



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB485 HD3 SD1
RELATING TO MARRIAGE.**

SEN. KARL RHOADS, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Hearing Date: March 30, 2023

Room Number: 016

1 **Fiscal Implications:** N/A.

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) discharges a ministerial role
3 regarding vital records, which is to officially record and preserve certain major life events. The
4 department does not usually make determinations of factual accuracy for vital records, rather
5 accepting prima facie common life events like births, adoptions, deaths, and marriages that are
6 submitted from trusted sources.

7 The department is currently authorized to amend birth certificates for persons who have had
8 appropriate treatment for gender transition as affirmed by a United States licensed physician or
9 physician assistant, pursuant to [section 338-17.7\(a\)\(4\), Hawaii Revised Statutes](#).

10 DOH offers the following comments and observations on implementing HB485 HD2:

11 Sex vs Gender

12 The vital records program authorized by the US Centers for Disease and Prevention only
13 document “sex,” as defined by a series of biological markers such as chromosomes, gametes,
14 and reproductive organs, etc. “Gender” is a cultural construct governing social expectations of
15 the sexes that vary with time, place, historically and geographically.

16

1 Birth Certificates

2 Although out of scope for the title of HB485 HD3, incongruent information on the birth
3 certificate and marriage certificate will be a complication. A future measure may address
4 amending circumstances under which the sex of the registrant is amended beyond what is
5 currently authorized in statute.

6 Civil Unions

7 Although out of scope for the title of HB485 HD3, individuals and couples under civil unions
8 should have equal opportunities to amend a marriage certificate for these same purposes.

9 Effective Dates

10 The department recommends an effective date of January 1, 2024, to accommodate amendments
11 to marriages prior to 1991. In addition to the creation of blank templates that are tamper-proof
12 and counterfeit-resistant, declared middle names were not an option prior to 1991 and time is
13 required to determine how to accommodate.

14 The Department of Health looks forward to assisting the Legislature to develop appropriate
15 procedures and criteria for the purposes of this measure.

16 **Offered Amendments:** N/A.

17



HAWAI‘I CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

KOMIKINA PONO KĪWILA O HAWAI‘I

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 411 HONOLULU, HI 96813 • PHONE: 586-8636 • FAX: 586-8655 • TDD: 568-8692

Thursday, March 30, 2023 at 9:35 a.m.
Conference Rm 016 & Videoconference

To: The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

From: Liann Ebesugawa, Chair
and Commissioners of the Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission

Re: H.B. No. 485, H.D.3, S.D.1

The Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission (HCRC) has enforcement jurisdiction over Hawai‘i’s laws prohibiting discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, and access to state and state-funded services. The HCRC carries out the Hawai‘i constitutional mandate that no person shall be discriminated against in the exercise of their civil rights.

The HCRC supports H.B. No. 485, H.D.3, S.D.1 which provides for the replacement of marriage certificates for individuals who have changed their gender, sex, and, if applicable, name.

The Legislature previously passed H.B. No. 1165 in 2019, enacted as Act 142, expanding gender options on government identification. Recent awareness of the discrimination and other issues faced by transgender and non-binary individuals has provoked greater consciousness of the difficulties with official documents that can arise. This bill would allow transgender individuals who are married to correct their marriage certificates to accurately reflect their gender identity, filling a gap not yet addressed. This bill will advance fair treatment and address discrimination faced by the transgender community, allowing much needed legal documents to align with an applicant’s gender identity.

Recognizing the importance of fair treatment and inclusiveness, the HCRC supports H.B. No. 485, H.D.3., S.D.1

HB-485-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/25/2023 7:27:22 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/30/2023 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Testifying for Rainbow Family 808	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Rainbow Family 808 supports HB485. Please pass this bill.

Mike Golojuch, Sr., Secretary/Board Member



Hawai'i

Committee: Senate Judiciary
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, March 30, 2023, 9:35 A.M.
Place: Conference Room 016 & Videoconference
Re: **H.B. 485, H.D. 3, S.D. 1 Relating to Marriage - SUPPORT**

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard and Committee Members:

The ACLU of Hawai'i strongly supports **H.B. 485, H.D. 3, S.D. 1 Relating to Marriage** that requires the Department of Health to provide for the replacement of certificates of marriage for individuals who have changed their gender, sex, and, if applicable, name.

The ACLU of Hawai'i has a long history of supporting the civil rights of transgender people, recognizing the pervasiveness of gender identity discrimination within employment, housing, public accommodations, education and credit. Transgender people are also subjected to high rates of violence.

Currently, Hawai'i has laws that provide a process for the transgender community to update their birth certificate, driver's license and other documents to reflect their gender identity. **However, there is no legal process for an individual to update their marriage certificate to reflect their gender identity and if applicable, name**. Forcing anyone to carry documents that contradict their identity is unjust and unconstitutional, and further marks transgender people for further mistreatment and discrimination.

The passage of **H.B. 485, H.D. 3, S.D. 1** would address this glaring gap in our current laws, and ultimately promote gender equity and justice.

Sincerely,

Carrie Ann Shirota

Carrie Ann Shirota

Policy Director

ACLU of Hawai'i

cshirota@acluhawaii.org

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 that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds. The ACLU of Hawai'i has been serving Hawai'i for over 50 years.

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North Shore Ko'olau Diversity Collective

To: Committee on Health and Human Services, Hawai'i State Senate

Hearing Date: Wednesday, March 30, 2023

Re: Testimony in Support of HB 485, HD3, SD1

From: Joe Wilson, North Shore Ko'olau Diversity Collective

Dear Committee Members,

I write on behalf of the North Shore Ko'olau Diversity Collective in **STRONG SUPPORT** for HB485 HD3, which would help ensure that people have a navigable process by which they can update Hawai'i marriage certificates to correct basic information which may have changed after their current certificate was issued.

Marriage certificates can be very important documents, and when the information on a marriage certificate such as name or gender/gender marker do not align with someone's other or more-current documentation, people can have serious difficulty completing certain tasks which require a copy of a marriage certificate. Or perhaps worse, if an outdated marriage certificate is provided that contains a clearly misaligned name or gender, it can serve to 'out' an individual or couple who has perhaps gone through transition, and that outing can result in serious discrimination and wrongful denial of benefits.

It is vital that a simple process exist that allows people to make essential updates to their marriage certificate, and I strongly support this measure. Thank you for hearing this measure which will surely make a big difference in the lives of married people in Hawaii!

The North Shore Ko'olau Diversity Collective is a relatively new and growing grassroots effort working to ensure that our rural O'ahu communities are welcoming, inclusive, and supportive of māhū and LGBTQ+ individuals and families, and proactive in challenging bigotry, disrespect, discrimination.

We will be following this and other bills relevant to our communities' health and well being closely and hope we can count on your support.

Organizing Committee

Joe Wilson – Elizabeth J. Rago – Michelle Johnson Blimes – Kunane Dreier – Bethany Berry-Weiss – Torrey Lock



March 26, 2023

Senate's Committee on Judiciary
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Hearing: Thursday, March 30, 2022 at 9:35 AM

RE: **STRONG SUPPORT for House Bill 485 House Draft 3 Senate Draft 1**

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard and fellow committee members,

I am writing in STRONG SUPPORT for House Bill 485 HD 3 SD 1 on behalf of the Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, Hawai'i's oldest and largest policy and political LGBTQIA+ focused organization.

HB 485 HD 3 SD 1 will establish the ability for marriage certificates issued in Hawai'i to be updated for those having had legal name and gender changes. Currently there is no mechanism to allow those that undergo a legal name and gender change to update this vital record document.

Marriage Certificates are vital records and needed for handling affairs, legal and financial concerns, or for traveling internationally. Some examples of use:

- Sharing health or other insurance benefits
- Applying for a loan or mortgage
- Filing Taxes
- Arranging property succession or retirement benefits to a spouse
- Giving tax-free gifts to a spouse
- Custody changes

For all these reasons the Stonewall Caucus humbly asks that you support HB 485 HD 3 SD 1 to ensure fairness for any couple in Hawai'i seeking to update vital records for reasons of name and gender change.

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration,

Michael Golojuch, Jr.
Chair and SCC Representative
Stonewall Caucus for the DPH

HB-485-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 10:42:43 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/30/2023 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jen Wilbur	Testifying for Planned Parenthood Alliance Advocates	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We are in strong support of this measure.

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and committee members,

I strongly support HB485, which would establish a navigable process for individuals to update their Hawaii marriage certificate, including basic information such as name and gender. The current system only allows changes within four weeks of marriage, which poses serious challenges for individuals, especially those in the LGBTQ+ community.

Marriage certificates are crucial documents needed for various purposes, including insurance, employment benefits, bank accounts, and loans. Outdated information on these documents can cause significant problems and discrimination, particularly for individuals who have undergone a transition after getting married. It can also result in the wrongful and unjust denial of benefits and, in some cases, outing of individuals who may have preferred to keep their personal information private.

This outing can have severe consequences, including discrimination and harm to individuals and couples who have gone through a transition after getting married. It is vital that a simple process exist that allows people to make essential updates to their marriage certificate, and I strongly support this measure.

Similar processes exist in Hawaii for updating driver's licenses and birth certificates, as well as at the federal level for updating identification documents such as social security and passports. Therefore, there is no reason not to allow for updates to marriage certificates in Hawaii.

I urge you to support this measure as it would make a significant difference in the lives of married individuals in Hawaii, particularly for LGBTQ+ couples.

Thank you for considering my testimony.



Breanna Zoey

(she/they)

HB-485-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/25/2023 11:51:05 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/30/2023 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cards Pintor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As someone that is a part of the LGBTQIA+ community, I fully support this bill and thank everyone that has made this bill possible.

Committee: Senate Committee on Judiciary
Bill Number: HB 485
Hearing Date/Time: March 30, 2023, 9:35 a.m.
Subject: Testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT of HB 485**, Relating to Marriage

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Committee Members:

Thank you all for allowing the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 485. My name is Sarah Simmons of Moanalua and I am writing today in support of HB 485 to create a process for name and gender marker change on Hawai'i marriage certificates.

Twenty-four years ago I was lucky to meet the love of my life while in college, and in 2018 we finally married here in Hawai'i. In 2020, my spouse decided to begin the process of transitioning to their new gender identity and legal name change. We had many discussions on this as a couple, and I have always been in full support and love while we underwent the process of transitioning together. I know that not all couples are able to survive this kind of change, but I love my spouse and I am committed to them regardless of their gender.

The process of changing your name and gender markers is not an easy one to navigate, but she pushed through. The one final document we feel we need for the future is an update to our marriage certificate. There is no process currently in place for this record to be updated, and for our marriage and for other couples in the future I want our state to craft a mechanism for name and gender markers to be updated. A marriage certificate is a vital document that follows us through our lives, and when we have to give copies of that document to prove our marriage to other agencies it is not right for us to have to deadname my spouse or explain their transition each time.

The need for all vital records documents to be updateable for name and gender changes is vital for fairness to myself and other couples seeking to have their legal marriage certificates reflect their current legal names and genders. I would like to ask you all to support this legislation to allow those who have changed their names and gender markers to update their marriage certificates.

Thank you all for your time and consideration on testimony for HB 485.

Sincerely,

Sarah Simmons
Honolulu, HI 96818

Committee: Senate Committee on Judiciary
Bill Number: HB 485
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, March 30, 2023
Subject: Testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT of HB 485**, Relating to Marriage

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard and esteemed Committee Members,

Thank you all for allowing the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 485. My name is Abby Simmons from Honolulu, and I am writing today in support of HB 485 to create a process for name and gender marker change on Hawai'i marriage certificates.

Marriage Certificates are vital for handling affairs, legal and financial concerns, or for traveling internationally. Some examples of use:

- Sharing health or other insurance benefits
- Applying for a loan or mortgage
- Filing Taxes
- Arranging property succession to a spouse
- Giving tax-free gifts to a spouse
- Custody changes

My spouse and I married on May 1, 2018, here in Hawai'i. In 2020 I began my transition, completing my legal name and gender change in 2021. The process involved updating many documents, after legally changing my name:

- My Hawai'i driver's license
- Passport
- Social Security record and card
- my employer file
- all of my bank and credit accounts
- University undergraduate and graduate record of degrees
- Various Insurance Coverages, etc.
- Medical records

The only government identity record I was not able to update was our Marriage Certificate.

Being able to update a Marriage Certificate with correct name and gender is essential in preventing transgender individuals from being outed when presenting the certificate for the many reasons listed above. When a transgender individual or couple are outed, they risk harassment and discrimination. The appearance of an individual's old name and gender marker is an injustice due to the social stigma and discrimination that transgender people face.

This injustice can be remedied effectively by issuing a corrected marriage certificate listing current legal name and gender. For this reason, I would like to ask you all to support this legislation.

Thank you all for your time and consideration on testimony for HB 485.

Sincerely,

Abby Simmons

HB-485-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 7:25:31 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/30/2023 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jo-Ann M Adams	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In this era of civil dissension, it is essential that Hawaii shines like a beacon on the hill that a diverse demos can live together and thrive in a environment of inclusion and mutual respect. That, is the essence of aloha as taught and exemplified by the host culture.

HB-485-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 8:03:58 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/30/2023 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Grace Alvaro Caligtan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm writing in continued strong support of HB485. It is a matter of essential fairness, that an accessible and simple process exists to update marriage certificates for LGBTQ+ partners.

The ability to update Marriage Certificates to reflect and align with the gender diversity in vital records is needed for handling affairs, legal and financial concerns, or for traveling internationally.

Some examples:

- Sharing health or other insurance benefits
- Applying for a loan or mortgage
- Filing Taxes
- Arranging property succession or retirement benefits to a spouse
- Giving tax-free gifts to a spouse
- Custody changes

For all these reasons, I request support of HB 485 HD 3 to ensure fairness for any couple in Hawai'i seeking to update vital records for reasons of name and gender change.

HB-485-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 8:06:46 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/30/2023 9:35:00 AM

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

Comments:

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and JDC Committee members,

As a concerned citizen and public health professional, **I strongly support HB 485** which would allow individuals to change their gender and/or name on their marriage certificate to represent their identity. The current system only allows changes within four weeks of marriage, which poses serious challenges for individuals, especially those in the LGBTQ+ community.

This bill has implications is important for consistency of state documentation and policy as well as for equity, especially given recent alarming policy efforts to stigmatize and harm gender-diverse people in Hawai'i.

Hawai'i has established laws and policies that allow for people of all genders to get their birth certificate, driver's license and other documents updated, but marriage certificates are not currently included. The passage of HB 485 addresses this gap and would help address the stigma associated with not having legal documents aligned with one's gender identity.

Marriage certificates are crucial documents needed for various purposes, including insurance, employment benefits, bank accounts, and loans. Outdated information on these documents can cause significant problems and discrimination, particularly for individuals who have undergone a transition after getting married. It can also result in the wrongful and unjust denial of benefits and, in some cases, outing of individuals who may have preferred to keep their personal information private.

This outing can have severe consequences, including discrimination and harm to individuals and couples who have gone through a transition after getting married. It is vital that a simple process exist that allows people to make essential updates to their marriage certificate, and I strongly support this measure.

Similar processes exist in Hawaii for updating driver's licenses and birth certificates, as well as at the federal level for updating identification documents such as social security and passports. There is no reason not to allow for updates to marriage certificates in Hawaii.

I urge you to support this measure as it would make a significant difference in the lives of married individuals in Hawaii, particularly for LGBTQ+ couples.

With thanks,

Thaddeus Pham (he/him)

HB-485-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 10:48:32 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/30/2023 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Henrietta Paris	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha:

Our family supports.

Henrietta Paris

Kapolei, Oahu

HB-485-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 10:49:44 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/30/2023 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melvin Paris	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha:

Our family supports.

Melvin Paris

Kapolei, Oahu

HB-485-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 10:50:34 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/30/2023 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anthony Makana Paris	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha:

Our family supports.

Anthony Makana Paris

Kapolei, Oahu

HB-485-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 10:53:19 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/30/2023 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cindy Goo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm writing in support of HB485.

Hawaii as our host culture has always recognized all identities of its people. Hawaii, as a State, has also done so.

It is the State's responsibility to continue to support all identities by changing/updating processes that would inhibit any identity from fully benefiting any services that are enjoyed by the "traditional" genders.

Marriage certificates are legal documents that are required by a number of entities and by not allowing transgendered people to update these documents denies them participation in benefits and puts them at a disadvantage.

Allowing them to update their information also empowers them as individuals and with strong individuals, we have strong communities.

Support this bill!

Thank you,

Cindy Goo

HB-485-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 4:04:43 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/30/2023 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rita L Y Kaku	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of this bill to allow trans couples to be able to update their marriage license to what is appropriate. It gives them rights normal for married couples and avoids discrimination or embarrassing questions. This is no different than a person legally changing their name or to change their gender on a birth certificate. Please allow this bill to proceed, because love between 2 adults should be equal for all.

Thank you, Rita Kaku

HB-485-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 4:50:00 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/30/2023 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dylan Ramos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

As explained in Section 1 of HB485, this bill is a natural next step for Hawaii after passing Act 148. This common sense legislation affords our community of transgender and non-binary citizens the dignity and basic, legally significant right to have official documents that match their identities.

Mahalo,
Dylan Ramos
96816

HB-485-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 8:25:05 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/30/2023 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jody Shiroma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and committee members,

I strongly support HB485, which would establish a navigable process for individuals to update their Hawai‘i marriage certificate, including basic information such as name and gender. Currently, the system only allows changes within four weeks of marriage, which poses serious challenges for individuals, especially those in the LGBTQ+ community.

Certificates are crucial documents needed for various purposes, including insurance, employment benefits, bank accounts, and loans. Outdated information on these documents can cause significant problems and discrimination, particularly for individuals who have undergone a transition after getting married. It can also result in the wrongful and unjust denial of benefits and, in some cases, the outing of individuals who may have preferred to keep their personal information private.

Outing can have severe consequences, including discrimination and harm to individuals and couples who have gone through a transition after getting married. It is vital that a simple process exists that allows people to make essential updates to their marriage certificate.

As such, I strongly support this measure.

As noted, processes exist in Hawai‘i for updating driver's licenses and birth certificates, as well as at the federal level for updating identification documents such as social security and passports. There is no reason not to allow for updates to marriage certificates in Hawaii.

I urge you to support this measure as it would make a significant difference in the lives of married individuals in Hawaii, particularly for LGBTQ+ couples.

Thank you for considering my testimony

TESTIMONY ON BEHALF OF MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK STUDENT

To: Committee on Health and Homelessness

Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, March 30, 2023 9:35 am

Re: Testimony in Support of HB 485

From: Julie Martin, Master of Social Work Student at Hawaii Pacific University

Dear Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Takenouchi and members of the committee,

As a future social worker, mental health professional, and member and ally of the LGBTQ+ community, I am in support of this measure. HB 485 will allow individuals to change their gender and/or name on their marriage certificate to represent their identity.

While creating this simple process may not seem like a big deal to cisgendered people, it will make a great difference to transgender folks. Marriage certificates are very important documents that are necessary to use while handling legal and financial matters in terms of sharing health or insurance benefits, applying for loans and mortgages, filing taxes, arraigning retirement benefits, custody changes, etc. If one's name/gender on their marriage certificate does not align with their more current documentation, it may cause great problems such as an inability to complete some of the aforementioned tasks or allow for someone to be "outed" as an individual who has gone through transition, which may result in discrimination due to the person's LGBTQ+ identity and denial of benefits. As a social worker in training, I can testify to severe impacts on mental health that we see from outing and discrimination of LGBTQ+ people.

There is no current mechanism to allow those that undergo a legal name and gender change to update their information on their marriage certificate. It is vital that this simple process exists to allow people to make essential updates to their marriage certificate, and I strongly support this measure.

Thank you for your time and consideration on testimony for HB 485.

Sincerely,
Julie Martin
Honolulu, HI 96817

HB-485-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 9:56:49 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/30/2023 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rozlyn Calderon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and committee members,

I **strongly support** HB485, which would establish a navigable process for individuals to update their Hawaii marriage certificate, including basic information such as name and gender. The current system only allows changes within four weeks of marriage, which poses serious challenges for individuals, especially those in the LGBTQ+ community.

Marriage certificates are crucial documents needed for various purposes, including insurance, employment benefits, bank accounts, and loans. Outdated information on these documents can cause significant problems and discrimination, particularly for individuals who have undergone a transition after getting married. It can also result in the wrongful and unjust denial of benefits and, in some cases, outing of individuals who may have preferred to keep their personal information private.

This outing can have severe consequences, including discrimination and harm to individuals and couples who have gone through a transition after getting married. It is vital that a simple process exist that allows people to make essential updates to their marriage certificate, and **I strongly support this measure.**

With an increasingly conservative Supreme Court, marriage equality and associated non-discrimination protections may be vulnerable to legal challenges that could threaten the rights of couples across the country. Similar processes exist in Hawaii for updating driver's licenses and birth certificates, as well as at the federal level for updating identification documents such as social security and passports. There is no reason not to allow for updates to marriage certificates in Hawaii.

I urge you to support this measure as it would make a significant difference in the lives of married individuals in Hawaii, particularly for LGBTQ+ couples.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Rozlyn Calderon

HB-485-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 1:35:14 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/30/2023 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keith Wolter	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB485 provides for the replacement of certificates of marriage for individuals who have changed their gender, sex, and, if applicable, name.

I am a long-time resident of Hawaii, a gay man, and a pastor of a Christian congregation that welcomes and affirms LGBTQIA+ persons just as they are, with no fine print.

Mahalo for your consideration.

HB-485-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 1:56:25 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/30/2023 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael EKM Olderr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is an encouraging bill, the journey of self-identification and discovery is an ongoing path. It doesn't end with a single moment and could be brought out at any moment. In that case, who is the senate to govern, dictate, or deny individuals to be recognized for who they are?

HB-485-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 7:53:42 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/30/2023 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amanda Martinez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and committee members,

I strongly support HB485, which would establish a navigable process for individuals to update their Hawaii marriage certificate, including basic information such as name and gender. The current system only allows changes within four weeks of marriage, which poses serious challenges for individuals, especially those in the LGBTQ+ community.

Marriage certificates are crucial documents needed for various purposes, including insurance, employment benefits, bank accounts, and loans. Outdated information on these documents can cause significant problems and discrimination, particularly for individuals who have undergone a transition after getting married. It can also result in the wrongful and unjust denial of benefits and, in some cases, outing of individuals who may have preferred to keep their personal information private.

This outing can have severe consequences, including discrimination and harm to individuals and couples who have gone through a transition after getting married. It is vital that a simple process exist that allows people to make essential updates to their marriage certificate, and **I strongly support this measure.**

Similar processes exist in Hawaii for updating driver's licenses and birth certificates, as well as at the federal level for updating identification documents such as social security and passports. There is no reason not to allow for updates to marriage certificates in Hawaii.

I urge you to support this measure as it would make a significant difference in the lives of married individuals in Hawaii, particularly for LGBTQ+ couples.

Thank you for considering my testimony.

Amanda Martinez, MPH

HB-485-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 9:04:17 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/30/2023 9:35:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amber O'Reilly	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads and committee members,

My name is Amber O'Reilly and I am writing to support 485 HB RELATING TO MARRIAGE.

I think it is very important to provide replacement of certificates of marriage for individuals who have changed their gender, sex, and, if applicable, name. This will allow people to live as their true self and have their correct name and gender on all legal documents.

It can be traumatic for people to have to use their former name or gender in work or life settings and it can be very affirming for someone to have all their documents using their correct name. This will also make it easier when they have to get or renew other identification such as driver's license or passports. When all documentation is under the same name, the process is much faster.

I believe that every person should have the right to determine the name they use and the gender they present and this bill support that right.

Please vote to approve HB 485,

Mahalo,

Amber O'Reilly