

## HAWAI'I CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

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

April 18, 2017 Rm. 016, 9:35 a.m.

- To: The Honorable Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
- From: Linda Hamilton Krieger, Chair and Commissioners of the Hawai'i Civil Rights Commission

#### Re: H.C.R. No. 125, H.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.C.R. No. 125, H.D.1, declaring Hawai'i to be a Ho'okipa (Welcoming)

state, and resolving that Hawai'i recognize that immigration enforcement is a federal function and

that Hawai'i should not agree to have state and local law enforcement officers deputized to enforce

#### federal immigration laws.

Article I, section 5 of the Hawai'i Constitution provides:

*No person* shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law, nor be denied the equal protection of the laws, *nor be denied the enjoyment of the person's civil rights or be discriminated against in the exercise thereof because of race, religion, sex, or ancestry.* 

(emphasis added).

This Hawai'i constitutional civil rights provision, which has no counterpart in the U.S. Constitution,

protects all the people of Hawai'i, without regard to citizenship or immigration status. Similarly, our

state civil rights statutes prohibit discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations, and state-

funded services, without regard to citizenship or immigration status.

In civil rights law enforcement, as in criminal law enforcement, we all benefit when all persons are

protected by the law, and therefore not chilled from coming forward to complain of or bear witness to

violations of the law. Our collective rights are diminished and justice is denied when a minority is excluded from civil rights and protection of the law, creating an underclass that can be exploited, intimidated, and attacked with impunity, to the detriment of our shared values and respect for human dignity.

It is important for us, at every level, to do our part, to be vigilant in protecting civil rights and human dignity of every person in Hawai'i, regardless of citizenship or immigration status.



Committee:	Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hearing Date/Time:	Tuesday, April 18, 2017, 9:35 a.m.
Place:	Conference Room 325
Re:	<i>Testimony of the ACLU of Hawai</i> 'i <b>in Support</b> of HCR 125, H.D.1,
	Declaring Hawaiʻi to be a Hoʻokipa (Welcoming) State

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Rhoads, and Committee Members:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i ("ACLU of Hawai'i") writes in support of HCR 125, H.D.1, which requests the State of Hawai'i to appoint a Ho'okipa Commission to ensure a safe and welcoming community for everyone, and for the State not to expend state or county funds by entering into any 287(g) agreements with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement ("ICE") or otherwise participate in the deportation of undocumented immigrants.

Hawai'i is one of only seven states that fully complies with ICE detainers, over fifty percent of these detainers in Hawai'i being addressed to and involving state actors, such as the Oahu Community Correctional Center, the Hawai'i Community Correctional Center, and the Maui Community Correction Center.<sup>1</sup> When local law enforcement acts as an extension of the immigration system, public trust is corroded and the ability of officers to perform their jobs is hindered. Furthermore, collaborating with federal immigration authorities is expensive, as the federal government usually does not reimburse expenses such as detention, overtime for personnel, and litigation brought against the State and counties as a result of their participation. Finally, deportation tears families apart, and, especially in light of the Executive's recent unconstitutional actions on immigration, Hawai'i should simply no longer be party to these practices.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Mandy Finlay Advocacy Coordinator ACLU of Hawaiʻi

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> TRAC, <u>Tracking Immigration and Customs Enforcement Detainers</u>, *available at* <u>http://trac.syr.edu/phptools/immigration/detain/</u>.

Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee April 18, 2017 Page 2 of 2

The mission of the ACLU of Hawaii is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawaii fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawaii 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 Hawaii has been serving Hawaii for 50 years.

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i P.O. Box 3410 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96801 T: 808.522-5900 F: 808.522-5909 E: office@acluhawaii.org www.acluhawaii.org

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	JDLTestimony
Cc:	wndoom@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HCR125 on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM
Date:	Sunday, April 16, 2017 9:16:38 PM
Attachments:	HNL-Copy of ACLU's 9 "model" state and local law enforcement policies and rules V1.pdf

Submitted on: 4/16/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Doom	ACLU People Power	Support	No

Comments:

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.

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor 9:35am, April 18, 2017

Testimony in support HCR 125 HD 1 Testimony submitted by Amy Agbayani, chair Filipino-American Advocacy Network (FAN)

Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Rhoads and members of the committee

I am representing, Filipino-Americans Advocacy Network (FAN) in strong support of HCR 125 HD1. FAN advocates for equity, diversity and inclusion. We support this resolution declaring Hawaii to be a Ho'okipa (Welcoming) State because it expresses our shared values and our aspirations. FAN is very concerned that members of the Filipino community, many who are recent immigrants, will face even more barriers to equal and full participation. In 1906 fifteen males came from the Philippines to Hawai'i to work on the plantations. Since then thousands of Filipinos, their children and grandchildren have become citizens and residents of the state. Filipinos (alone and mixed) are now the second largest ethnic group in the state (after White/Caucasians). Since the 1965 amendments to the US Immigration law, Filipinos continue to be the largest immigrant group arriving in the state annually. One estimate is that 40% of the undocumented people in our state are from the Philippines. Many are in mixed status households (a spouse or a child may be a US citizen or legal resident), most are Catholic and some are Muslims. They are our neighbors, colleagues, students, workers, caregivers and taxpayers.

Immigrants (both documented and undocumented) are "crucial" to the welfare of our nation and our state. The 3/9/17 Star Advertiser article based on the Pew Research Center research states that "America's workforce will only grow over the next two decades if new immigrants arrive to replace retiring baby boomers...Pew projected that the US working-age (25-64) population will grow to 183 million in 2035 from 173 million in 2015, with new immigrants accounting for all the growth...Without them, the number of working-age Americans would drop to 168 million in 2035. As baby-boomers retire, the number of US born working age adults with US born parents will account for a smaller share of the working-age population: 66 percent in 2035, down from 74 percent in 2015. THE PEW REPORT ECHOES WHAT MANY ECONOMIST HAVE BEEN SAYING: THE U.S. NEEDS IMMIGRANTS TO REPLACE RETIREES, AND AN USUSALLY LARGE SHARE OF WORKING-AGE AMERICANS CHOOSE NOT TO LOOK FOR WORK."

HCR 125, HD1 is inclusive and acknowledges that the contributions of immigrants are part of Hawai'i history and future. We should not use state or city resources to help enforce federal laws that are based on hate and discrimination. This resolution will keep families together, help our economy and keep us more secure. Please vote for this resolution declaring Hawai'i to be a Ho'okipa (Welcoming) State. Maraming salamat.

# Filipino American Citizens League

Jake Manegdeg, President P. O. Box 270126 ★ Honolulu, Hawaiʻi 96827

Testimony in strong support of HCR 125 HD1 Declaring Hawai'i to be a Ho'okipa (Welcoming) State House Judiciary Committee April 18, 2017, 9:35 a.m., State Capitol, Conference Room 325

To:	Chair Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Karl Rhoads
	Members of Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee
From:	Charlene Cuaresma, Vice President, Filipino American Citizens League
Subject:	Hoʻokipo State; Federal Immigration Laws

I am proud to submit our full support of this House Concurrent Resolution. My name is Charlene Cuaresma, vice president of the Filipino American Citizens League. The Filipino American Citizens League was formed nearly twenty years ago to contribute to the advancement of civil rights and social justice for minority groups, underserved populations, and vulnerable communities through education, advocacy, and social action.

We support this resolution and stand in solidarity with other immigrant and refugee groups to be welcomed to live, work, raise our families, prosper, and give back likewise as good stewards of Hawai'i s civil society without the fear of state agencies assisting Immigration and Customs Enforcement and federal agents to enforce wrongful deportation of individuals.

As we approach the 111<sup>th</sup> year since Filipinos first arrived in Hawai'i as contract sugarcane workers in 1906, we owe a deep gratitude to our Native Hawaiian brothers and sisters, who have welcomed us here, in keeping with the welcoming precept of Ho'okipa, which is grounded in the values of a healthy and civil society. As Filipinos, we gained the privilege to learn to be good stewards of Hawai'i s diverse land and people. Since then, Filipinos contributed with each generation, serving not only in the fields of sugarcane, pineapple, and coffee, but also health care, medicine, business, law, science, education, and more. As a result, Filipinos have had the privilege to step up and serve the people of Hawai'i in many first roles, including the first Filipino governor.

As Filipinos, we share a common history with Native Hawaiians of being conquered people, who were exploited, betrayed, and annexed as United States territories under the Treaty of Paris in 1898. My grandfather, who was born in the Philippines in 1903 told me, "You cannot get to where you are going without looking to where you came." Lessons learned show that the Hawaiian value of Ho'okipa can strengthen disparate people and foster unity and cooperation in order for families to thrive and strive toward social justice, cooperation, mutual aid, and peaceful co-existence.

Thank you for hearing this resolution. We urge our lawmakers to champion, welcome and protect our immigrant and refugee communities with the provisions of this measure.

Very Sincerely, Charlene Cuaresma



April 18, 2017, 9:35am Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor Testimony in support of HCR 125, HD 1

Submitted by: Faye Kennedy, chair Hawaii Friends of Civil Rights 3071 Felix St. Honolulu, Hawaii 96816

Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Rhoads and members of the Committee

Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights (HFCR) strongly support HRC 125, HD1 declaring Hawai'i to be a Ho'okipa (Welcoming) State. HFCR is committed to equal rights and non-discrimination. HFCR supports this resolution because it is consistent with goals for diversity and inclusion of all persons in our state.

As an 85 year old African American woman, I am painfully aware of historical and current events in our state and in our nation when segments of our society were and are unfairly treated and excluded from full and equal participation. Civil rights for individuals and respect for the many groups that call Hawai'i home, encourages better work relationships in a multicultural workforce, improves our economy, creates a safe environment, enhances our cultural life and strengthens our community. We thank our host indigenous Native Hawaiians, immigrants and citizens and their children/grandchildren for all their sacrifices and for sharing their talents.

Let us learn from historical mistakes and historical successes and accept our responsibilities to protect individuals and groups that are targets of hate. As a taxpayer, I respectfully urge you to support HCR 125/HD1. We should not use our state resources to enforce discriminatory activities and we must reaffirm that Hawai'i is a Ho'okipa (Welcoming) State.

#### Testimony of Hawaii J-20+ Supporting HCR 125 HD 1 Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor April 18, 2017, 9:35 a.m., Rm. 325

Hawaii J-20+ is a grassroots organization committed to preserving constitutional principles and community values.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of HCR 125 HD 1, which declares Hawaii to be a Ho'okipa (Welcoming) State.

Historically, Hawaii has welcomed immigrants, who have come to our shores from all over the world. Migration has been part of the history of Hawaii ever since Native Hawaiians first journeyed here in voyaging canoes. Virtually all of the rest of Hawaii's residents are either immigrants or their descendants. The Native Hawaiian values of Aloha and Ho'okipa, or open-hearted hospitality, have allowed us to enjoy the richness that immigrants have contributed to Hawaii.

Immigration has been in the news recently, especially because of President Trump's executive order banning people from seven (now six) nations from entering the US. The President also signed another executive order which did not get much media coverage that affects immigrants who are already living in the US.

This second executive order intensifies efforts to deport undocumented immigrants, creating an atmosphere of fear among them and their families. Deportation is not new, of course. Previous administrations have pursued deportation efforts. President Obama, for example, targeted on individuals who had committed serious crimes. President Trump's executive order widens the scope to include virtually all undocumented immigrants, including those without criminal records.

An estimated 11 million immigrants who are undocumented live in the US, meaning that they have either crossed the border without a visa, which is a misdemeanor, or that they have overstayed their visa, which is not a crime. Half of the adult undocumented immigrants have lived in the US for 10 years or more. Undocumented immigrants live and work in our communities, they pay taxes, and their crime rate is lower than that of U.S. citizens.

Hawaii is home to somewhere between 21,000 and 45,000 undocumented immigrants. Most of them have overstayed their visas, so their immigration status is not a criminal matter. Nearly half of them are estimated to be from the Philippines, with 15% from Japan and 7% from Mexico.

Immigration regulation is purely a federal function. Local law enforcement agencies may work with the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency (ICE), but it is completely optional. President Trump's executive order is particularly disturbing because it revives a program under section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1357) that deputizes state and local law enforcement officers and allows them to function as ICE agents. In Hawaii as elsewhere, local law officers work in the community and depend on the public for information to solve crimes. An atmosphere of trust is essential to effective policing and peace of mind within neighborhoods.

Deputizing local police to act as ICE agents would create fear among undocumented immigrants. That fear would work against the efforts of police to protect people and ensure safety. People must feel, for example, that they can report illegal and suspicious behavior in their neighborhoods without any repercussions. The threat of deportation discourages undocumented immigrants from doing so.

Many undocumented immigrants who have lived in the U.S. for many years are married to U.S. citizens or have children who are U.S. citizens by virtue of having been born in the U.S. Deportation would tear these families apart, which would be inconsistent with Aloha and Ho'okipa.

More than 600 cities, counties and states across the nation have already decided to limit the participation of their local police with ICE. These "sanctuary" jurisdictions do <u>not</u> <u>protect undocumented immigrants any more than they protect American citizens; they</u> <u>simply let the federal government do its own work with regards to immigration regulation.</u> For them, maintaining community peace and harmony is the top priority. A study by Tom K. Wong of the University of California at San Diego shows that these communities are safer for everyone.

President Trump's executive order also threatens to withhold federal funds from sanctuary jurisdictions. However, experts say there are many barriers that would make this punitive aim difficult to achieve. It would be especially difficult, if not impossible, to withhold federal funds that are not closely related to immigration or law enforcement.

San Francisco and other sanctuary jurisdictions have already filed lawsuits to prevent the withholding of federal funds. When President Obama tried to withhold federal funds from states that refused to participate in the federal Medicaid expansion program, the Supreme Court ruled that it was unconstitutional, and no state was denied federal funding.

Immigrants are a part of our communities, and they contribute to the rich fabric of Hawaii's diverse, inclusive culture. Local law enforcement agencies should not work with ICE because it would erode the stability of our communities. Consistent with our heritage, Hawaii should continue to be welcoming to immigrants, regardless of their status.

For the foregoing reasons, Hawaii J-20+ strongly supports HCR 125 HD 1.

Contact: John Kawamoto



46-063 Emepela Pl. #U101 Kaneohe, HI 96744 · (808) 679-7454 · Kris Coffield · Co-founder/Executive Director

#### TESTIMONY FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 125, DECLARING HAWAII TO BE A HO'OKIPA (WELCOMING) STATE

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor Hon. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair Hon. Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

Tuesday, April 18, 2017, 9:35 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran and committee members:

I am Kris Coffield, representing IMUAlliance, a nonpartisan political advocacy organization that currently boasts over 350 members. On behalf of our members, we offer this testimony <u>in strong support of HCR 125</u>, HD 1, declaring Hawai'i to be a ho'okipa (welcoming state).

Immigrants and refugees of all nations have contributed to the health, well-being, and general welfare of Hawai'i as families and neighbors. Similarly, immigrants and refugees of many nations have contributed to the prosperity of Hawai'i as workers and taxpayers. Many of Hawaii's residents are the descendants of Chinese, Filipino, and Japanese immigrants who came to the islands during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries to work on plantations. Discrimination based on national origin, race, ethnicity, or religion or perceived national origin, on the other hand, is a chronic aspect of life for immigrant and refugee populations of the United States and a problem faced by immigrants in the islands, as well.

Unfortunately, but unsurprisingly, the number of violent acts against committed against immigrant communities and religious minorities has been rising in recent years, especially in the wake of the 2016 presidential election. Chronic discrimination undergirding and propounded by acts of violence leads to community disengagement, diminished opportunities for integration, increased stigmatization, and greater incidents of health morbidity. Put simply, discrimination and violence is a violation of human rights, civil liberties, and the principles of economic growth. Promoting health, well-being, and general welfare are core obligations of state government. Moreover, individual and societal prosperity require harnessing all of Hawai'i's available labor, skills, and ideas to grow the state's economy and expand opportunities. Every Hawai'i resident should be treated with compassion and respect regardless of national origin or citizenship status, and given opportunities to succeed. Legally speaking, the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment of the Constitution of the United States guarantees all persons due process, equal protection of the laws. In the case of *Plyler v. Doe* (1982) and reaffirmed in *Zadvydas v. Davis* (2001), the Supreme Court of the United States held that that the Due Process and Equal Protection clauses of the 14th Amendment apply to all persons in the United States whose presence maybe or is unlawful, involuntary or transitory. Section 5 of Article I of the Hawaii State Constitution also guarantees every person due process and equal protection of the laws, and prohibits denying the enjoyment of a person's civil rights based on race, religion, sex or ancestry.

Contravening the established legal protections afforded to immigrant populations, President Donald Trump has issued executive orders relating to the deportation of immigrants that expand the definition criminal alien to include individuals who enter the country without authorization or commit acts that constitute a chargeable criminal offense, even if they have not yet been convicted of a crime. On March 6, 2017, the administration of President Donald Trump ordered a ban on immigration from six Muslim majority nations, furthering the current presidential administration's anti-immigrant agenda. The Trump administration's immigration policies have, accordingly, been condemned as harmful by numerous human rights and advocacy organizations, including Human Rights Watch, The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, the American Civil Liberties Union, and the National Immigration Law Center.

Our aloba spirit demands not only respect for diversity, but defense of people who are under siege for their heritage. Thus, we strongly endorse recognition that immigration is a federal function and this measure's request that local law enforcement agencies decline to work with federal immigration agencies, as well as a restriction of state or county funds by from law enforcement activities that collaborate with ICE or any other federal law enforcement agency in connection with the deportation of undocumented immigrants who have not been convicted of committing a violent crime. We heartily join the signatories of this resolution in calling on Gov. David Ige to appoint a Ho'okipa Commission to ensure a safe, secure, and welcoming community for everyone, including immigrants of every status, to promote respectful relations and collaboration between community members and agencies providing public safety services.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify <u>in support</u> of this resolution.

Sincerely, Kris Coffield *Executive Director* IMUAlliance



#### JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE HONOLULU CHAPTER P.O. BOX 1291, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96807 EMAIL: jaclhon@gmail.com WEBSITE: www.jaclhonolulu.org

Working For A Greater America

Board Members	April 15, 2017		
Alison Kunishige President	To: Committee Chair Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran Committee Vice Chair Karl Rhoads		
Kent Walther 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor		
Jacce Mikulanec 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	From: Alison Kunishige President, Japanese American Citizens League – Honolulu Chapter		
Liann Ebesugawa 3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President	Re: SUPPORT OF HCR No. 125 and HR No. 76 DECLARING HAWAII TO BE A HO'OKIPA (WELCOMING) STATE.		
Geoff Sogi Treasurer	Hearing: April 18, 2017, 9:35 a.m. Conference Room 325		
Sean Ibara Secretary	Chair Kaith Agaran Vice Chair Dheads and Mamhars of the Committee		
Susan Arnett	Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:		
Della Au Belatti	The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) is the oldest Asian civil rights organization in our country. We seek to protect and defend the rights of all Americans.		
Alphonso Braggs	Over many years, we have supported those who are under-represented in the seats of		
Shawn Benton	government or who may take controversial stands in defense of liberty.		
Bernadette Fo	We support House Concurrent Resolution No. 125 (and HR No. 76) as both propose that Hawaii and its political subdivisions recognize that local law enforcement agencies should decline to work with federal immigration agencies in the enforcement of		
David Forman			
Hana Fulghum	immigration laws and decline to expend state or county funds by entering into agreements with the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement.		
AJ Halagao	agreements with the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement.		
Trisha Nakamura	Hawaii is a special place with a diverse population made up of both native Hawaiians and a wide range of immigrants. We have a rich history of immigration reaching back to		
Kenyon Tam	the Kingdom of Hawaii with diverse plantation laborers. Our tradition of welcoming		
Jamie Yamagata	others from all over the world- regardless of race, ethnicity, or religion – continues today. JACL Honolulu supports this community and any actions taken to preserve and		
Legal Counsel	nurture this diversity.		
Benjamin Kudo	Recent efforts to discriminate against Muslims threatens our tradition of welcoming immigrants of all backgrounds. Hawaii is all too familiar with the injustices that come		
Advisory Council	with judging people by their country of origin rather than the content of their character.		
Allicyn Hikida-Tasaka	The internment of Japanese Americans during World War II is a black mark in United States history, but we must remember how the people of Hawaii resolved to stand up for		
Clayton Ikei	their neighbors and against racism. We have the opportunity to show that same resolve today.		
William Kaneko			
Colbert Matsumoto	We applaud our lawmakers for memorializing our state's inclusiveness and diversity in these resolutions and thank you for the opportunity to comment on these resolutions.		
Alan Murakami			



## Nursing Advocates & Mentors, Inc.

... a non-profit organization with a mission to address the global nursing shortage by providing guidance and assistance for nursing colleagues to obtain their professional license in nursing.

P.O. Box 2034 Aiea, HI 96701 E-mail: <u>namihonolulu@yahoo.com</u>

*Bea Ramos-Razon, RN, FACDONA* President

*Tessie Oculto, RN* Vice President

D Jun Obaldo, RN, BSN Corresponding Secretary

Au Curameng, RN, CM Recording Secretary

Margie A. Berueda, RN, CM Treasurer

Lynn Barnes, RN, CM Assistant Treasurer

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Christiaan De Vera, RN, BSN

Erlinda Ferrer, RN, BSN

Estrella Guevarra, RN

Delmar Magno, RN, C

Edel Matias, RN, CM

Brenda Monegas, RN

Gail Pantaleon, RN

Oscar Querido, RN

Violeta Sadural, RN, BSN

Tina Salvador, RN, BSN, CNN

Linnette Takenaka, RN, DON

Testimony in strong support of HCR 125 HD1 Declaring Hawai'i to be a Ho'okipa (Welcoming) State Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee April 18, 2017, 9:35 a.m., State Capitol, Conference Room 325

To: Chair Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran , Vice Chair Karl Rhoads Members of Senate Judiciary and Labor Committee

From: Beatrice Ramos-Razon, RN, FACDA President, Nursing Advocates and Mentors, Inc.

Subject: Ho'okipo State; Federal Immigration Laws

My name is Beatrice Ramos-Razon. I am proud to submit our strong support for this bill as the founder and president of NAMI (Nursing Advocates & Mentors, Inc.). NAMI's membership is comprised of over 75 volunteer nurses, instructors, allied health care professionals, and Filipino leaders, who are dedicated to improve the health of Hawai'i's people through education, mentoring, advocacy and service.

I am proud to strongly support this bill. As a registered voter and constituent in District 32, Salt Lake, and as a nurse, most of my NAMI nursing colleagues and I are humbled and grateful to become naturalized American citizens from the Philippines. As a result, we have had the privilege to live, work, raise our families, prosper, and contribute to making Hawai'i one of the best health care systems in the nation. Given this, we urge our lawmakers to lead by example to establish Hawai'i as a Ho'okipa State, as consistent with the provisions laid out in this resolution.

Thank you for hearing this bill and for the opportunity to submit testimony to encourage its passage.

Sincerely,

Beatrice Ramos Razon, RN, FACDA, President Nursing Advocates and Mentors, Inc.



April 16, 2017

#### Support for HCR 125 Declaring Hawaii To Be A Ho'okipa (Welcoming) State

A group of concerned citizens in Waikiki and downtown Honolulu have met under the banner of ACLU People Power. There are also eight separate People Power groups on Hawaii, Maui and Kauai. Among other things, we advocate the fair and equitable treatment of immigrants and the welcoming of refugees. We appreciate Hawaii's diverse culture and national leadership as a Ho'okipa state. Thus, we support HCR 125 and HR 76.

This is why a consortium of local advocacy groups (J20, ACLU People Power, Young Democrats of Hawaii and The Women's March) supports this legislation:

There is documented concern amongst Hawaii's migrant community about accelerated deportations, often without valid Federal warrants or legal due process. The direct assistance of local law enforcement will only undermine trust, making the job of local police all the more difficult. It will also divert scant resources from our local law enforcement. ACLU's "9 Model Policies" addresses these concerns.

Hawaii's agricultural industry (especially coffee growing) depends on undocumented migrants. It is neither realistic nor practical to deport them en mass.

Nationally, the Administration's deportation agenda has resulted in divided families and many injustices. These include immediate deportation of young "dreamers", often triggered by minor traffic offenses. All residents of Hawaii, whether permanent or undocumented, deserve more compassion, transparency and justice.

Hawaii is one of just seven states which has been in 100 percent compliance with federal detainers for immigrants held without a valid warrant. Not only does this cost our state dearly, but it also has violated the constitutional rights of individuals as well. This practice also exposes our state to legal liabilities. (Vid. Kaneya, R. (2017, April 7) Hawaii Cooperates with Feds On Immigration Holds, Even As Other States Balk, Civil Beat, Star Advertiser)

Attorney general Sessions has long opposed comprehensive immigration reform and has advocated decreasing immigration in general. His philosophy goes counter to our Hawaiian heritage as a welcoming state. Since most Hawaiians can trace their ancestry back to undocumented migrants, the administration's nativist policies strike at the very heart of who we are. Thanks to the outstanding initiative of Hawaii's Attorney General in opposing the Administration's Muslim ban in Federal District Court, we are now national leaders in championing diversity and resisting intolerance. Now is the time to seize this historic moment and exercise our state's right to self-determination.

Note that California has recently passed a similar bill, which is awaiting signature by their governor. If we act now, the force of our argument will be magnified.

Thank you for supporting HCR 125.

Sincerely,

Charles Schenck

for People Power.

Honolulu, HI 98615



To:	Hawaii State Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hearing Date/Time:	Tuesday, April 18, 2017, 9:35 a.m.
Place:	Hawaii State Capitol, Rm. 325
Re:	Testimony of Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii in strong support of
	H.C.R. 125, HD1

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee,

Planned Parenthood Votes Northwest and Hawaii ("PPVNH") writes in strong support of H.C.R. 125, HD1, declaring Hawaii to be a ho'okipa (welcoming) state.

The Planned Parenthood community is made up of people from all walks of life and we are proud to provide high-quality care to everyone regardless of faith, country of origin, immigrant or refugee status, or to those who may otherwise have nowhere else to turn for health care. An attack on immigrants and refugees is an attack on our people.

H.C.R. 125 will help us to fight back against the illegal targeting and discrimination that has resulted from President Donald Trump's dangerous executive orders placing appalling restrictions on immigrants, refugees and Muslim communities.

Please pass this resolution and stand strong against all attempts to use race, national origin, ancestry, or citizenship status as a basis on which to deny people the ability to live and prosper together as families.

Sincerely,

Laurie Field Hawaii Legislative Director

Submitted on: 4/16/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ashley de Coligny	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	JDLTestimony
Cc:	<u>carl@dpfhi.org</u>
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HCR125 on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM
Date:	Monday, April 17, 2017 8:42:28 AM

Submitted on: 4/17/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl Bergquist	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I wholeheartedly support this resolution declaring Hawai'i a ho'okipa state, specifically calling for a disentanglement of our state and county police with federal immigration enforcement. Given our state's diverse immigrant heritage and our spirit of inclusiveness - most recently represented in Hawaii's successful lawsuit vs. the Trump Administration's unconstituional Muslim ban - I find it shocking that Hawaii's law enforcement agencies honored all of Department of Homeland Security's Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) requests to hold immigrants for deportation. According to Syracuse University and government data, only six other states saw this level of obedience to what is increasingly being seen as an unconstitutional request to detain a person without proper due process. This is especially troubling because even when the Obama administration ordered ICE to scale back the use of detainers, its local agents often ignored this and continue to use them wantonly. In these circumstances and despite legal precedent that applies in our federal appeals circuit (United States v. Santos-Flores, 794 F.3d 1088 9th Cir. 2015), Hawaii police continued to unquestioningly act as conduits in the mass deportation regime that has emerged in recent years. For the reasons outlined above, please pass this essential resolution.

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.

Submitted on: 4/16/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl Campagna	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Mamy thanks for the opportunity to provide testimony is support of this resolution. We are the Aloha State. What is more, should we not be consistent with Gov Ige's initial comments regarding immigrants from Trumps first travel ban as well as the good work done by our State AG Doug Chin and his office for both travel ban orders? I urge the passing of this resolution. Mahalo

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Submitted on: 4/15/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
chelsea pang	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I moved to Hawaii five years ago with my husband who was born and raised in Kaneohe. Hawaii is a welcoming state and nation. We have an opportunity to be an example of how to except and embrace immigrants, refugees, friends and anyone who would like to contribute to the Hawaiian nation. I support this measure which aims to honor the laws separating federal oversight from local Law enforcement. Law enforcement cannot do their job if they are interrogating witnesses and also crime cannot be prevented community lives in fear.

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.

Submitted on: 4/16/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cheryl	Individual	Support	No

Comments: As Hawai'i is unique and the 'ohana values and ways of Hawai'i are excellent examples of welcoming and embracing others, I strongly implore the legislature to take all possible means to declare our lands safe for all people. We have the chance to lead and demonstrate what aloha means. Please pass this!

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Submitted on: 4/16/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Colleen Rost-Banik	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support making Hawaii a Sanctuary State. It is vital to democracy that people can move freely and are protected as they do so rather than deemed criminal or illegal. Rounding up and deporting immigrants who are searching for economic and life opportunities for their families only instills fear in families and communities. It makes our communities less safe. Hawaii should stand up for and protect its immigrant residents.

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Submitted on: 4/16/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
dennis boyd miller	Individual	Support	No

Comments: HCR125 Committee JDL Room 325 April 18, 2017 9:35 am Aloha! Please support this humane bill. Resisting the Trump administrations overly broad actions makes sense for many reasons. In Hawaii, resisting Trumps immigration policies serves another purpose; it helps our image with international tourists. Trump's policies have already caused a significant reduction in tourism on the mainland. Canadians who used to visit NYC have stopped coming. Hawaii needs to show the world that we do not support inhumane policies that catch many unintended people in Trump's overly broad net. The son of Muhamed Ali was detained in the air port as he flew to Jaimaca, and again upon returning, because of his name. The situation is making the USA worse than a laughing stock, it is making people fear to vacation here. Please take a stand against Trump and make Hawaii a sanctuary state. Thank you, Dennis B Miller email: singlepayerhawaii@gmail.com 226 Lewers Street Ste L209

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

Testimony to the Hawaii State Legislature: HCR125 HD1 / HR76 HD 1 DECLARING HAWAII TO BE A HO'OKIPA (WELCOMING) STATE AND REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO APPOINT A HO'OKIPA COMMISSION.

I am a second generation Irish-Polish American. I am told my "Papist" Irish grandparents had a Klu Klux Klan cross burned in their yard in Indianapolis, Indiana "back in the day." I do not want "back in the day" of the KKK to be our present.

My Vietnamese-American friend is a successful business women on the island of Oahu; she attributes her cheerfulness and commitment to her employees as a result of her gratefulness for her life she has a U.S. citizen. My friend escaped South Vietnam, during the time of the Vietnam Conflict, after her father was killed by the Communists for aiding Americans. She and her friend escaped together at the age of 16. She was one of the "boat people." My friend has related to me the story of making her way to Malaysia on an overcrowded boat; her boat and its refugees were fortunate enough to be seen and rescued by a tanker. Her friend's boat and many others were not so fortunate. The memories of dead bodies floating in the sea are with her always. I asked her how she survived the four years in Malaysia, while waiting on the dream to come to the United States, knowing how young girls are often sold into slavery; she told me her friend had taught her how to make herself ugly, and that life was hard, very hard. This explains her current state of happiness and gratefulness.

For many months my friend and other members of her extended family in the United States were looking forward to a reunion in Vietnam, her nieces wedding. After the initial Muslim Ban, all family members with the exception of my friend pulled out of their travel plans due to the fear they may not be allowed back into the United States - despite their citizenship. My friend said if she did not have children she would go to Vietnam and not return for a year.

As a member of the Women's March and in solidarity with J20 and many other groups, I attended the airport rally at the Honolulu International Airport after the first Muslim Travel Ban was announced. From this experience I learned the name of our local immigration lawyer and the local ACLU. Before my friend left for Vietnam I gave her the information and told her to write it on her arm in indelible marker. After I drove away from this encounter I cried at the reality of the moment. Whether or not her fear is unfounded is beside the point. The current administration in the White House continues to generate and re-generate an atmosphere of fear and hatred among its citizens. We cannot co-exist in a fearful state. Federal and local officials, as well as the safety of all citizens, benefit from a trust in the system. The fearful citizen will not call in a crime if they do not trust officials. They will not step forward. They will not believe themselves to be validated. Declaring Hawaii a "Ho'okipa (welcoming) State" will not only validate an environment of Aloha, but create a safer State for all.

Mahalo nui loa,

Dr. Eileen Marie Gawrys

Submitted on: 4/17/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Eric Chang	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please take a stand as a state that welcomes visitors, immigrants, and refugees, and that opposes bigotry, discrimination, and xenophobia. Let Hawaii be on the right side of history. Mahalo

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.

Submitted on: 4/16/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gaye Chan	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Among the most basic and profound meaning of human existence is to care for each other in times of need. The Ho'okipa resolution addresses one such current issue now.

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.

#### HCR125

Submitted on: 4/17/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gilbert Mendelson	Individual	Support	No

Comments: April 16, 2017 Support for HCR 125 Declaring Hawaii To Be A Ho'okipa (Welcoming) State I urge the passage and your full support of HCR 125 Declaring Hawaii to be a Ho'okipa (Welcoming) State. By tradition and our daily practice of care and concern for all the people of Hawaii, we need to express through Legislative action, police and law enforcement procedures our Aloha Spirit. Please stop wasting our tax dollars spending substantial dollars paying to carry out unlawful ICE Detainers. As Civil Beat has reported, Hawaii is one of the very few states, that spends our tax money to carry out unlawful detaining of people without a warrant. Stop this expensive practice. It keeps our prisons overcrowded. It exposes the State to lawsuits, and it makes us more unsafe, as fewer people are willing to cooperate with law enforcement. HRC125 resolves "that the State and its political subdivisios are requested to not expend state or county funds by entering into any agreements under section 287(g)" with ICE. I say NOT one penny of our TAX Dollars. Please, make it clear that the people of Hawaii through its Legislature means we SHOULD NOT spend our tax dollars. Thank you for supporting HCR 125. Sincerely, Gil Mendelson 18 S Kalaheo Avenue Kailua, HI 96734

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

April 16, 2017

Committee on Judiciary and Labor Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

RE: HCR125 HD1 Declaring Hawaii to Be a Ho'okipa State

Dear Committee on Judiciary and Labor,

Thank you very much for granting this hearing. I am in strong support of declaring Hawaii a Ho'okipa State. In doing so, Hawaii will join many jurisdictions across the United States, including California, Colorado, Massachusetts, New York City, and DC, who have offered meaningful sanctuary for their undocumented residents.

I support the civil rights of immigrants and refugees regardless of their status, religion, gender, age, or country of origin. I believe that protecting undocumented people strengthens the entire community by increasing trust, public safety, and access to healthcare and education, while decreasing crime, poverty, and unemployment.

On behalf of 400 other local citizens who have signed this petition in support of sanctuary state status, I would like to express our support of HCR125.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely, Jill Yoshicedo

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#### <u>HCR125</u>

Submitted on: 4/17/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joy Agner	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I strongly support this bill. There are many issues here that our funds and energy should be directed to solving, not carrying out the anti-immigrant agenda of the federal government (as currently exists). Please move it through committees and bring it to a vote on the house and senate floors.

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I am writing to express my strong support for HR76 and its companion resolution, HCR 125, and to ask you to support these resolutions as well.

The State of Hawai'i is rightfully being celebrated across the nation and the world for its ethical stance against President Trump's "Muslim Ban" (as he himself termed it). Attorney General Doug Chin's successful suit for a Temporary Restraining Order against this unconstitutional ban has given hope to many immigrants and to those of us who don't wish to see our friends and neighbors rounded up.

However, President Trump's other executive order on immigration – that which increases deportations of undocumented immigrants – has gotten much less attention from legislators. This is a serious oversight, as this Trump executive order is devastating for undocumented immigrants who live in the United States as well as for their families, many of whom are US citizens or have Lawful Permanent Resident (Green Card) status. President Trump's executive order on enhanced deportation efforts will devastate these families, the economy, and the general fiber of society by creating an atmosphere of distrust and fear. It will encourage the scapegoating of the most vulnerable in our communities. Indeed, there has been a documented increase in hate-crimes with an anti-immigrant bias.

Trump's executive order blames undocumented immigrants and their families for an immigration system that does not sufficiently address the economic and social needs of US society or the needs of people fleeing violence and poverty. For instance, it is simply not possible for workers in agriculture, construction, or hospitality (to note just a few) to get a green card on the basis of their skills in these economic sectors.

Most disturbingly, President Trump's EO revives a program under section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1357) that deputizes state and local law enforcement officers to participate in the enforcement of federal immigration laws. This will make all of us less safe, as undocumented immigrants will be much less likely to report crimes to police or come forward with much needed evidence because of their legitimate fears that the local law enforcement authorities will turn them over to federal immigration authorities for deportation. Creating this fear destroys the trust in local law enforcement agencies, a trust that is very difficult to regain.

However, as you know, immigration regulation is not a state function, but a purely federal one. Local law enforcement agencies work with the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency (ICE) is completely optional. Moreover, it is not funded by the federal government.

I strongly believe that the HO`OKIPA (WELCOMING) STATE Resolution is the best thing that legislators can do for the safety of our communities. It asks that states direct their Local law enforcement agencies to not enforce federal immigration laws. Consistent with Hawai`i's history, we should practice the spirit of Ho`okipa and be welcoming to immigrants, regardless of their status or documentation.

If you were to pass this resolution, you would join the over 600 jurisdictions across the United States who have not only passed resolutions declaring that they will not enforce federal immigration laws, but have passed actual laws to this effect. Evidence shows that these jurisdictions are safer for everyone, including US citizens.

Thank you for your attention to this serious and urgent matter. I wish you the best in your deliberations.

Sincerely,

Katharine Beutner katharinebeutner@gmail.com / 512-289-8904 / Mānoa, HI Keith Scott

Ewa Beach, HI

Dear Respected Members of the Hawai'i State Senate:

It is my wish to present testimony in favor of the measure to declare Hawai'i a Ho'okipa state. Hawai'i relies upon visitors from all over the world. As such, I believe that is important that Hawai'i, as a state, distinguishes itself from the atmosphere of closed fearfulness and suspicion that is increasingly spreading across the rest of the country. Already, many foreign travelers have begun to reconsider travel to the US under the current state of politics. This measure would send a clear message that Hawai'i is different and welcomes all.

Beyond this, however, I firmly believe that it is our kuleana to protect all members of our ohana, be they legal citizens, legal immigrants, or undocumented migrants. Undocumented migrants are part of our community: they are our neighbors, our friends, our students, our colleagues, our family. Immigration raids and deportation tear this community apart. They tear families apart. And the fine men and women of law enforcement of the state of Hawai'i should not stoop to take part in such cruel acts.

I humbly ask that you take these into consideration when making your decision on measure HCR 125.

Respectfully yours,

Keith Scott

#### Testimony in strong support of HCR 125 Declaring Hawai'i to be a Ho'okipa (Welcoming) State House Judiciary Committee

April 18, 2017, 9:35 AM., State Capitol, Conference Room 325

To: Chair Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair Joy A. San Buenaventura Members of House Judiciary

From: Kim Soito from University of Hawaii at Manoa MSW 2017 candidate

Subject: Ho'okipo State; Federal Immigration Laws

Hi my name is Kim Soito and I am submitting testimony in strong support of HRC 125 Declaring Hawai'i to be a Ho'okipa. We are do not choose to be born in a particular country or choose to be born of any particular ethnicity. The right to the opportunity of a better life in America should be a viable choice for any person regardless of their cultural background. I believe that the pursuit of a better life is what the American dream is all about. I understand that this American dream is the core foundation of the growth of this proud country. To deny access to immigrants to build on that dream takes away our country's future pride and growth.

Kim Soito soito@hawaii.edu To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Kirk Johnson. I have lived in Hawaii for about 6 years and I really love these islands. One of the main things I love about Hawaii is the Aloha spirit and the strong sense of community. This is a place where people can come and feel loved and cared for and in turn care for others.

One of the words and values I've always liked about Hawaii is kuleana, which I'm sure you already know describes the reciprocal responsibility between two entities. As an example we have a kuleana to our land, to care for it and respect it, and in turn in has a kuleana to feed us.

Many of the communities that stand to be threatened by our governments are communities of people that our farming economy relies on in the Big Island and Maui. These people are our neighbors. They provide the work that feeds our economy and I believe we have a kuleana to care for them.

I'm concerned that if they are scared of the police, because the police are working with ICE that there are crimes that will go unreported; which only stands to make our communities unsafe. I have read various news articles from around the country stating this is a trend that many cases of domestic violence and other crimes are going unreported due to people in these communities being scared to work with police.

To continue to have our government work with ICE officers is a slap in the face to many values we claim to represent in Hawaii. I sincerely hope you pass the Ho'okipa resolution before you and continue to honor the Aloha spirit our state is known for.

Sincerely, Kirk Johnson

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	JDLTestimony
Cc:	<u>kit@lava.net</u>
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HCR125 on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM
Date:	Friday, April 14, 2017 10:50:57 AM

#### <u>HCR125</u>

Submitted on: 4/14/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kit Grant	Individual	Support	No

Comments: President Trump and his cabinet's agenda is clear: policy driven by fear, xenophobia, closed border nationalism, driven by thinly veiled racism and religious persecution. Like measles and rubella, hideous, scarring diseases once thought vanquished, adherents of these abandoned, cruel ideas are crawling into broad daylight, building a fresh tide of intolerance. Now it's time for Hawai'i to choose on which side of history it want to be. Strong support for HCR125 to assert Hawaii's intention to be a welcoming state to all. Resistance is chancy. It takes bravery. There will likely be tantrums and repercussions (financial, public relations) from Washington. We may have to tighten our belts to preserve our kindness and openness - but so be it - because without those, who are we? We are with you. Please do the right thing. As my own ancestors said: STAND FAST. Thanks for listening.

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#### <u>HCR125</u>

Submitted on: 4/16/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Lisa Grandinetti	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

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April 14, 2017

Committee on Judiciary and Labor Hawaii State Representatives Hawaii State Capitol 415 South Beretania St Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Committee Members,

I am writing in support of HCR125 HD1 in making Hawaii a welcoming state. Hawaii has a long and diverse history in which we included many other cultures into our own. It is why Hawaii is the most diverse state in the US with the highest amount of minorities per capita.

I live in a small, young family orientated neighborhood in Honolulu made better by immigrants. My front neighbors fled to the USA from civil war in their home country after living three years in various refugee camps in both Cambodia and Vietnam. In the current political climate, I wonder if we would let these hard working, deserving people into the USA today? The neighbors who live behind me are immigrants from South Korea, came to the US to seek a better life.

I truly believe that we are better off worrying about the real criminals and focusing our law enforcement agencies on capturing and prosecuting people who commit violent crimes.

Thank you, Loren Bullard

Honolulu, HI 96826

#### Marcella Alohalani Boido, M. A. Hawaii State Judiciary Certified Spanish Court Interpreter

nuwali State Sudiciary Certified Spanish Court interpreter			
Telephone:	808/946-2558	E-mail: <u>boido@hawaii.edu</u>	
TO:	Sen. Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Chair; Sen. Karl Members, Senate Committee on Judiciary and Lab		
HEARING:	April 18, 2017, 9:35 a.m., Rm. 325		
RE:	<b>SUPPORT, HCR 125 HD 1</b> Declaring Hawaii to be a ho'okipa (welcoming) st	tate	

Good morning. I am Marcella Alohalani Boido, a certified Spanish/English court interpreter. In 1990 I started working in state court. I am submitting this as an individual.

Polynesians from the Marquesas were the first to settle in Hawaii. Tahitians came later. The more recent history of immigration to Hawaii is complex. It has resulted in a remarkable society, with a high rate of intermarriage and of mutual exchange and adoption of the cultures and customs of our diverse population. We are the only state in the USA where the population has never had a "white," or European-descent, majority. And look: the sky is not falling! In fact, this society works.

When I first started working as a court interpreter in Hawaii state courts, I observed some interesting things. 1) Most of the Spanish-speakers in court are there for the usual array that brings most people into court: traffic tickets, which are misdemeanors. 2) Many times the defendant would come with a supportive friend or co-worker. These friends were usually Native Hawaiians, Samoans, or local Puerto Ricans.

Now the defendants often arrive with a spouse or sweetheart, most of whom are Native Hawaiians. Not only do the Latinos have children with their Native Hawaiian partner, they may also informally adopt and raise her offspring from a previous relationship. The aloha goes both ways.

Hawaii now has a population of children of mixed Native Hawaiian and recent Latino immigrant ancestry. (I say "recent" to distinguish this group from the many Part-Hawaiians who are also part-Puerto Rican.) The testimony on this Resolution and on HR 76 HD1 states that we have a lot of children in Hawaii with an immigrant parent who may be undocumented.

We should do our best to keep these families together. The emotional costs of having a spouse or parent be deported are horrific. There can be high social costs that follow, especially when it was the main breadwinner who was deported.

Our current federal executive regime proposes to deport people who lack documents, including those who have been arrested but whose legal case has not been resolved. What happened to "innocent until proven guilty"? The basic principles on which our country was founded are being undermined.

Hawaii's state and county agencies should not be expending funds for this federal plan. If ICE wants to pick up and detain someone, they can do it. The Honolulu Federal Detention Center (FDC) has plenty of room. Instead, they "park" people in Hawaii's prisons, which are already overcrowded. An ICE detainee may remain in a state-funded prison for months.

While ICE wants cooperation from Hawaii's state and county agencies, they do not give it themselves. Even after the defendant is in the FDC, they do not bring the defendant to court. Meanwhile, the county-funded prosecutor, the state-funded judge, court staff, public defender, and yours truly, the court interpreter, all come to court prepared to work on the case. This costs, and wastes, time and money.

The arguments in favor of HCR 125 have been amply and eloquently made in prior testimony by the ACLU, the American Immigration Lawyers Association – Hawaii Chapter, the Filipino-American Advocacy Network, the Filipino American Citizens League, Hawaii Friends of Civil Rights, Hawaii-J20+, IMUAlliance, the Japanese American Citizens League, the Muslim Association of Hawaii, Nursing Advocates & Mentors, and a number of private individuals. This testimony is well researched, displays legal scholarship, and shows compassion for immigrants, their families and friends. I agree with it.

Please pass HCR 125 HD1. Thank you.

#### <u>HCR125</u>

Submitted on: 4/16/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
mari j. matsuda	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My father was interned at Heart Mountain simply because of his race. Xenophobia hurts all of us. Please make Hawaii a place of safety and welcome for all. Attacks on vulnerable immigrant communities are part of a racist culture in danger of growing, and spreading violence. Those of us blessed with citizenship are not immune. The validation of hate makes anyone who "looks foreign" a target. What happened to Dr. Dao on that United flight, or to Vincent Chin in Detroit, came out of racist, anti-immigrant attitudes. Hawaii should not participate. Thank you for considering my testimony.

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	JDLTestimony
Cc:	carrmaria@hotmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for HCR125 on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM*
Date:	Monday, April 17, 2017 8:53:37 AM

#### <u>HCR125</u>

Submitted on: 4/17/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maria Pena	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Hawaii has a history of welcoming immigrants from around the world. Even the so-called native Hawaiian population was originally from Polynesia. There is no reason for us to deny our aloha to recently arriving people, no matter their place of origin.

The "vetting" that is a normal part of our entry process for foreign travelers is more than adequate to determine their eligibility for a visa. Should they overstay a visa, deportation should be the last resort after allowing the visitor opportunity to renew the visa. Current federal insistence on deporting all who lack a green card or citizenship is an excessive reaction to fear of the "other". Our Hawaii law enforcement officers must not be co-opted by federal immigration officials to assist in arresting and deporting people. That will simply make the police lose the confidence of the community and deter law enforcement for everyone.

I urge you to pass HCR125 and make Hawaii a welcoming and safe place for all people.

Dr. Marita L. Nelson

Honolulu, HI 96825

From:	<u>Marya Grambs</u>
To:	JDLTestimony
Subject:	HCR125 HD1 STRONG SUPPORT
Date:	Monday, April 17, 2017 10:24:42 AM

RE: Hearing 04-18-17 9:35AM in conference room 325.

Sorry for the late testimony.

I urge you to support HCR125. Hawaii as a state should not be cooperating or supporting ICE in its abhorrent practices. Immigrants have always been a vibrant and important part of Hawaii's Ohana.

Thank you.

Aloha,

Marya Grambs mgrambs@hotmail.com P: 808.778.9178

#### April 16, 2017

#### Re: Support for HO'OKIPA (WELCOMING) STATE resolutions

Dear Members of the Hawaii Senate JDL Committee:

I am writing to express my strong support for HR76 and its companion resolution, HCR 125.

I am very proud of the State of Hawaii for its ethical stance against President Trump's "Muslim Ban" (as he himself termed it). I'm also grateful that the Federal Court recognized that it was unconstitutional and issued a Temporary Restraining Order against its implementation.

However, President Trump's other executive order on immigration – that which increases deportations of undocumented immigrants – has gotten much less attention from legislators. This is a serious oversight, as this Trump executive order is devastating for undocumented immigrants who live in the United States as well as for their families, many of whom are US citizens or have Lawful Permanent Resident (Green Card) status. President Trump's executive order on enhanced deportation efforts will devastate these families, the economy, and the general fiber of society by creating an atmosphere of distrust and fear. It will encourage the scapegoating of the most vulnerable in our communities. Indeed, there has been a documented increase in hate-crimes with an anti-immigrant bias.

Trump's executive order blames undocumented immigrants and their families for an immigration system that does not sufficiently address the economic and social needs of US society or the needs of people fleeing violence and poverty. For instance, it is simply not possible for workers in agriculture, construction, or hospitality (to note just a few) to get a green card on the basis of their skills in these economic sectors.

Most disturbingly, President Trump's EO revives a program under section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1357) that deputizes state and local law enforcement officers to participate in the enforcement of federal immigration laws. This will make all of us *less safe*, as undocumented immigrants will be much less likely to report crimes to police or come forward with much needed evidence because of their legitimate fears that the local law enforcement authorities will turn them over to federal immigration authorities for deportation. Creating this fear destroys the trust in local law enforcement agencies, a trust that is very difficult to regain.

However, as you know, immigration regulation is not a state function, but a purely federal one. Local law enforcement agencies work with the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency (ICE) is completely optional. Moreover, it is not funded by the federal government.

I believe that the HO'OKIPA (WELCOMING) STATE resolution, is the best thing that legislators can do for the safety of our communities. It asks that states direct their Local law enforcement agencies to not enforce federal immigration laws. Consistent with Hawaii's history we should practice the spirit of Ho'okipa and be welcoming to immigrants, regardless of their status. If you were to pass this resolution, you would join the over 600 jurisdictions across the United States who have not only passed *resolutions* declaring that they will not enforce federal immigration laws, but have passed actual *laws* to this effect. Evidence shows that these jurisdictions are safer for everyone, including US citizens.

Thank you for your attention to this serious and urgent matter. I wish you the best in your deliberations.

Sincerely, Nandita Sharma, Associate Professor, Sociology of Racism and Migration University of Hawaii at Mānoa

#### <u>HCR125</u>

Submitted on: 4/16/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patricia Blair	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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### April 16, 2017

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Committee on Judiciary and Labor

### **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HCR 125, HD1**

Currently all state, county, and local law enforcement agencies across the United States are required, by federal law, to electronically submit the fingerprints of all arrested persons to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). ICE then checks the fingerprints against its databases and if there is a match, the local ICE office is notified. The local ICE office may then issue a custody request to the jail/prison asking that that ICE be notified when the person will be released from jail/prison. This is commonly known as a detainer. In many instances, ICE will also ask that the jail/prison hold the individual for extra time – past their normal release date – so that ICE can come to arrest them. This is often referred to as an "ICE hold." Local governments are not reimbursed for ICE holds. Some courts have found ICE holds to be illegal.

In addition to this program, the federal government is currently and actively seeking state, county and local partnerships for its 287 (g) program. Partners under the 287 (g) program would enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with ICE and receive delegated authority to enforce federal immigration laws within their local jurisdictions. Local officers, who would be deputized to enforce immigration laws, may then be authorized to: interview individuals to ascertain their immigration status; check DHS databases for information on individuals; issue immigration detainers to hold individuals until ICE takes custody; enter data into ICE's database and case management system; issue a Notice to Appear (NTA), the official charging document that begins the removal process; make recommendations for voluntary departure in place of formal removal proceedings; make recommendations for detention and immigration bond; and transfer noncitizens into ICE custody.

In short, the 287(g) program asks states and local governments to perform federal law enforcement functions which may lead to the deportation/removal of individuals who have committed only non-violent petty misdemeanor or misdemeanor offenses such as theft or simple drug possession.

Currently, Hawaii is facing broad federal cuts to programs including Medicaid, Public Housing, non-profit legal services for the poor, Meals on Wheels and others. In the face of looming federal revenue losses in the millions, Hawaii cannot afford to support federal law enforcement initiatives beyond what is mandated by current law.

HCR 125 may be further strengthened by requesting the Department of Public Safety and the Chiefs of Police of the City and County of Honolulu and Counties of Kauai, Maui, and Hawaii to submit a report to the Legislature no later than December 15, 2017 identifying all policies, agreements, or programs they have with ICE, the number of detainer requests and ICE holds they responded to in the most recent fiscal year, together with any other information or relevant data.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Patricia McManaman

April 16, 2017

- To: **COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR** Senator Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Chair Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair
- Re: HCR 125, HD1 hearing on Tuesday, April 18, 9:35 am, in Conference Room 325

## STRONG SUPPORT

**L**HH

Aloha Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Rhoads and members of your committee,

Just as President Trump's illegal travel bans challenged us to stand up for key American and Hawaiian values, so a second executive order compels our reply. In this case, however, we need not be a solo David to Goliath — hundreds of Davids have already said "no" to the federal government's mean-spirited efforts to pursue millions of undocumented immigrants living peacefully in the United States.

HCR 125, CD1 identifies Hawaii as a Ho'okipa State, where our enduring aloha welcomes immigrants and celebrates their unique contributions to our marvelous, inclusive melting pot. The resolution asks that we adopt policies and practices supporting community members who may be the targets of draconian deportation measures. It is a simple matter of saying "no," when doing so is perfectly permissible:

By law, immigration is the kuleana of the federal government. Across America, hundreds of cities and counties, plus five states, have strongly declared that it should remain so — that they will not do the work of the government's Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency (ICE). In adopting HCR 125, CD1, we will be joining these jurisdictions who have declared their local principles to be beyond sacrifice.

Estimates of Hawaii's undocumented immigrant population range up to 45,000. Nearly half of them are Filipinos, and an additional 15% are Japanese. Most have overstayed their visas, which is not an offense. They live and work in our islands, they pay taxes, and their crime rate is lower than that of U.S. citizens. Do we want local law enforcement officers to round them up, destroying families? Do we want them to live in fear? Do we want to betray our own dearest values? I think not, and I hope you agree with me.

Mahalo and aloha,

Peter Gellatly

pgellatly@mac.com • 808.542.8880 PO Box 88022 • Honolulu, HI 96830

Submitted on: 4/17/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rev. Stanley Bain	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Let's tell it like it is ... has always been and will forever be so!

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Submitted on: 4/13/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard Mizusawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 4/16/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sang-hyoun Pahk	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am writing in support of HCR125. Local cooperation with federal immigration forces erodes trust in local police and undermines community safety. Notably, this practice also encourages unlawful police practices, including racial profiling and illegally extended detentions. Please help to end these practices. Thank you.

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.

Support for HCR 125 Declaring Hawaii To Be A Ho'okipa (Welcoming) State

As a Big Island participant in the American Civil Liberties Union's People Power training, I advocate the fair and equitable treatment of immigrants and the welcoming of refugees. I appreciate Hawaii's diverse culture and national leadership as a Ho'okipa state. Thus, we support HCR 125 and HR 76.

There is documented concern amongst Hawaii's migrant community about accelerated deportations, often without valid federal warrants or legal due process. The direct assistance of local law enforcement will only undermine trust, making the job of local police all the more difficult. It will also divert scant resources from our local law enforcement. ACLU's "9 Model Policies" addresses these concerns.

Hawaii's agricultural industry (especially coffee growing) depends on immigrants. It is neither realistic nor practical to deport them en mass. In fact, we need more, not less.

Nationally, the Administration's deportation agenda has resulted in divided families and many injustices. These include immediate deportation of young "dreamers", often triggered by minor traffic offenses. All residents of Hawaii, whether permanent or undocumented, deserve more compassion, transparency and justice.

Attorney General Sessions has long opposed comprehensive immigration reform and has advocated decreasing immigration in general. His philosophy goes counter to our Hawaiian heritage as a welcoming state. Since most Hawaiians can trace their ancestry back to undocumented migrants, the administration's nativist policies strike at the very heart of who we are. Thanks to the outstanding initiative of Hawaii's Attorney General in opposing the Administration's Muslim ban in Federal District Court, we are now national leaders in championing diversity and resisting intolerance. Now is the time to seize this historic moment and exercise our state's right to self-determination.

Note that California has recently passed a similar bill, which is awaiting signature by their governor. If we act now, the force of our argument will be magnified.

Thank you for supporting HCR 125.

Sincerely,

Shelby Floyd

Kamuela, HI 96743

From:	+18082583696@tmomail.net	
To:	JDLTestimony	
Subject:	****SPAM****	
Date:	Monday, April 17, 2017 8:33:56 AM	
Attachments:	text_0.txt	

Testimony for HCR 125 Aloha is support, freedom and happiness! We all must continue to strive with absolute conviction to protect our wellspring of Aloha by implementing this resilution which serves as a clear voice of leadership, filled with wisdom and compassion—a voice to rise over the divisive rhetoric, to speak truth to power and steady our course for sustaining the precious wellspring. The wellspring that fuels hearts throughout the world. Sophia Mendoza Honolulu, HI

# **T**··Mobile·

This message was sent to you by a T-Mobile wireless phone.

Submitted on: 4/16/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Svetlozara Stoytcheva	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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Submitted on: 4/17/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tammy Jennings	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To:	JDLTestimony
Cc:	tediousmonkey@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for HCR125 on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM
Date:	Monday, April 17, 2017 7:59:07 AM

Submitted on: 4/17/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Thaddeus Pham	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Rhodes and members of the Committee, I am writing in strong support of HRC125 HD1 declaring Hawaii to be a Ho'okipa (Welcoming) State. This measure reaffirms the State of Hawaii's commitment to equal rights and non-discrimination. diversity and inclusion of all persons in our state. As child of immigrants and a public health professional, I have witnessed events in our state and in our nation when segments of our society are unfairly treated and excluded from full and equal participation. Civil rights for individuals and respect for the many groups that call Hawaii home encourages better work relationships in a multicultural workforce, improves our economy, creates a safe environment and enhances the health and well-being of all communities in Hawaii. I respectfully urge you to support this resolution. Thank you for your consideration.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

Submitted on: 4/14/2017 Testimony for JDL on Apr 18, 2017 09:35AM in Conference Room 325

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Theresa I Gonder	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.