

**nishimoto2-Ashley-Nicole**

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**From:** Maurice T Morita [mauricetmorita@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, January 23, 2010 3:26 PM  
**To:** HLTtestimony  
**Subject:** HB 2080

FROM: Maurice T Morita  
TO: House Committee on Health  
Tuesday, January 26, 2010  
Conference Room 329  
9:00 a.m.

RE: HB 2080- RELATING TO BLOOD TYPE ON DRIVER'S LICENSE

Chair Yamane and Members of the Committee:

My name is Maurice Morita and I strongly support HB 2080 which will be put on an individual's driver's license voluntarily. The purpose of this bill is if an individual is involved in an accident that requires blood transfusion, and if the hospital knows the blood type of the individual, they can request to the Blood Bank of Hawaii the blood type the individual needs. Currently, for some reason, the doctor nor the staff doesn't know the blood type of an individual, they would request via the Blood Bank of Hawaii type O+ blood, known as the universal donor. Many times the hospital would deplete the Blood Bank of Hawaii type O+ blood supply. There are a minority of people who has blood type O negative or blood type AB negative that couldn't use type O+ blood. This may end in a law suit to the hospital who gave the person the wrong type of blood the person should not have. This may be a rare occasion, but it may happen.

Many people in Hawaii are type A+, and if they knew the individual's blood type as A+, the hospital can request to the Blood Bank the type A+ blood and not the over-used type O+ blood. Unfortunately, only 2 to 3 % of Hawaii's population donate blood to the Blood Bank of Hawaii which will give an individual their blood type at no cost. If an individual attempts to get their blood type from a doctor, the cost is, for some reason, is costly to an individual. In essence, if an individual do not donate blood to the Blood Bank of Hawaii, they don't know their blood type which would be important if they need a blood transfusion.

I understand at birth, the blood type is put on a form given to the parent. Unfortunately, the information gets misplaced and as they grow up, they don't know their blood type.

The way this will work is if this bill passes, an individual when completing an application for a driver's license can add their blood type on their driver's license, the same way as the "organ donor" is listed on an individual's driver license. This information would be voluntarily completed by the individual.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.