

SB 2118  
RELATING TO PERSONS  
WITH DISABILITY



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

February 11, 2016  
2:48 p.m.  
State Capitol, Room 229

**SB 2118**  
**RELATING TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

Senate Committee(s) on Transportation and Energy  
& Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

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Testimony by:

FORD N. FUCHIGAMI  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
JADE T. BUTAY  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN  
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

The Department of Transportation (DOT) is submitting **comments** because it has concerns as it relates to S.B. 2118 that authorizes the examiner of drivers to include information about a person's disability on a person's driver's license or civil identification card.

The first concern is the Hawaii driver's license and civil identification cards have very limited space on the credentials. Placing the international handicap symbol in a noticeable size on the front of the driver's license or civil identification card will begin to create a "cluttered" effect. On the driver's license and civil identification card reverse side there is very limited space to provide the examiner of drivers the ability to "enter information about the person's disability." Space on the reverse side of the driver's license is limited due to use of the available space for such things as: the 3D bar code, required REAL ID elements, class of driver's license description, any driver restrictions and any driver's endorsements.

Secondly, the county driver license locations issue REAL ID compliant driver's licenses, REAL ID compliant civil identification cards and non-compliant Limited Purpose driver's licenses. Because the transactions include the review and scanning of required documents necessary to obtain these credentials, the applicants at these locations have experienced at times protracted "wait times" due to long lines. If the county driver license locations are now required to issue "temporary disability identification cards", customers will be experiencing longer wait times. As such, we are opposed to the provision of indicating a temporary disability on these cards requiring an applicant to visit the county driver license locations every six (6) months.

Lastly, if this bill passes, there would be a need to evaluate how to amend the application form to accommodate the new requirements and then distribute the new application form to the counties. In addition, because the DOT will be providing application forms to the counties for driver's license and civil identification cards in the

languages it offers the state knowledge tests, the DOT will have these forms translated into those languages which will require additional time and financial resources. Consequently, these tasks will not be able to be completed by July 1, 2016. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

POLICE DEPARTMENT  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE (808) 529-3111 • INTERNET [www.honolulu-pd.org](http://www.honolulu-pd.org)



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OUR REFERENCE DI-GR

February 11, 2016

The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Transportation and Energy  
The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection,  
and Health  
State Senate  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Inouye and Baker and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 2118, Relating to Persons With Disabilities

I am Darren Izumo, Major of the Traffic Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports the passage of Senate Bill No. 2118, Relating to Persons With Disabilities.

Knowledge of a person's disability could greatly assist first responders in determining the best course to assist, treat, or communicate with individuals whose disability may not be discernable.

The HPD urges you to support Senate Bill No. 2118, Relating to Persons With Disabilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Darren Izumo", written over a horizontal line.

Darren Izumo, Major  
Traffic Division

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Louis M. Kealoha", written over a horizontal line.

Louis M. Kealoha  
Chief of Police



DENNIS "FRESH" ONISHI  
Council Member  
District 3



PHONE: (808) 961-8396  
FAX: (808) 961-8912  
EMAIL: [donishi@hawaiiicounty.gov](mailto:donishi@hawaiiicounty.gov)

## HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

County of Hawai'i  
25 Aupuni Street  
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

TESTIMONY IN **SUPPORT** OF SENATE BILL NO. 2118

A BILL FOR AN ACT  
RELATING TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY  
AND  
COMMITTEE OF COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

Thursday, February 11, 2016, 2:48 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Honorable Chair Lorraine Inouye,  
And Members of the Committee on Transportation and Energy

Honorable Chair Rosalyn H. Baker,  
And Members of the Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support** of SB 2118, relating to persons with disabilities. This bill will authorize the examiner of drivers to include information about a person's disability on the person's driver's license or civil identification card.

Having a license or identification card clearly indicating a person's disability would allow the person access to certain public services such as special seating on public transit or at public events. Furthermore, because not all disabilities are outwardly visible, this will help our first responders in the event of an emergency.

This bill is included in the 2016 Hawai'i State Association of Counties Legislative package. I submit this testimony as Vice President of HSAC. Please recommend approval of this bill. Thank you.

Council Chair  
Mike White

Vice-Chair  
Don S. Guzman

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore  
Michael P. Victorino

Councilmembers  
Gladys C. Baisa  
Robert Carroll  
Elle Cochran  
Don Couch  
Stacy Crivello  
Riki Hokama



Director of Council Services  
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
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200 S. HIGH STREET  
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[www.MauiCounty.us](http://www.MauiCounty.us)

February 10, 2016

TO: The Honorable Lorraine Inouye, Chair  
Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

FROM: Eleanora K. Cochran  
Councilmember

DATE: HEARING OF FEBRUARY 11, 2016

SUBJECT: **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2118, RELATING TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

I support SB 2118 for the reasons cited in testimony submitted by the Hawaii State Association of Counties President, and urge you to support this measure.

Council Chair  
Mike White

Vice-Chair  
Don S. Guzman

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore  
Michael P. Victorino

Councilmembers  
Gladys C. Baisa  
Robert Carroll  
Elle Cochran  
Don Couch  
Stacy Crivello  
Riki Hokama



Director of Council Services  
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
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February 8, 2016

TO: Honorable Lorraine Inouye, Chair  
Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy

Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health

FROM: Stacy Helm Crivello  
Councilmember

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stacy Helm Crivello", is written over the printed name and title.

DATE: February 11, 2016

SUBJECT: **SB 2118, RELATING TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**


I **support** SB 2118 for the reasons cited in testimony submitted by the Hawaii State Association of Counties President, and urge you to support this measure.

Hawai'i State Association of Counties (HSAC)  
Counties of Kaua'i, Maui, Hawai'i & City & County of Honolulu

February 5, 2016

TO: The Honorable Lorraine Inouye, Chair  
Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy

The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health

FROM: Michael P. Victorino  
HSAC President 

SUBJECT: HEARING OF FEBRUARY 11, 2016; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF  
SB 2118, RELATING TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support** of this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to allow individuals to indicate their disabilities on State identification cards, including driver's licenses.

This measure is included in the 2016 Hawaii State Association of Counties Legislative Package. Therefore, I submit this testimony on HSAC's behalf.

I **support** this measure for the following reasons:

1. An identification card clearly indicating a person's disability would facilitate access to certain eligible public services, such as special seating on public transit or at public events.
2. This measure would allow persons with disabilities to non-verbally communicate any special needs to police and other public safety personnel in the event of an emergency. Because not all disabilities are outwardly visible, disclosure on a driver's license or other identification card can help first responders determine the best way to treat, assist, or communicate with the person.

For the foregoing reasons, I support this measure.

*HSAC:FY2016:16Testimony:SB2118a\_mkz*





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State of Hawaii  
Hawaii State Senate

Committee on Transportation and Energy  
The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair  
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health  
The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair  
The Honorable Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 11, 2016; 2:48 p.m.  
Room 229

**SB 2118 Relating Persons with Disabilities**

Good afternoon, Chairs Inouye and Baker, Vice Chairs Gabbard and Kidani and members of the Committees on Transportation and Energy and Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health.

Lanakila Pacific has some concerns regarding SB 2118, Relating to Persons with Disabilities, that would allow individuals the option to include information about their disability status on their Hawaii driver's license or civil identification card.

While the intention is well meaning as to increase access to public services, it could also have unintended negative consequences and is a privacy issue. It also can be viewed as another way of "labeling" individuals with disabilities.

Additionally, in order to opt-in to having a disability status on one's license or identification card, the approval process requires individuals to provide medical documentation about conditions that may have nothing to do with someone's ability to drive. Those "public services" the bill refers to will still require their own approval process, and could add undue burden to the licensing and identification process.

Founded in 1939, Lanakila Pacific is a Hawaii-based non-profit organization. Our programs and social enterprises currently serve over 2,300 Oahu residents annually, with services that build independence and self-sufficiency, which in turn supports our greater community. Our programs include employment training and job placement assistance for people with disabilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of the intent of this measure.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian E. Tsuji  
President & CEO

Mary Beth Lum  
Workforce Resources Manager



## Kaala Coleman

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 09, 2016 7:15 AM  
**To:** TRE Testimony  
**Cc:** mblazak@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2118 on Feb 11, 2016 14:48PM

### **SB2118**

Submitted on: 2/9/2016

Testimony for TRE/CPH on Feb 11, 2016 14:48PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Megan Blazak	Individual	Support	No

Comments: The Honorable Lorraine Inouye, Chair Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy  
The Honorable Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection,  
and Health Subject: Hearing of February 11, 2016: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2118,  
RELATING TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES I urge you to support SB2118. Having a driver's  
license or civil identification card that clearly indicates a person's disability would allow the person  
access to certain public services such as special transportation and seating for persons with  
disabilities at public events. Listing this on someone's identification card would also be helpful in  
communicating special needs to police and other public safety personnel in the event of an  
emergency. Please support SB 2118.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or  
directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the  
convening of the public hearing.

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webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

**Kaala Coleman**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 08, 2016 8:01 PM  
**To:** TRE Testimony  
**Cc:** punalikeke3@msn.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2118 on Feb 11, 2016 14:48PM

**SB2118**

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for TRE/CPH on Feb 11, 2016 14:48PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Laura Lee Wolf	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: Certain disabilities are hidden. TBI,(traumatic brain injury), Autism, heart disease, are not always visually apparent. Interaction outside the home for individuals with TBI or autism can be especially dangerous merely because the mental impairment isn't visually obvious so expectations are made concerning the person's ability to understand, respond to commands etc. Policing is a difficult, dangerous profession. Allowing individuals with disability to be identified on their state ID not only benefits the disabled, but the police officer as well. When an officer knows he is dealing with a person who has organic mental impairment, his interactions with that individual are apt to be modulated by that knowledge. What in another may be failure to obey for an autistic or TBI may be merely a failure in ability to overcome their impairment. This seems such a simple measure. It could mean so much and accomplish such good for not only the disabled but the Police as well. Mahalo for taking the time to read this. LWolf.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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**Kaala Coleman**

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**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, February 08, 2016 4:56 PM  
**To:** TRE Testimony  
**Cc:** amie.stokes@mauicounty.us  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB2118 on Feb 11, 2016 14:48PM

**SB2118**

Submitted on: 2/8/2016

Testimony for TRE/CPH on Feb 11, 2016 14:48PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amie M. Stokes	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chairs Inouye and Baker, I am writing in strong support of SB2118 Relating to persons with disabilities. This important piece of legislature will help mitigate the potential for adverse interactions between members of our community who have non-outwardly visible disabilities such as Autism. I believe that due diligence has been done in drafting this bill and the possibility of abuse has been vetted. Furthermore, I find this bill to be in the best interest of both the state and the people as it does not require, yet allows for indicators to be made. This bill is intended to help, not hinder our community as a whole.

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**FAX COVER SHEET****DATE: 02-10-2016****TO: HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY:****CHAIR Senator LORRAINE R. INOYE****VICE CHAIR Senator MIKE GABBARD****FAX: 808-586-7339****TO: HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION,  
AND HEALTH****CHAIR Senator ROSALYN H. BAKER****FAX: 808-586-6071****TO: VICE CHAIR Senator MICHELLE N. KIDANI****FAX: 808-586-7109****FROM: YVETTE KANAELE****31 HA'A HA'A STREET, PUKALANI, HI 96768****PHONE: 808-281-4529****EMAIL: ykanaele@gmail.com****PAGES: 1 OF 17 including cover fax sheet****SUBJECT: written testimonies in SUPPORT OF HB 1641 and SB 2118**



SB 2117

My name is Yvette Kanaele of Pukalani, Maui and I am submitting this written communication in support of HB 1641 "RELATING TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES"

First, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Maui County Council person Elle Cochran and her Staff for hearing my parental concerns and bringing them to light in the form of this house bill.

I've worked in the field of Developmentally Disabled persons since 1987 after receiving my Bachelors degree in Rehabilitation Services/Special Education from the University of Northern Colorado. From 1989 to 1998 I was fortunate to return home to Maui and continue my field of study with many agencies to include; Maui Association for Retarded Citizens (A.R.C. of Maui), Kula Hospital's Hale Makamae Ward for Special Needs Individuals, Hale Hauoli Adult Day Activity Center (now Maui Easter Seals), Kalima O Maui and Maui Family Guidance Center. I am currently self employed as a State Licensed Child Care Provider, providing Child Care services for children with and without Special Needs for the past 17 years on Maui.

I am the proud parent of two individually diagnosed Developmentally Disabled sons, Kalae (Kanaele) 19 years old and Pokai (Kanaele) 13 years old. Both boys experienced difficulty in thier school work and all around socialization with their peers from Pre-School thru to thier earlier years in grammar school where they were individually "labeled" by their respective school officials as being Attention Deficit Disorder (A.D.D.) and Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (A.D.H.D.) for Kalae and Attention Deficit Disorder (A.D.D.) for Pokai.

Having experience in this field, I knew that neither son were what the school labeled them to be, so we had both of them privately evaluated by a Pediatrician. Through many neurological testing, assessments and appointments, Kalae was diagnosed with Autism/Aspberger Syndrome (*Asperger syndrome (AS) is an autism spectrum disorder (ASD), one of a distinct group of complex neurodevelopment disorders characterized by social impairment, communication difficulties, and restrictive, repetitive, and stereotyped patterns of behavior*). Pokai was diagnosed with Severe Anxiety Disorder/Dysgraphia (another form of Dyslexia) (*Dysgraphia is a learning disability that affects writing abilities, that requires a complex set of motor and information processing skills which makes the act of writing difficult and can lead to problems with spelling, poor handwriting and putting thoughts on paper or memory disorder*).

Through many long and sleepless nights, tireless meetings and battles with school officials and with the help of tutors, advocates and other professionals outside of the school system, Kalae was able to successfully graduate with a diploma from King Kekaulike High School in 2015. He defied all the odds placed against him by many school officials along his path of education who felt he was not capable of graduating with a diploma. Kalae currently attends post high school Vocational training.



Pokai continues his own trek through the school system and has several more years before graduation for which we will continue our relentless support for him as well.

What prompted me to voice my concern regarding this bill was a chance meeting with a Clerk at our local Dept of Motor Vehicles several years ago. I needed to obtain State Identification Cards for both sons due to outer island travel and ID requirements at the local airport security. I asked the Clerk if I could state Kalae's diasability on his individual ID card to which she replied ***"Nothing look wrong with him, he look fine to me"***. I tried to explain myself to her and the individual diagnosis for him and continued to inquire with her what the proper protocol would be to add his "disability" onto his ID card to which she replied ***"I don't know, there is none"***.

Several other incidents involving persons with Developmentally Disabilities shown throughout the local news and social media over the past year were noticed by us to be very startling especially those where Police involvement was found and some individuals actions were misinterpreted and resulted in major injury or death. One only needs to use Google and You Tube to locate some of these incidents. These incidents were of great concern to us as well, given the nature of our boy's disabilities.

Both boys appear normal, to the lay person, with no indication of any outward observations of thier individual Developmental Disability. I would hate for either of them to be caught up in the wrong situation at the wrong time with no article on themselves to give to the other person(s) or authoritative figure encountering them, to explain that they do have something medically wrong with them that should be taken into consideration on how they should be sensitively approached.

I write this communication not only for my sons but for all persons diagnosed with all types of Developmental Disabilities throughout our entire State. Mahalo !!!

Yvette Kanaele

Concerned parent...

My name is Leighton Kanaele of Pukalani, Maui and I am submitting this written communication In support of HB 1641 "RELATING TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES"

First, I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to Maui County Council person Elle Cochran and her Staff for hearing our parental concerns and bringing them to light in the form of this house bill.

I retired in 2013 as a Lieutenant with the Maui County Police Department after 27 years of service. Most of my career involved tons of interaction with persons of all walks of life and in all types of situations whether it be criminal, civil, judicial, critical incident stress related, death related and etc.

A majority of my tour of duty during my tenure with MPD was within the Wailuku District Patrol Division, Traffic Division, Communications Section, Moloka'i District Patrol Division and Plans, Training, Research and Development Section.

My last 11 years with MPD was mostly confined to the Plans, Training, Research and Development Section as its Training Coordinator (Sergeant) and Training Commander Advisor (Lieutenant). One of my last assignments as Training Commander Advisor was the collaboration of a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) at the beginning of 2013. The purpose of this team was; ***an innovative police based first responder program that has become nationally known as the "Memphis Model" of pre-arrest jail diversion for those in a mental illness crisis. This program provides law enforcement based crisis intervention training for helping those individuals with mental illness. Involvement in CIT is voluntary and based in the patrol division of the police department. In addition, CIT works in partnership with those in mental health care to provide a system of services that is friendly to the individuals with mental illness, family members, and the police officers.***

Due to past incidents that occurred locally within our State and in other mainland police jurisdictions involving individual mental health consumers (yes, the training taught us to categorize mental health persons as consumers) who were either aggressively arrested and/or deadly force used against the person who was later found to have a medical disability background, the Maui Police Department was the first police agency in the State to look towards programs that would better help our agency in assisting these individuals, their families and our community. Cooperation was gathered thru our local State Department of Health and with the help of former Forensic Coordinator Dr. Dara Rampersad, the creation of Maui Police's Crisis Intervention Team was formed.

In a nutshell, officers in the department willing to volunteer thier services would be selected and attend multiple weeks of training in many facets of interaction with mental health consumer individuals, their families, and other institutions that cater to these individuals needs



and the many other programs available. Once trained, the officer would return to their regular duties and be utilized during their assigned shift if any regular front line officer would encounter an incident involving any mental health consumer. The CIT officer would respond and utilize his/her training to diffuse the situation. The CIT officer would also confer with the Forensic Coordinator for future disposition of the consumer individual and what the next level of interaction would be. Through his/her training, the CIT officer would convince the consumer to accompany them to the hospital or their place of residency or other location for proper care of that consumer instead of arresting or aggressively detaining them. The result being less stress on the consumer individual and their family. No internal or external complaints of excessive use of force against the officer or department. Hopefully, no use of deadly force against the consumer. A win, win for all involved.

Personal information on the consumer would be gathered and relayed to the dispatcher who would be able to asterisk the person and/or location for further police only use should an encounter occur again.

Upon retiring from MPD I later learned that more CIT training sessions were continued and involved many more officers and civilians from MPD and throughout the State and outer island counties as well as other first responder agencies, security, prosecutors, sheriffs, firefighters and mental health practitioners.

I am the proud parent of two boys ages 19, Kalae (Kanaele), and 13, Pokai (Kanaele) who have been individually diagnosed with their own disabilities. Kalae medically diagnosed as having Autism/Aspberger Syndrome and Pokai medically diagnosed as having Severe Anxiety Disorder/Dysgraphia (Dyslexia).

Kalae successfully graduated from King Kekaulike High School in 2015, defying all the odds against him by nearly all of the school officials that projected him for failure from grammar school thru to high school. I have only my wife and a close knit group of tutors, advocates and non school professionals and the good lord above for all the continued help and support that allowed him to continue focusing and graduate with a diploma. Pokai is still a work in progress. He continues his adventure through the same school system and with some of the same individual school officials who also think he will not be successful as well. But we continue to persevere.

I won't go over some of the intricate details involving my sons and their predicaments as it has been well detailed in my wife's (Yvette) written testimony for this bill.

I SUPPORT this bill as it would allow Developmentally Disabled persons the right to add to their respective State Identification or Drivers License cards, their individual Disability which, I hope, would be taken into sensitive consideration by the person(s) interacting with these unique

individuals who would then provide them with the respectful human decency these consumers deserve.

I write this communication not only for my sons but for all Mental Health Consumers and Developmental Disability or other diagnosed Disability person(s) throughout our entire State.  
Mahalo !!!

Leighton Kanaele

Concerned parent...

My name is Kalae Kanaele and I am a resident of  
Pukalani, Hawaii, Maui.

I am submitting testimony in strong SUPPORT of HB1641 "RELATING TO PERSONS WITH  
DISABILITIES"

I am in support of HB 1641 for these reasons;

- 1) This bill will serve as a necessary protective measure for our community members who may have disabilities that are non-obvious. It is designed to help address the growing concerns from parents and families who worry about the possibility of incidents in which individuals with mental health issues have been aggressively arrested due to the officer's inability to identify any disability.
- 2) This bill will require a person to have documentation from a medical doctor in order to indicate the disability on their ID, which will mitigate any abuse.
- 3) The bill does not infringe on the rights of those within the disabled community by making this indicator an elected option. It is in no way intended to be a requirement, nor to limit a person in any way.

Sincerely,

Kalae Kanaele  
31 Haq Haq Street  
Pukalani Hawaii 96768  
281-4529

Please help this bill  
because it will help all special  
like me when I need help or assistance  
thank you  
Kalae



My name is Dee Agoy of Haiku, Maui and I am submitting this written communication in support of HB 1641, SB 2118 "RELATING TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES".

First, I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to Maui County Council person Elle Cochran and her Staff for hearing our parental concerns and bringing them to light in the form of this house bill.

I am currently a Caregiver of Special Needs Individuals for almost 10 Years. I have been employed by Bayada, Mastercare, Home care, and Horizons Academy. Throughout my years of service, with unique individuals, I have heard the people label some students as "normal kids". Due to the lack of physical disabilities and or due to them just being in a wheelchair. However, according to their diagnosis on their Individual Service Plan (ISP) and or Individual Educational Plan (IEP) they are diagnosed with disorders apart from a physical disability. Some students I have worked with fall under the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). In which they may have Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD). A disability that displays no physical defect. Some students suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). There are countless other disorders that I could identify. But I do not wish to deviate from the matter at hand, the support for the bill in question, HB 1641, SB 2118 "RELATING TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES".

From what I understand, this bill would allow those persons with confirmed medical disabilities the option to affix their disability on their Hawaii State Identification Card or Hawaii Driver's license accordingly. This would allow the other person dealing with the developmentally disabled individual, the opportunity to provide decent care, patience and understanding when confronting and sensitively handling the unique situation accordingly. Especially during instances involving law enforcement encounters.

One need only to look at the past years and months, via social media, you-tube and etc., to see the many video clips of tension filled moments involving some law officers or security persons who actually took the life of individuals, or beat them to a pulp, and these innocent individuals were later learned to have some type of medical disability but were either off their medication or innocently at the wrong place at the wrong time with no way to identify their disability or disorder to the officer or other authoritative figure.

I write this communication not only for all persons diagnosed with a Physical Disability but all types of Developmental Disabilities throughout our entire State. Mahalo !!!

Dee Agoy

Concerned Caregiver...

2/8/2016

Gmail - Fwd: HB 1641 Testimony



yvette kanaele &lt;ykanaele@gmail.com&gt;

**Fwd: HB 1641 Testimony**

1 message

davieslisaa &lt;davieslisaa@aol.com&gt;

Sun, Feb 7, 2016 at 7:57 PM

To: ykanaele@gmail.com

Here is Sing Vistas testimony.

Sent from my Verizon Wireless 4G LTE smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: vista &lt;vistaj001@hawaii.rr.com&gt;

Date: 02/07/2016 7:14 PM (GMT-10:00)

To: davieslisaa@aol.com

Subject: HB 1641 Testimony

We give our permission to Lisa Davies to submit our testimonies in support of HB1641 "RELATING TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES." We give our permission for these testimonies to be used throughout the 2016 legislative session, if needed.

From: C. A. Vista and Gabriel Vista  
P. O. Box 88-0136, Pukalani HI 96788  
E-mail: vistaj001@hawaii.rr.com

We are submitting are testimonies in strong SUPPORT of HB1641 "RELATING TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES"

We are in support of HB 1641 for these reasons:

1. This bill will serve as a necessary protective measure for our community members who may have disabilities that are non-obvious. It is designed to help address the growing concerns from parents and families who worry about the possibility of incidents in which individuals with mental health issues have been aggressively arrested due to the officer's inability to identify any disability. For some, it is not IF, but WHEN. Their inability to comprehend an officer's command may be viewed as defiance to an officer.
2. This bill will require a person to have documentation from a medical doctor in order to indicate the disability on their ID, which will mitigate any abuse.
3. The bill does not infringe on the rights of those within the disabled community by making this indicator and elected option. It is in no way intended to be a requirement, nor to limit a person in any way.

Beau Laughlin  
480 Kenolio Rd 30-203  
Kihei, HI 96753

February 9, 2016

Members of the Hawaii State Legislature  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania St.  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Members of the Hawaii State Legislature,

I work in the field of intellectual disabilities. Typically, I do not agree with identifying people as disabled or by other labels associated with a specific medical condition. However, I do **support** HB 1641 because it is a person's choice to self-identify as a person with a disability. I also support HB 1641 is because it will hopefully reduce aversive interactions with members of the police force, should a person with a disability have to present their ID card to a police officer. Just labeling the ID cards will not be enough. We have seen firsthand in our state and nationally how poorly police manage working with the disabled. Police officers and other emergency management people will need to be trained in how to respond to individuals with intellectual disabilities.

Kindly submitted,



Beau Laughlin, M.S., BCBA

December 15, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Patrick Brown. I am a Sixth Grade Science Teacher at Kalama Intermediate School. I have been in education for thirty years. I am writing this letter in support of the resolution to propose a State bill to allow persons with disabilities to indicate on their identification cards their disability. Over the years in education I have had the opportunity to work with students who have varying degrees of disabilities. I can see the benefit of having a person have their disability indicated on their identification if they choose to do so. It will allow others to assist them appropriately should they require assistance in any situation.

It is my hope that this proposed State bill and all that it entails will be accepted during this legislative session!

You may contact me at (808) 870-5410 or the address listed below, in the event that you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

*Patrick C Brown*  
Patrick C. Brown

Patrick C. Brown  
P.O. Box 1506  
Makawao, Hawaii 96768



My name is Karen Ogata and I am a resident of  
Kahului, HI.

I am submitting testimony in strong SUPPORT of HB1641 "RELATING TO PERSONS WITH  
DISABILITIES"

I am in support of HB 1641 for these reasons;

- 1) This bill will serve as a necessary protective measure for our community members who may have disabilities that are non-obvious. It is designed to help address the growing concerns from parents and families who worry about the possibility of incidents in which individuals with mental health issues have been aggressively arrested due to the officer's inability to identify any disability.
- 2) This bill will require a person to have documentation from a medical doctor in order to indicate the disability on their ID, which will mitigate any abuse.
- 3) The bill does not infringe on the rights of those within the disabled community by making this indicator an elected option. It is in no way intended to be a requirement, nor to limit a person in any way.

Sincerely,

Karen Ogata  
299 Mokapu St.  
Kahului, HI 96732



My name is Allen S. Ogata and I am a resident of  
Kahului, HI 96732

I am submitting testimony in strong SUPPORT of HB1641 "RELATING TO PERSONS WITH  
DISABILITIES"

I am in support of HB 1641 for these reasons;

- 1) This bill will serve as a necessary protective measure for our community members who may have disabilities that are non-obvious. It is designed to help address the growing concerns from parents and families who worry about the possibility of incidents in which individuals with mental health issues have been aggressively arrested due to the officer's inability to identify any disability.
- 2) This bill will require a person to have documentation from a medical doctor in order to indicate the disability on their ID, which will mitigate any abuse.
- 3) The bill does not infringe on the rights of those within the disabled community by making this indicator an elected option. It is in no way intended to be a requirement, nor to limit a person in any way.

Sincerely,

Allen S. Ogata  
259 Mokepe St.  
Kahului, HI

My name is Francis M. KAHOOHA LATHALA and I am a resident of  
KAHULUI, MAUI, HI.

I am submitting testimony in strong SUPPORT of HB1641 "RELATING TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES"

I am in support of HB 1641 for these reasons;

- 1) This bill will serve as a necessary protective measure for our community members who may have disabilities that are non-obvious. It is designed to help address the growing concerns from parents and families who worry about the possibility of incidents in which individuals with mental health issues have been aggressively arrested due to the officer's inability to identify any disability.
- 2) This bill will require a person to have documentation from a medical doctor in order to indicate the disability on their ID, which will mitigate any abuse.
- 3) The bill does not infringe on the rights of those within the disabled community by making this indicator and elected option. It is in no way intended to be a requirement, nor to limit a person in any way.

Sincerely,

Sandra Kahookalathala for Francis M. Kahookalathala  
189 KAULANA ST.  
KAHULUI, MAUI, HI 96732

My name is Sandra Kahochalahala and I am a resident of  
Kahului, Maui, HI.

I am submitting testimony in strong SUPPORT of HB1641 "RELATING TO PERSONS WITH  
DISABILITIES"

I am in support of HB 1641 for these reasons;

- 1) This bill will serve as a necessary protective measure for our community members who may have disabilities that are non-obvious. It is designed to help address the growing concerns from parents and families who worry about the possibility of incidents in which individuals with mental health issues have been aggressively arrested due to the officer's inability to identify any disability.
- 2) This bill will require a person to have documentation from a medical doctor in order to indicate the disability on their ID, which will mitigate any abuse.
- 3) The bill does not infringe on the rights of those within the disabled community by making this indicator an elected option. It is in no way intended to be a requirement, nor to limit a person in any way.

Sincerely,

Sandra Kahochalahala  
489 Kawilana St.  
Kahului, HI 96732

My name is Lorianna Maw and I am a resident of  
Waukegan, IL

I am submitting testimony in strong SUPPORT of HB1641 "RELATING TO PERSONS WITH  
DISABILITIES"

I am in support of HB 1641 for these reasons;

- 1) This bill will serve as a necessary protective measure for our community members who may have disabilities that are non-obvious. It is designed to help address the growing concerns from parents and families who worry about the possibility of incidents in which individuals with mental health issues have been aggressively arrested due to the officer's inability to identify any disability.
- 2) This bill will require a person to have documentation from a medical doctor in order to indicate the disability on their ID, which will mitigate any abuse.
- 3) The bill does not infringe on the rights of those within the disabled community by making this indicator an elected option. It is in no way intended to be a requirement, nor to limit a person in any way.

Sincerely,

Lorianna Maw  
6 ope way  
Waukegan IL 96793



My name is Russell H. Mau and I am a resident of  
POKALANI, MAUI, HI.

I am submitting testimony in strong SUPPORT of HB1641 "RELATING TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES"

I am in support of HB 1641 for these reasons;

- 1) This bill will serve as a necessary protective measure for our community members who may have disabilities that are non-obvious. It is designed to help address the growing concerns from parents and families who worry about the possibility of incidents in which individuals with mental health issues have been aggressively arrested due to the officer's inability to identify any disability.
- 2) This bill will require a person to have documentation from a medical doctor in order to indicate the disability on their ID, which will mitigate any abuse.
- 3) The bill does not infringe on the rights of those within the disabled community by making this indicator an elected option. It is in no way intended to be a requirement, nor to limit a person in any way.

Sincerely,

Russell H. Mau  
188 ELILANI ST  
POKALANI, MAUI, HI 96768