by clearly delineating their role. When police officers become entangled with Department of Homeland Security immigrant women feel they cannot report domestic violence, victims cannot come forward with information, and the security of the entire Beverley Tobias of Kauai community is threatened.

Lastly, this bill protects our local law enforcement agencies and the counties that fund them from civil liability for potentially violating individuals' Fourth Amendment rights against unlawful search and seizure.

I urge you to support this bill. It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents.

Thank you for your support and consideration,

Dr. Nikki McGreevey

Kaneohe, HI

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/16/2025 9:05:48 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruth Love	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Why are you attempting to block ICE and Customs and Border Patrol from doing their job? Why would you discourage the fine law enforcement officers we have from assisting federal law enforcement to arrest, detain or deport people who are here illegally? Why would you encourage local law enforcement to not enforce federal laws? Interagency law enforcement collaboration should be encouraged not discouraged.

Agree that Hawaii is a great mix of races. I am a descendant of legal immigrants. I'm sure Hawaii welcomes all legal immigrants, as it should.

Do not make these moves or our federal funding may be at stake.

Thank you,

Mrs Ruth Love

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 12:22:08 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Debra Bringman	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I know people who have immigrated here legally. I stand with those who did it the right way.

Please don't let the first thing we teach those who stay here illegally that our laws are meant to be broken. There are consequences for speeding, for drunk driving, for running a stop sign, or shoplifting. None of us like the consequences when we get caught, but it is the law. Our "law makers" should be defending the law, by allowing our State, City & County, and federal officers to work together to uphold the law. If we do not like the law, then our law makers should work together to change it; not help people break it.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 3:04:08 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terri Gately	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear.

Strong support for HB22 Relating to Collaboration with the Federal Government

February 17, 2025

Representative David Tamas, Chair House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
Representative Mahina Poepoe, V-chair House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

Re:**HB22** RELATING TO COLLABORATION WITH ICE.

Dear Chair Tamas, V-Chair Poepoe and Members of the Committee

I am Gail Breakey, with Indivisible, testifying in strong support for **HB22**, which allows state and county law enforcement agencies to collaborate with the federal government for immigration purposes in only limited, specific circumstances.

Federal law does not require state and local entities to collect or share information with ICE. There is no affirmative duty for LEAs to collect or share citizen or immigration status information, and there is no prohibition against preventing the communication of other non-public information. Federal law, under title 8 United States Code section 1373, instead, limits state and local governments from restricting communication with federal immigration authorities concerning "information regarding the citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual." **Requests from ICE to hold a person of interest after the time when they are legally released from local custody, is just that, a request. Our LEAs have no obligation under federal or state law to respond affirmatively.**

In this time of heightened fear among immigrant communities many individuals believe that any interaction with local police could endanger themselves or their family members. **It is critical that our local law enforcement agencies maintain the trust and confidence of the residents that live here by clearly delineating their role.** When police officers become entangled with Department of Homeland Security immigrant women feel they cannot report domestic violence, victims cannot come forward with information; this obviously interferes with local law enforcement.

Thank you for your consideration of this legislation and for the opportunity to testify in support.

Sincerely,



Gail Breakey, RN, MPH

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 12:30:01 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in favor of HB22.

I especially agree with the part of the bill that states *'The legislature additionally finds that the federal government should not shift the financial burden of federal civil immigration enforcement, including personnel time and costs relating to notification and detention, onto local law enforcement by requesting that local law enforcement agencies continue detaining persons based on non-mandatory civil immigration detainers or cooperating and assisting with requests to notify Immigration and Customs Enforcement that a person will be released from local custody. Furthermore, the legislature does not believe this is a wise and effective use of valuable, limited state and local resources at a time when vital services are already overburdened'.*

As per the US Constitution: 'The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people'. Shifting the responsibility of federal immigration policy to the states, and expecting them to financially foot the bill, is absolutely an anathema to the Constitution.

I do not want people in our state to feel afraid.

Mahalo.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 1:24:47 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Younghee Overly	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for hearing HB22. I support this measure because in this time of extreme uncertainty and fear, our immigrant population need to be able to trust the local police and the local police should be able to do their job within the local guideline. The undocumented immigrants are our friends, neighbors, and co-workers.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 2:44:18 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elena Vorm	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 3:24:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelle Bonk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear and so local law enforcement can focus on the jobs they have been hired to do.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 3:29:22 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen A Valasek	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

“It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear.”

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 4:57:08 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thaddeus Pham	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the JHA Committee,

As a concerned citizen in Hawai'i, I write in strong support of HB22, which allows state and county law enforcement (LEAs) to collaborate with the federal government for immigration purposes in only limited, specific circumstances.

Federal law does not require state and local entities to collect or share information with ICE. There is no affirmative duty for LEAs to collect or share citizen or immigration status information, and there is no prohibition against preventing the communication of other non-public information. Federal law, under title 8 United States Code section 1373, instead, limits state and local governments from restricting communication with federal immigration authorities concerning "information regarding the citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual." Requests from ICE to hold a person of interest after the time when they are legally released from local custody, is just that, a request. Our LEAs have no obligation under federal or state law to respond affirmatively.

In this time of heightened fear among immigrant communities many individuals believe that any interaction with local police could endanger themselves or their family members. It is critical that our local law enforcement agencies maintain the trust and confidence of the residents that live here by clearly delineating their role. When police officers become entangled with Department of Homeland Security immigrant women feel they cannot report domestic violence, victims cannot come forward with information, and the security of the entire Beverley Tobias of Kauai community is threatened.

Lastly, this bill protects our local law enforcement agencies and the counties that fund them from civil liability for potentially violating individuals' Fourth Amendment rights against unlawful search and seizure.

I urge you to support this bill. It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents.

Mahalo,

Thaddeus Pham

Makiki, Hawai'i

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 8:25:34 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jada Rufo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

t is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 9:25:33 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maya Maxym	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill, especially given the risk of human rights violations that our immigrant neighbors face at the hands of ICE. Mahalo for your consideration.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/17/2025 11:14:37 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carmela Resuma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this measure.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 6:10:47 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Katharine Conway	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 7:46:43 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David E Shormann	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To protect all hawaiians and especially Native Hawaiians, local law enforcement should do everything they can to work with federal immigration authorities to deport illegal aliens. It's almost like the authors of the bill hate Native Hawaiians; I hope that's not the case!

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 8:01:49 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Deven English	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong opposition of this bill, Law enforcement is Law enforcement, no agency should be limited in helping another agency because of political differences. They protect and serve the citizens of the United States of America, an oath they all take.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 8:05:02 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shani Hough	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppsoe HB22, which severely limits local law enforcement cooperation with federal immigration authorities, compromising public safety!

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 8:08:22 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeanine Acopan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Why do you hate the people of Hawai'i by trying to limit our law enforcement's duties to serve and protect? Pilau!

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 8:13:03 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noela von Wiegandt	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I oppose HB22. Local law enforcement and Federal immigration should work together to enforce the United Immigration Policies. Thank you.

Noela von Wiegandt

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 8:27:14 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christopher Gouveia	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB22 because in order for federal authorities to properly enforce laws against illegal immigration, then there must be collaboration with our local law enforcement.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:05:07 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Louella Vidinha	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I vote NO. Who are you to mandate anything ! ?

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:35:11 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cynthia J. Goto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strong support!

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:35:31 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeffrey Duquez	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, strongly oppose.

I prefer our local law enforcement agencies to cooperate with ICE. Mahalo nui loa.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:39:07 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryan Willis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Oppose

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:56:24 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Corinne Solomon	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB22. Vote NO on this bill.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:58:44 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bunnie Harrington	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB22.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:59:41 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kaiulani Bowers	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this Bill

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:00:16 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike Harrington	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:13:44 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kirk Powles	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is Hawaii's way to try and be like California and be a sanctuary city for illegals.

We can't support our own local people but you want to keep illegal people in the state, thereby creating a greater burden on our already strapped system.

Hawaii is for Hawaiians, but illegals.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:17:03 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Eve Furchgott	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:48:26 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lesha Mathes	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill. This compromises public safety. It is also unconstitutional. The people voted for change in November. Quit trying to impede the change! You are supposed to be protecting the citizens not people who are here illegally!

House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
Hearing
February 19, 2025 at 2:00 pm
Via Videoconference
Conference Room 325
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

RE: HB22 - RELATING TO COLLABORATION WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.

Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha Char Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, Maui Representative Cochran, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Christine Andrews and I am a volunteer immigrant rights educator on Maui. I submit this testimony today in strong support of HB 22 - Relating to Collaboration with the Federal Government. These are unprecedented times, and threats to our communities as a result of federal executive overreach are having a negative impact. People are afraid to go to school and work because of fear of getting swept up in immigration enforcement raids that are focused not only on criminals, as is being suggested, but on law-abiding members of our communities. Our friends, family members, parents of children at our schools, spouses of our neighbors, owners of small businesses we frequent and depend upon. It violates the Constitution to discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, but the shift in federal priorities seems in direct contrast to constitutional American democracy. The federal government's attacks on immigrants target any person that does not fit the Project 2025 agenda of creating a white, male, Christian American society. We are all at risk and we must all stand together to protect everyone in our community and uphold democratic values and our Constitution.

Existential threats aside, I support HB22 because it reflects the needs of our local enforcement agencies and the historical separation between local and federal law enforcement responsibilities. As an attorney, I feel obligated to remind the members of the Committee that federal law does not require state or local entities to collect or share information with federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). It should be noted that requests from ICE to hold a person of interest after the time when they are legally released from local custody is merely a request. Hawai'i law enforcement agencies have no obligation under federal or state law to respond to such ICE requests and to do so is an improper expenditure of local law enforcement resources.

Our law enforcement agencies have neither the personnel nor the funding to be deputized to undertake federal functions. To do so would interfere with the primary responsibility of our law enforcement agencies, which is to maintain the trust and confidence of the residents that live here by clearly delineating their role as public safety officers. When police officers inappropriately blur the lines by getting involved with ICE, immigrants will not come forward as

witnesses in criminal investigations, women will feel that they cannot report domestic violence, it chills our relationship with local law enforcement agencies, and the security of our communities is compromised as a result.

We must uphold the safety and security of our communities, our civil rights, and our freedom from federal executive threats and over reach. Now is a time for us to stand together and not have our law enforcement agencies assume federal responsibilities that contradict their primary mission of keeping the people of Hawai`i safe.

I urge you to pass HB22 and thank you for your time.

Mahalo,

Christine L. Andrews, J.D.
Wailuku, Maui

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:53:39 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
TERI SAVAIINAEA	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas and Committee Members,

I oppose HB22.

Kind regards

Teri Kia Savaiinaea

District 45, Wai'anae Resident

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 11:18:08 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Penner	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 11:37:58 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alika Valdez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 11:39:41 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bart Burford	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

NOT SUPPORTING ANY LIMITATIONS ON ENFORCING THE PRESIDENTS MANDATE
ON ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION! I SUPPORT PRESIDENT TRUMP!

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 11:56:54 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dorinda Ohelo	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

Testimony in SUPPORT of HB22

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: February 19th, 2025

Dear Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Graciela Del Rio, and I am writing in strong support of HB22, which places necessary limitations on state and county law enforcement agencies' collaboration with ICE.

As a community health worker and former educator on Hawai'i Island, I have witnessed firsthand the immense fear that grips our undocumented community members and their families. This fear extends beyond the immediate threat of deportation; it infiltrates every aspect of daily life, leading individuals to avoid essential services and interactions that are vital to their well-being and the safety of our community.

Erosion of Public Safety

When local law enforcement collaborates with ICE, it creates a chilling effect that discourages individuals from reporting crimes or serving as witnesses. This reluctance stems from the fear that any interaction with police could result in detention or deportation. Such a climate not only leaves crimes unreported but also allows criminal activities to flourish unchecked, undermining the safety of all residents. Studies have shown that entangling local policing with federal immigration enforcement erodes community trust and cooperation, which are essential components of effective policing.

Strain on Healthcare Services

The widespread fear of potential ICE involvement has led many undocumented individuals to avoid seeking medical care, causing minor health issues to escalate into emergencies. This avoidance of preventive care places additional strain on our emergency medical services and compromises public health. Moreover, keiki, many of whom are U.S. citizens, are missing essential wellness checks, including developmental screenings, due to their parents' fears. This neglect can have long-term detrimental effects on their health and development.

Pregnant women have expressed being too afraid to deliver their babies in hospitals, leading to increased anxiety during pregnancy and childbirth. This paralyzing fear stems from concerns about potential deportation by ICE and local law enforcement. Such panic not only endangers the health of mothers and infants but also worsens the strain on healthcare services as preventable complications become emergencies.

Impact on Education and Childhood Trauma

Educators express deep concern over the trauma inflicted on children who witness the detention of family members or live in constant fear of such events. The presence of law enforcement in schools, particularly when associated with immigration enforcement, can have a devastating psychological impact on students. Many children aspire to serve in law enforcement; seeing officers participate in actions that harm their communities can shatter these aspirations and foster long-term distrust.

Historical Missteps and Civil Rights Violations

ICE's history includes instances of detaining and even deporting U.S. citizens, highlighting significant flaws in the system. Between 2015 and 2020, ICE mistakenly deported as many as 70 U.S. citizens. Such errors, along with practices like racial profiling, severely undermine public trust. When local law enforcement is perceived as complicit in these actions, it taints their relationship with the community, making it exceedingly difficult to rebuild trust once it's broken.

Resource Allocation and Law Enforcement Focus

Our law enforcement agencies are already stretched thin, facing challenges in recruitment and retention. Involving them in federal immigration enforcement diverts critical resources away from their primary mission: ensuring public safety. This additional burden can lead to decreased effectiveness in addressing local crimes and erodes the community-oriented policing models that are fundamental to building trust and cooperation.

In conclusion, the collaboration between local law enforcement and ICE not only jeopardizes the civil rights of individuals but also has far-reaching negative consequences on public safety, public health, and community trust. By passing HB22, we can take a definitive step toward safeguarding the integrity of our local institutions and ensuring the well-being of all Hawai'i residents.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Graciela Del Rio

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 12:40:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robin D. Ganitano	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB22 which severely limits local law enforcement cooperation with federal immigration authorities. This is unconstitutional.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 12:41:46 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Angela M Anderson	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

The restriction of cooperation with federal immigration authorities could undermine public safety. Local law enforcement often relies on federal resources and databases to manage threats or criminal activities related to immigration status. Limiting this cooperation could leave our communities more vulnerable to criminal elements.

Federal agencies like ICE play a crucial role in combatting human trafficking, drug smuggling and other transnational crimes. Reducing their operational capabilities within our state could inadvertently provide safe havens for such activities.

While states have the right to craft their own policies, immigration is fundamentally a federal matter. HB22 could lead to legal conflicts and confusion in law enforcement practices, potentially hampering effective governance. Additionally, the federal government has made it quite clear that failure to cooperate with federal authorities in immigration matters could lead to reduced federal funding for the state.

This bill could also lead to selective enforcement where only certain crimes or individuals receive attention, based on their immigration status rather than the severity of their actions, which undermines the principals of equal justice under the law.

Enhanced cooperation with federal agencies can lead to better management of resources, including federal funding for law-enforcement initiatives. Reducing this partnership might drain local budgets already stretched them. In addition to the funds. This legislature is currently considering providing legal support to illegal migrants on top of already overburdened housing market

While the intent might be to foster trust within immigrant communities, the reality is quite the opposite and fosters distrust among tax paying citizens and Elected officials.

I urge the committee to reconsider the implications of HB 22 instead of limiting cooperation we should focus on enhancing it through transparent accountable and community oriented practices. Let's work towards a system, where state and federal agencies can collaborate effectively to ensure the safety and well-being of all residence of Hawaii

In an already overburdened housing market and taxed social services. The idea that HAWAII would support illegal immigrants is beyond comprehension

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 12:48:25 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheryl Bellamy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill because it is imperative that we keep the distinction between our local police and federal immigration agents so our immigrant population can trust the local police in this time of fear.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 12:56:02 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dawn O'Brien	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committe of Hawai'i's Representative Leaders,

TYSVM for taking the time to read this, it means a lot & I appreciate you.

I am in strong opposition of HB22 using our tax payers' dollars to disavow, disobey and dis-unite with federal law enforcement. WHAT ARE WE THINKING? Why is this even a proposed law in our state that comes under the federal jurisprudence of the United States of America? How is this logical? IT'S NOT! Why is this even a consideration, much less a proposed bill of law. The irony is that you want to pass a law as lawmakers to act in a way to disobey the federal law, MAKE THIS MAKE SENSE! IT DOES NOT.

In summary, I fully & strongly oppose this bill and ask sincerely that you represent the majority of the tax-paying residents of Hawaii--whether they voted for you or not--and also oppose this illegal law proposition.

Mahalo & Mālama Pono,

Dawn O'Brien

Lifelong resident of Hawai'I

President, HOPE HI, Inc.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 12:59:36 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bronson Teixeira	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I strongly oppose this bill, mahalo.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 1:04:09 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Matt Smith	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

our politicians should be working to protect us taxpayers, not working to protect illegal border crossers.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 1:18:40 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Debbie Wyand	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly oppose this bill. Enforce the existing laws.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 1:20:21 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Renee Rabb	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of HB22 by Rep. Iligan. It is important that Hawaii does not engage in the massive attacks occurring nationwide against our immigrant communities. It will do no one any good if immigrants are afraid of our local police. Let ICE do its on dirty work. Do not help them create an atmosphere of hate in Hawaii.

Mahalo,

Renee Rabb

Keaau, HI 96749

Big Island

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 1:22:13 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joey Badua	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha the Honorable David A. Tarnas, Chair; and the Honorable Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair Members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs.

I support H.B. 22 because it aligns with my values, as well as the values enumerated in the Hawai‘i Revised Statutes Sec. 5-7.5, the Aloha Spirit statute. H.B. 22 further promotes the principle in *Ua Mau ke Ea o ka ‘Āina i ka Pono*. The concerns in the community of overreach are legitimate in that these ICE civil immigration detainers separate families and burden the local economy. The human cost of being imprisoned without due process can lead to loss of identity and self-worth, and emotional scars on the person detained; the loss also trickles to families who face financial and relational hardship with their loved one being wrongly imprisoned.

Returning to the Aloha Spirit, we are a people with traits of character that express the charm, warmth and sincerity of Hawaii's people - including all immigrants who are here. They are a blessing to our state, and to us. "Aloha" is more than a word of greeting or farewell or a salutation. "Aloha" means mutual regard and affection and extends warmth in caring with no obligation in return. **"Aloha" is the essence of relationships in which each person is important to every other person for collective existence.**

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

I am writing in strong support of this bill.

I am the daughter of once undocumented parents. I grew up here in Hawai'i and I can say that my heritage and culture was something that was always celebrated from the times I danced folklórico - a traditional Mexican dance in elementary school. I grew up in the coffee fields and I took up school sports. My parents worked in the agricultural industries and we found a home in Hawai'i like many others. We were an average local family.

But I do remember the fear that came with having undocumented family members. My parents and I spent many years in the dark because the fear kept us from asking questions and in turn - knowing their rights. My parents and I were constantly afraid of anything resembling a badge of authority. With their language barrier and the fear of asking questions, I remember not knowing the difference between ICE and a park ranger.

I share this to exemplify how strained the relationship between the immigrant community and law enforcement is. There is already deep mistrust and avoidance to report crime because of the fear of undue repercussions like being separated from a family member. Given the current president's stance on immigration and its negative rhetoric, it is essential to protect the families of Hawai'i and to keep law enforcement from being called away from their primary concern - keeping our communities safe.

The Department of Homeland Security and Border Patrol are federal entities. In my opinion, our state tax dollars should not be utilized to tear our families apart.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

I am writing in strong support of this bill.

I am the daughter of once-undocumented parents. I grew up here in Hawai'i, where my heritage and culture were always celebrated, from the times I danced folklórico—a traditional Mexican dance—in elementary school. I grew up around the coffee fields, took up school sports, and my parents worked in the agricultural industry. We found a home in Hawai'i like many others. We were an average local family.

But I do remember the fear that came with having undocumented family members. My parents and I spent many years in the dark because fear kept us from asking questions and, in turn, we did not know our basic constitutional rights. We were constantly afraid of anything resembling a badge of authority. Because of their language barrier and our fear of asking questions, I remember not knowing the difference between ICE and a park ranger. This was always terrifying and I wasn't sure who'd be the person to take my parents away.

This exemplifies the strained relationship between the immigrant community and law enforcement. There is already deep mistrust and avoidance in reporting crime because of the fear of undue repercussions, like being separated from a family member. Given the current president's stance on immigration and its negative rhetoric, it is essential to protect the families of Hawai'i and allow law enforcement to focus on their primary concern—keeping our communities safe.

The Department of Homeland Security and Border Patrol are federal entities. In my opinion, our state tax dollars should not be utilized to tear our families apart.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Victoria Magaña Ledesma

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 2:38:27 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lolita Keni	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill...the State of Hawai'i needs to cooperate fully, with the federal gov't. This means, having law enforcement cooperate with the federal immigration authorities, and to protect the American citizens.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 6:47:31 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Duffy	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill undermines public safety. While concerns have been raised about civil immigration detainers, it is important to recognize that federal immigration enforcement plays a crucial role in identifying and removing individuals who pose a threat to public safety. The state should do everything it can to uphold the law and protect our citizens. Public safety should always take precedence over political concerns.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 8:29:13 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
james wallace	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments: I oppose to HB22.Our government should not be helping illigals.Let the local law enforcement do there job.We are one dumb state!!!!

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 8:29:39 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dayna Matsumura	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 9:13:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
J Miles	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Oppose. You should not be advocating resisting complying with the laws and trying to aid and abet criminal activity.

Thank you.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/18/2025 10:09:11 PM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Smart	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Do not pass HB22. It limits the ability of federal immigration authorities to do their job that is focused on making our communities safe.

Hawaii should fully cooperate with federal authorities.

Vote no on HB22.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/19/2025 4:04:04 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Healy	Individual	Oppose	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

I oppose this bill and will testify via zoom.

HB-22

Submitted on: 2/19/2025 9:33:27 AM

Testimony for JHA on 2/19/2025 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paul Giles	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose HB22

Paul Giles