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STATE OF HAWAII EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT 250 SOUTH HOTEL STREET, SUITE 406 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2831

## Testimony COMMENTING on SB2679 SD1 Relating to Driver's Licenses

#### COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY SENATOR KARL RHOADS, CHAIR SENATOR JARRETT KEOHOKALOLE, VICE CHAIR

Testimony of Caroline Cadirao Director, Executive Office on Aging Attached Agency to the Department of Health

Hearing Date: March 1, 2022 9:30 AM Via Videoconference

1 **EOA's Position:** The Executive Office on Aging (EOA), an attached agency to the Department

2 of Health, provides comments on SB2679 SD1, Relating to Driver's Licenses.

3 **Purpose and Justification:** The purpose of this measure is to extend the driver's license

4 renewal period from two years to four years for licensees who are seventy-two years of age or

5 older.

6 COVID has shown the importance of the health and safety of staff and customers in public

7 spaces. This extension for licensees, seventy-two years of age or older, minimizes in-person

8 visits for older adults to the Motor Vehicle Department offices and helps reduce the spread of

9 COVID-19.

10 SB2679 SD1 deleted the provision to require new driver's license or renewal applicants who are

seventy years of age or older to provide a doctor's certificate of physical and mental competence.

1	Recommendation: The EOA supports increasing the renewal period from two to four years for
2	licensees who are seventy-two years of age or older. Additionally, EOA feels that HRS 286-108
3	addresses any concerns regarding physical or mental competences. HRS 286-108 (a)(1) states:
4	"(a) Except as provided in section 286-107.5(a), the examiner of drivers shall examine
5	every applicant for a driver's license, except as otherwise provided in this part. The
6	examination shall include a test of: (1) The applicant's eyesight and any further physical
7	examination that the examiner of drivers finds necessary to determine the applicant's
8	fitness to operate a motor vehicle safely upon the highways;"
9	

10 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors ROSS M. HIGASHI EDUARDO P. MANGLALLAN PATRICK H. MCCAIN EDWIN H. SNIFFEN



#### STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 869 PUNCHBOWL STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 1, 2022 9:30 A.M. State Capitol, Teleconference

## S.B. 2679, S.D. 1 RELATING TO DRIVER'S LICENSES

Senate Committee on Judiciary

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** S.B. 2679, S.D. 1, which extends the renewal period from two years to four years for licensees who are seventy-two years of age or older.

The DOT has not found local data to indicate drivers 70 years or older are at higher risk of causing or being involved in crashes. Also, based on a review of an American Automobile Association study, which included information on age-based license renewals from 51 jurisdictions, only 21 of the United States jurisdictions polled have a shorter renewal cycle based on the age of the driver. Those age-based policies were generally longer than 4 years.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



1001 Bishop Street | Suite 625 | Honolulu, HI 96813-2830 1-866-295-7282 | Fax: 808-536-2882 aarp.org/hi | <u>aarphi@aarp.org</u> | twitter.com/AARPHawaii facebook.com/AARPHawaii

The State Legislature The Senate Committee on Judiciary Tuesday, March 1, 2021 9:30 a.m.

TO: The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair

RE: S.B. 2679 S.D. 1 Relating to Drivers' License

Aloha Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

My name is Keali'i Lopez and I am the State Director for AARP Hawai'i. AARP is a nonpartisan, social mission organization that advocates for individuals age 50 and older. We have a membership of 38 million nationwide and over 140,000 in Hawai'i.

AARP Hawai`i appreciates and supports this measure to extend the renewal period for older drivers from two to four years. The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the driver license renewal process for all Hawaii drivers as local motor vehicle stations reduced the daily number of customers served and made other operational changes due to public health safety. This has resulted in extensive backlog and delays which have made it increasingly difficult for everyone to renew their license on a timely basis. Extending the renewal process from two to four years for older drivers reduces the frequency to update their driver's license. This alleviates the license renewal burden on the driver as well as the local department of motor vehicle stations.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support on S.B. 2679 S.D1.

Sincerely,

Keali'i Lopez, AARP Hawai'i State Director

#### <u>SB-2679-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/24/2022 4:59:29 PM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Remote Testimony Requested
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Testifying for Rainbow Family 808	Support	No

Comments:

Rainbow Family 808 supports SB2678, SD1. We are glad that the physician requirement was removed from the bill. We just recommend that it be effective immediately after the Governor's signature. Thank you for letting us express our view.

Mike Golojuch, Secretary/Board Member, Rainbow Family 808

#### <u>SB-2679-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/27/2022 3:18:58 PM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jonathan M Gillentine	Testifying for Retirement Issues Committee of HSTA-Retired	Support	No

Comments:

Good morning Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Keohokalole and members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of SB2679 SD1. Our organization believes that this bill will support our kupuna in obtaining driver's license in a more equitable manner. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Aloha,

Jonathan Gillentine, PhD, NBCT

<u>SB-2679-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/24/2022 4:52:18 PM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Cathy Goeggel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This will be so appreciated by our kupuna!

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 6:07:35 PM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Lynn Murakami Akatsuka	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary,

I strongly support the passage of SB 2679, SD 1 with the changes made in your SD 1 version.

Thank you for the opportunity to testiy in strong support of SB 2679, SD 1.

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 7:12:27 AM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitte	d By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Candace Yan	agihara	Individual	Support	No

#### Comments:

I am 77 years old and a fully capable driver and am actively engaged in, once the pandemic restrictions are limited, volunteering at a hospital, a childrens' center, and various other altruistic projects and chauferring grandchildren! I am totally in support of SB2679. Thank you.

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 7:37:52 AM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

_	Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
	Michael Garsva	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for taking up this issue once again. I am 74 and in extremely good health and would like to encourage you to pass this legislation. It is a waste of government service dollars to process us of "a certian age" more than others unnessarily. The stastics show that the 70 to 80 year old drivers are, as a whole, good, safe drivers. Please make our lives easier and less bearuocratic. fyi definition: " overly concerned with procedure at the expense of efficiency or common sense. "

Thank you,

Michael Garsva

<u>SB-2679-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/27/2022 9:37:28 AM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Remote Testimony Requested
tony frascarelli	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Strongly support SB2679. It is simply ridiculous to limit older persons to a 2 year renewal just because they are old. Pass this bill!

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 10:12:41 AM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Remote Testimony Requested
John D Kelly	Individual	Comments	No

#### Comments:

I m pleased that consideration is being given to not require people that have reached my age to be singled out in an age group and identified as unqualified to keep a drivers liscens for only two years and then required to present a doctors confirmation that we are not incompetent and irresponsible drivers. Many of my friends in my age group are healthy, are good drivers, can think logically, can read and comprehend, can write, are criticle thinkers and are still productive members of society. I dare say that younger drivers tend to drive at high rates of speed talk on their cell phones while driving easily distracted and have far less knowledge of proper driving techniques. There are many of us in our age group that are more physically fit than our younger members of society. In your deliberations and discussions please keep in mind that throwing the baby out with the bath water while an easy way to move on and not give good thoughtful discussion to this issue does not make for a fair and dignified resolution. Yes many of us were insulted, angered and mystified. Our dignity is not something that you can legislate away because you want to do it or someone has said old people are dangerous and should be treated with disrespect and thrown into the pit cause they lack the ability to think. Discrimination by any other name is still discrimination. We look at this as a discriminatory act without merit not that discrimination can have merit so rather than merit I say good cause. We elected you not only to represent the people, protect and enact civil laws but to honor the people no matter what their age. We appreciate that more thought was given to this matter and look forward to extending drivers license renewal for seniors to 4 years rather than every two years and not requiring a disclosure of mental competence. I must say that we understand how these discriminatory requirements may have been tabled but are grateful that further cosideration was given and more reasonable conditions might prevail. In researching the number of driver related accidents it is not that seniors are problem drivers but that yournger drivers play a significant part of car related accidents.

Thank you.

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 10:31:53 AM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Remote Testimony Requested
Jean Simon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha!

I am 75, in very good health and I'm a good driver. I wouldn't be driving otherwise. I would love to have the drivers license renewal extended to 8 years for seniors under 80 years old. Especially now when it's so difficult to even get an appointment!

Mahalo.

Jean Simon

Honolulu, Hawaii

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 10:33:35 AM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Marie J. Scott	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a 76 year old woman who is active, in good health, have excellent vision, exercises regularly, have no serious physical problems, does volunteer work at the Kapolei Library, clean my own house, tend my garden, etc. I am offended at only having my driver's license renewed for two years due to my age. This intimates that I am less capable than other adults because of my age which clearly speaks on its face as "ageism".

I have for many years been an excellent driver who obeys the laws and have a clear driving record. I do not feel that I or any other persons in my age bracket should be penalized with a two year driver's license renewal merely because we are older adults. For goodness sakes, look at the age of our President and members of Congress etc. who perform extraordinarily at their age.

Please don't discount older Americans by continuing this mere two year renewal. If you can't see your way to make us older Americans equal to every other driver in Hawaii with eight year renewals, please at least give us four year renewals. Being old does not discount our ability to accomplish tasks competently. Mahalo for listening to my opinion and request. - Marie J. Scott

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 10:35:23 AM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Remote Testimony Requested
Luciano MINERBI	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

GREETINGS: I AM IN SUPPORT OF THE SENATE BILL 2679, SD1 BUT AMENDING IT TO TAKE EFFECT IMMEMDIATELY BECAUSE THE REMEDY FOR SENIOR CITIZEN SHOULD BE DONE NOW NOT WHEN THEY ARE DECISED IN 2050 AND DATA SHOW THAT YONGER DRIVERS ARE MORE PRONE TO ACCIDENT THAT SENIOR CITIZEN. RENEWING EVERY 2 YEARS IS AN UNEEDED PENALITY AND HANDSHIP FOR THE MAJORITY OF GOOD SENIOR DRIVERS.

#### MAHALO

LUCIANO MINERBI

#### <u>SB-2679-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/27/2022 1:42:46 PM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Remote Testimony Requested
Okamura Alan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in favor of SB2679 as Amended which strips the earier provisions and add appliants 72 and older to be eleigible for FOUR years, aligning with the City and Couty of Honolulu's proposal, even as those younger are eligible for EIGHT years and pay renewal fees.

The most recent National Study by AAA foundtions for traffic safety found that young drivers (ages 16-17) were by far the most likely to be in a car crash while drivers 80 or older were lower than that rate for drivers 29 and younger.

I am an 80 year old male who is fit and passed the vision requirement for driving I recently renewed my license for TWO YEARS. I Don't know why I have to Renew and Pay fees every 2 years. This makes it very inconvenient and seems like the law DISCRIMINATES AGAINST SENIOR CITIZENS!

I know of a those a few years older than me who voluntarily gave up driving or liminted their driving to daylight hours for physical and/or medical reasons. But they can use their drivers licnese with the GOLD STAR for traveling purposes.

Pleae consider chaning the Law and psassig SB 2679 as Amended and make ti more equitable for Seniors.

Mahalo,

Alan Okamura

February 27, 2022

Testimony of Eleanor Macdonald Submitted to the Hawaii State Senate JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

Honorable Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair Honorable Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair

Re: SB 2679 SD1, RELATING TO DRIVER'S LICENSES

Dear Chairperson Rhoads, Vice-Chair Keohokalole, and Members,

I would like to whole heartedly support SB 2679 SD1, Relating to Driver's Licenses

This legislation will extend the duration of a driver's license for individuals 24 years of age or younger and individuals who are 72 years of age or older from 2 to 4 years. A longer period of time for a licensee to drive between renewals should be approved to enable residents to support their own everyday needs.

Unlike people on the continental United States and Alaska, residents in Hawaii remain physically active all year round with the longest life expectancy in our republic according to the National Equity Atlas. Reportedly, women in Hawaii are the longest living Americans with an average life span of 84 years. Let's acknowledge these facts and facilitate the independence of all responsible, healthy drivers with a less cumbersome bureaucratic process.

Please support this important legislation and include an effective date for January 1, 2023.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Eleanor Macdonald 60 N. Beretania St., #602 Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 4:04:20 PM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Noreen Mulliken	Individual	Support	No

#### Comments:

 want to encourage the passage of SB2679 that would extend the Hawaii driver's license renewal period from 2 years to 4 years for individuals over the age of 71. I am a physically and mentally fit person in my 70s whose eyesight has been tested at 20-20, my fitness rate and heart health rate has been tested and is that of a fit 45 year old, and yet every 2 years I have to worry about getting an appointment months in advance to get my license renewed. This creates an undue inconvenience because the temporary license I was issued by the State of Hawaii would not suffice as an ID for a flight I needed to take to the mainland, nor would it pass to obtain a car on the mainland. It is undually restrictive and unreasonable. Statistics show that this age group of drivers is safer on the highways that those under 29 years old.

Please adopt reasonable changes to the driver's licensing renewal process.

Thank you for your considerstion.

Noreen G Mulliken

<u>SB-2679-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/27/2022 10:44:14 PM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

_	Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
	Mark Phillipson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair and members,

Please support this bill for all the previously discussed reasons that show it makes sense to change this law.

Best,

Mark Phillipson

#### <u>SB-2679-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/28/2022 8:08:42 AM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Remote Testimony Requested
Anne Anderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Senator Rhoads, Chair, Senator Keohokalole, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

#### I support S.B. 2679, S.D.1.

People live much longer than they used to and most people in Hawaii are active in their 70s and 80s and some even into their 90s. The current President of the United States is 79 and will turn 80 this year. The immediate past President is 75. If people in their 70s and 80s can lead our nation, then certainly people of that age can be trusted to drive without having to renew their driver's licenses every 2 years. This bill recognizes and respects the rights and abilities of people as they age rather than treating them as being less competent than the rest of the population.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Anne Anderson

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 4:20:50 PM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted	By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Beth Rasmu	issen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB 2679. I am 75. I am healthy, walk two hours a day, swim three times a week, do yoga 40 min a day four days a week. My blood pressure is low, heart healthy, do not drink, smoke, do drugs. My reaction times are just as fast as any 50 year old. I have a clean driving record in both California and Hawaii. I can drive as adeptly as anyone my age and younger. My age group has some of the lowest accident rates of all age goups. Renewing my licence every two years is a waste of my time and government's time. I heartly support SB 2679.

Beth Rasmussen Kailua

#### <u>SB-2679-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/28/2022 8:14:58 AM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Lance S. Fujisaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Senator Rhoads, Chair, Senator Keohokalole, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

## I support S.B. 2679, S.D.1.

People live much longer than they used to and most people in Hawaii are active in their 70s and 80s and some even into their 90s. The current President of the United States is 79 and will turn 80 this year. The immediate past President is 75. If people in their 70s and 80s can lead our nation, then certainly people of that age can be trusted to drive without having to renew their driver's licenses every 2 years. This bill recognizes and respects the rights and abilities of people as they age rather than treating them as being less competent than the rest of the population.

Respectfully submitted,

Lance Fujisaki

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 9:15:00 AM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Paul A. Ireland Koftinow	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Senator Rhoads, Chair, Senator Keohokalole, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

**I support S.B. 2679, S.D.1.**, because it would make the law more fair for persons over the age of 72.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul A. Ireland Koftinow

#### <u>SB-2679-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/28/2022 8:35:42 AM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Remote Testimony Requested
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I urge you to move this bill forward. I went through the two year renewal process in the midst of the pandemic. Fortunately, I was able to renew by mail, something which should be a permanent option. That option was only avialble for several months and I met the criteria. This was at a time when COVID numbers were high and drivers' licnese offices were closed for days and weeks on end because employees had tested positive.

People live much longer than they used to. Most people in Hawaii are active in their 70s and 80s. Some even into their 90s. The current President of the United States is 79 and will turn 80 this year. The immediate past President is 75. If people in their 70s and 80s can lead our nation, then certainly people of that age can be trusted to drive without having to renew their driver's licenses every 2 years. This bill recognizes and respects the rights and abilities of people as they age rather than treating them as being less competent than the rest of the population. In fact, many of them are more competent than the younger folks who are not discriminated against and are not forced to renew their licenses every two years.

Charles St. Sure 2499 Kapiolani Boulevard Honolulu, Hawaii 96826

Committee on Judiciary Hearing on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 9:30 AM

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole and members of the committee

## **IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 2679**

The previous Senate committee removed the odious portions of this bill, but I would like to comment and reenforce one of those amendments. The second was too ludicrous to comment on.

The City & County of Honolulu Mayor's Package introduced HB 1433/SB 2109 which simply required changing the period of renewal from 2 to 4 years for anyone over 72 years of age. The City & County administers the driver license renewals; the DMV understands the most efficient way to deal with license renewals.

The vast majority of states do not have a staggered system; after a certain age – usually 72 – they normally change the renewal period to four years and leave it at that.

Example: A 71 year old driver can renew their license for 8 years which means they will be 79 years old before they have to renew again, where the 72 year old would have to renew at age 74. The staggered system is unfair and blatantly discriminatory.

The bill has a defective date; I urge you to pass this measure out unamended.

#### <u>SB-2679-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/28/2022 9:17:14 AM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Remote Testimony Requested
Primrose Leong- Nakamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Senator Rhoads, Chair, Senator Keohokalole, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

#### I support S.B. 2679, S.D.1.

People live much longer than they used to and most people in Hawaii are active in their 70s and 80s and some even into their 90s. The current President of the United States is 79 and will turn 80 this year. The immediate past President is 75. If people in their 70s and 80s can lead our nation, then certainly people of that age can be trusted to drive without having to renew their driver's licenses every 2 years. This bill recognizes and respects the rights and abilities of people as they age rather than treating them as being less competent than the rest of the population.

Respectfully submitted,

#### Primrose Leong-Nakamoto

#### <u>SB-2679-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/28/2022 9:39:12 AM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Laurence Sussman	Individual	Support	No

#### Comments:

Dear Senator Rhoads, Chair, Senator Keohokalole, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

## I support S.B. 2679, S.D.1.

People live much longer than they used to and most people in Hawaii are active in their 70s and 80s and some even into their 90s. The current President of the United States is 79 and will turn 80 this year. The immediate past President is 75. If people in their 70s and 80s can lead our nation, then certainly people of that age can be trusted to drive without having to renew their driver's licenses every 2 years. This bill recognizes and respects the rights and abilities of people as they age rather than treating them as being less competent than the rest of the population.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurence Sussman

91-160 Puaina Place

Ewa Beach HI 96706

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 11:15:01 AM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Susan Shaheen Mulkern	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill since many of us are still actively involved in business as well as helping even older family by taking them to doctor appointments and other activities.

Thank you.

Susan Mulkern

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 11:18:41 AM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kevin Mulkern	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this. Many of us are still actively running our businesses and need to be able to drive. It's also incumbent on us to help our elderly parents (mine is 100 +) by taking them to doctor's appointments and other activities.

Thank you,

Kevin Mulkern

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 11:30:14 AM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Remote Testimony Requested
mary freeman	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Senator Rhoads, Chair, Senator Keohokalole, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

#### I support S.B. 2679, S.D.1.

People live much longer than they used to and most people in Hawaii are active in their 70s and 80s and some even into their 90s. The current President of the United States is 79 and will turn 80 this year. The immediate past President is 75. If people in their 70s and 80s can lead our nation, then certainly people of that age can be trusted to drive without having to renew their driver's licenses every 2 years. This bill recognizes and respects the rights and abilities of people as they age rather than treating them as being less competent than the rest of the population.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary S Freeman

Ewa Beach



## <u>SB-2679-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:02:25 PM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Remote Testimony Requested
Jeremy Garrett	Individual	Support	No

#### Comments:

A change in the length of drivers licene for those individuals 72 and older would benefit my mother, whom at 77, maintains her physical and mental acuities. Furthermore, anytime she enters the car to drive, the first thing she says to herself is, "I want to be a safe and conscientous driver." AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety recent findings validate this for her age group. In addition to convenience (the current 2 year requirement places a frequent burden to secure all required documentation and pay for the renewal fees), the change to 4 years makes sense for Hawaii, with our better than average life-expectancies and health outcomes, compared to the national average.



#### <u>SB-2679-SD-1</u> Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:42:17 PM Testimony for JDC on 3/1/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Collin M. Fritz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chairman Rhoads and Committe Members

As an attorney who handles automobile accidents, I certainly understand safety concerns for older citizens as it relates to driving. However, a general rule of two years liscensure period for all healthy person(s) in their 70's or early eighties is simply too broad and short. Four years seems a reasonable compromise rather than all the way to eight years. There are already requirements for regular vision testing and I know that overall health concerns are commonly addressed by insurers and physicians.. As someone aged 74 who works full time and currently has only a portion of a two year liscense left, I can testify that it was difficult and extremely time consuming to obtain my last one. My long experience is that the most dangerous drivers are typically younger and healthy older drivers are among the safer age groups.

Please let me know if I can be of assistance.

Regards, Marty Fritz