

POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
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OUR REFERENCE ST-TK

March 23, 2023

The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair  
and Members  
Committee Transportation and  
Culture and the Arts  
State Senate  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 224  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Lee and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 110, H.D. 1, Relating to License Plates

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

The HPD opposes House Bill No. 110, H.D. 1, Relating to License Plates.


The HPD opposes the proposal for the use of diacritical markings for Hawaiian words. This will affect the readability of the license plates, especially at a distance. In addition, the license plates can also be used in other states where certain markings may not be recognizable.

The HPD urges you to oppose House Bill No. 110, H.D. 1, Relating to License Plates. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

Sincerely,

  
RR Arthur J. Logan  
Chief of Police

  
Stason Tanaka, Major  
Traffic Division

**HB-110-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/23/2023 9:28:07 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/23/2023 3:00:00 PM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
John Titchen	Testifying for City & County of Honolulu Ocean Safety	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Our island's lifeguards strongly support this bill, with particular emphasis on support for a Duke Kahanamoku plate.



OUTRIGGER  
DUKE KAHANAMOKU  
FOUNDATION

**LATE**

**OUTRIGGER  
DUKE KAHANAMOKU  
FOUNDATION**

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HONOLULU, HI 96816

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**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts  
Thursday, Mar 23, 2023, 3:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 224 & Videoconference**

**HB 110 Proposed SD1, Relating to LICENSE PLATES**

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye and members of the Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts,

I am in **strong support** of HB 110 Proposed SD1 to create a Duke Kahanamoku license plate to raise money for water safety and swim education. The Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation exists to perpetuate the legacy Duke Kahanamoku. The foundation gives scholarships and grants in Hawaii related to watersports, volleyball, and water safety. Hawaii is known as a place of waterman excellence. However, the drowning data is telling a different story. **Hawaii is ranked second in the nation for rate of drowning among residents.** Sadly, these resident deaths only account for 46% of the drownings in our state; **more than half the drowning victims in Hawaii are visitors from other states.\*** The United Nations and the World Health Organization have officially recognized drowning as a major public health problem and it's time for our waterman state to do the same and put more resources towards prevention. We need widespread and continual aquatics education for children and adults, and residents and visitors.

Duke Kahanamoku, history's most well-known Native Hawaiian Olympic swimmer, godfather of surfing, and Ambassador of Aloha is an important figure to commemorate. Duke's likeness on a license plate symbolizes the waterman excellence and aloha spirit our state is known for, and surely would be quite popular. It would be an honor to his name to use the resulting proceeds to teach aquatics safety and to save lives.

I strongly urge you to pass this legislation. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Sarah Fairchild

Executive Director

\*from the Hawaii Department of Health "Fatal Ocean Drownings 2012-2021" report.

**HB-110-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 9:43:37 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/23/2023 3:00:00 PM



<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shelley Oates-Wilding	Testifying for Ikaika Hawaii	Support	In Person

Comments:

We live on an island with drowning the no1 cause of accidental death. We have a Hawaiian legend in the Duke and a no profit Organization ODKF working tirelessly to bring awareness to our history and the perpetuation of the Hawaiian Watermans Culture.. How could anyone find anything but positive opportunities for our community in this bill which will allow for ODKF to further support the education and inspiration of our youth by raising funds and awareness using our number plates ?

I thank you for your consideration from the Ikaika Ohana who's mission is also to perpetuate the Hawaiian watermans culture through ocean safety, skills and Stewardship and supporting our Keiki to the Olympic Games.



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2850 PUKOLOA ST. STE. 300  
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Senator Chris Lee, Chair  
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Vice Chair  
Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts

**RE: HB 110, HD1, Proposed SD1 - Relating to License Plates – In Support**  
**Thursday, March 23, 2023; 3:00 P.M.**

Aloha Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and members of the committee:

Servco is in support of HB 110, HD1, Proposed SD1 which authorizes the issuance of special number plates to commemorate Duke Kahanamoku.

Duke Kahanamoku displays all of the attributes of Aloha which we are proud as citizens of this beautiful State. As he honored Hawaii representing the State around the world, we would be well-served to have the chance to honor his legacy by demonstrating our appreciation for his dedication by recognizing him through the issuance of special number plates to commemorate and honor Duke Kahanamoku.

This measure will honor the legacy of Duke Kahanamoku while generating revenue to help prevent future drownings through increased ocean and water safety and swim education.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support.

Peter Dames  
Executive Vice President

March 22, 2023

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts**

**HB110 SD1, Relating to License Plates**

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and members of the Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts,

My name is Dean Schmaltz, President and Chairman of Hawaii Aquatics Foundation. Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in **support of HB110 SD1** to authorize the issuance of special number plates to commemorate Duke Kahanamoku to raise funds for water safety in Hawaii.

This is a unique opportunity to provide a source of sustained funding for the education of both residents and visitors about Duke Kahanamoku's achievements as a waterman and the role he had in promoting water safety and rescue. Hawaii residents have the second highest drowning rate in the nation and our visitors have a persistently high drowning rate as well. Linking the legacy of Duke to the importance of personal water safety for all is aligned with the drowning prevention policy recommendations of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Life Saving Federation (ILS). Their position statements affirm that multifaceted collaborative efforts of community members, like-minded organizations, and local governments are required to achieve a sustained reduction in long-term aquatic injury and drowning rates.

Mahalo,



Dean E. Schmaltz  
President, Chairman  
Hawaii Aquatics Foundation  
dba Hawaii Aquatics Academy

**HB-110-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/23/2023 12:18:05 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/23/2023 3:00:00 PM

**LATE**

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jessamy Town Hornor	Testifying for Hawaii Aquatics Foundation and Ocean Safety 'Ohana	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

March 23, 2023

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts  
HB110 SD1, Relating to License Plates

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and members of the Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts,

My name is Jessamy Town Hornor. I am writing as both a community advocate for ocean and aquatics safety and as the Community Engagement Manager at the Hawii Aquatics Foundation.

**I am in strong support of HB110 SD1 to authorize the issuance of special number plates to commemorate Duke Kahanamoku to raise funds for water safety in Hawaii.**

**The Duke Kahanomoku Foundation has been pivotal in coalition building in the area of ocean and aquatic safety statewide.** They have been leading the way in pulling together key stakeholders in both governmental agencies and non-profits to develop a coordinated plan to address the high rate of drowning in Hawaii for both residents and visitors. In doing so they are honoring Duke Kahanamoku as a waterman who included lifesaving as an inherent part of his legacy, and his spirit of aloha. Funding these efforts will go a long way to filling a significant need in Hawaii and will help us align with the current National Water Safety Action Plan in development.

Hawaii Aquatic Foundation is committed to collaborating with The Duke Kahanamoku Foundation overall and specifically in the area of reducing and eliminating keiki aquatic injury and deaths in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your time,

Jessamy Town Hornor

Community Engagement Manager

Hawaii Aquatic Foundation



**HB-110-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 9:13:03 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/23/2023 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kenneth BERGER	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

I am in full support and wish to promote Duke's legacy and awareness of his role as Hawaii's Ambassador of Aloha, via the issuance of these newly designed license plates. thank you,

**HB-110-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 6:51:36 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/23/2023 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marcy Fleming	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye and members of the Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts,

I am writing to request your **strong support** of HB 110 Proposed SD1 to authorize the issuance of special number plates to commemorate Duke Kahanamoku to raise funds for water safety in Hawaii. A past president of the Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation and current board member I have seen the wonderful work this organization has done to perpetuate the legacy of Duke Kahanamoku and fund scholarships for our keiki and swimming programs for our residents.

This is a great opportunity to honor Duke Kahanamoku and educate the next generation of local kids and visitors about his supreme achievements as a Native Hawaiian athlete and waterman as well as how he showed the world Hawaii's aloha spirit.

It amazes me to think that Hawaii has one of the highest drowning rates in the nation for residents and visitors. If this bill is passed, proceeds will fund local water safety initiatives to educate locals and visitors alike and save lives.

I strongly urge you to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.

Marcy E Fleming

**HB-110-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 6:53:39 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/23/2023 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chet Thomas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is something that Hawaii needs to do. I don't live in Hawaii but know Duke and his story well and I say, "put down the politics and make this happen". You all have a hero that is quickly going forgotten and you owe it to him and Hawaii to make this happen. Duke needs to be kept from sliding away and being forgotten. Be proud...He's your hero and help him to be a hero to the rest of the country. His name should be right there with Jackie Robinson but unfortunately he's not so let's make this happen to build his awareness.

**HB-110-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 8:21:24 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/23/2023 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rachel Able	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My daughter Lily Able was just 2 months from turning 16 when she lost her life in a tragic surfing accident. She was at a well known surf break that she had surfed since she was a young child. The beach, located on the Kona side of the Big Island, brings large crowds & no lifeguards are available for safety measures. I support this bill in hopes that ocean safety awareness is a priority so that ocean accidents & deaths can be prevented. Mahalo for your support of this bill.

**HB-110-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 9:48:32 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/23/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kailani Lippert	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**HB110 HD1**

Testimony of Kailani Lippert in support of HB 110 HD1. RELATING TO SPECIAL NUMBER PLATES

Kailani Lippert

92-6040 Kalemakapii St

Kapolei, Hawaii 96707

It is extremely important for the people of Hawaii to honor Duke Kahanamoku with a License Plate!

Duke Kahanamoku continues to support our Hawaii athletes and students through the Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation.

Duke Kahanamoku taught the people of Hawaii perseverance, honored them with his athletic abilities and is loved as one of the greatest Hawaiians in our history.

Hawaii needs to have this amazing man honored with a license plate so that our future generations will always know the legacy of Duke Kahanamoku as a legendary Native Hawaiian waterman, Olympian and Ambassador of Aloha.

His license plate will help to promote his ideals and spirit of aloha that are so important to the people of Hawaii and those throughout the world.

His license plate will celebrate Hawaii as the birthplace of surfing and Duke Kahanamoku as the father of modern surfing.

A Duke Kahanamoku license plate will provide funds for water safety and swimming programs in Hawaii with minimal costs to the local government.

The Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku Foundation will be able to support these programs through their commitment to Duke Kahanamoku's legacy and sharing it with the people of Hawaii.

Please pass legislation to authorize the issuance of a Duke Kahanamoku license plate!!!

Mahalo,

Kailani Lippert

**HB-110-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 10:31:41 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/23/2023 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Zane Kekoa Schweitzer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As the #2 state in the entire country, with the most fatal drownings, I think it is vitally important to give more support and funding to our Hawaii lifeguards. What a way to do so while honoring one of Hawaii's greatest heroes, Olympian gold medalist, and ambassador of aloha, Duke Kahanamoku.

**HB-110-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/23/2023 12:35:06 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/23/2023 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bernice Parsons	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Please hear this bill and consider the significance of having the incomparable, ambassador of aloha, Duke Kahanamoku represented in a special license plate. Duke is iconic and represents the best spirit and qualities of our beautiful state. Having this plate would mean a great deal to so many of citizens especially on our roads where we need to remember to share kindness and aloha to fellow citizens.**



**HB-110-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/23/2023 7:50:00 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/23/2023 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
George "Bud" Antonelis. PhD	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts**

**Thursday, Mar 23, 2023, 3:00 p.m.**

**Conference Room 224 & Videoconference**

**HB 110 Proposed SD1, Relating to LICENSE PLATES**

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye and members of the Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts,

I am in **strong support** of HB 110 Proposed SD1 to authorize the issuance of special number plates to commemorate Duke Kahanamoku to raise funds for water safety in Hawaii.

I have been a strong advocate of much needed water safety programs for our keiki for many years. Hawaii is one of a few states in the U.S that does not have such a program and we are the only state that is surround by water. It is our **kuleana** to protect our youth from water related death and injury. As a board member of Na Kama Kai for more than 12 years, I urge you to pass this bill.

This is a great opportunity to honor Duke Kahanamoku and educate the next generation of local kids and visitors about his supreme achievements as a Native Hawaiian athlete and waterman as well as how he showed the world Hawaii's aloha spirit.

Despite our waterman heritage, Hawaii has one of the highest drowning rates in the nation for residents and a high drowning rate for visitors. If this bill is passed, proceeds will fund local water safety initiatives to educate locals and visitors alike and save lives.

I strongly urge you to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.

Mahalo,

George "Bud" Antonelis

Retired Marine Biologist

Na Kama Ka Board Member

**HB-110-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/23/2023 10:29:52 AM

Testimony for TCA on 3/23/2023 3:00:00 PM



<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Catherine Ferandin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts

Thursday, Mar 23, 2023, 3:00 p.m.

Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

HB 110 Proposed SD1, Relating to LICENSE PLATES

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye and members of the Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts,

I am in strong support of HB 110 Proposed SD1 to authorize the issuance of special number plates to commemorate Duke Kahanamoku to raise funds for water safety in Hawaii.

I am a student athlete and licensed water safety / registered lifeguard that has a firm understanding of the essential need of awareness about water safety. This exposure to the life of Duke Kahanamoku would be a great segway to exposing the need of water safety. This is also a great opportunity to honor Duke Kahanamoku and educate the next generation of local kids and visitors about his supreme achievements as a Native Hawaiian athlete and waterman as well as how he showed the world Hawaii's aloha spirit.

Despite our waterman heritage, Hawaii has one of the highest drowning rates in the nation for residents and a high drowning rate for visitors. If this bill is passed, proceeds will fund local water safety initiatives to educate locals and visitors alike and save lives.

I strongly urge you to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.

Mahalo,

Catherine Ferandin

Age 18 - Le Jardin Academy

**HB-110-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/23/2023 11:50:36 AM  
Testimony for TCA on 3/23/2023 3:00:00 PM



<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sandra K. Hall	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Besides being daily reminders when we see The Duke License Plate, drivers will remember that Duke was our Ambassador of Aloha and perhaps it will bring a smile to their face and that they will remember to drive and live with Aloha. We are the Aloha State, unique among all states.

The Duke license plate will be eagerly collected by license plate enthusiasts nationally and world wide, I am told by local collectors.

The money the special license plate will make will go to one of Duke's pet projects -- to teach aquatic safety to our keiki. We have one of the highest drowning rates in the world, and it is urgent that we change this.

Submitted with aloha,

Sandy Hall

**HB-110-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/23/2023 12:56:03 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/23/2023 3:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Duane DeSoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Duke Kahanamoku Plates will honor the amazing accomplishments of his life and help continue sharing his inspiration to all who live in Hawaii.

**HB-110-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/23/2023 1:19:32 PM

Testimony for TCA on 3/23/2023 3:00:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
George R. Norcross	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**HB 110 Proposed SD1, Relating to LICENSE PLATES**

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye and members of the Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts,

I am in **strong support** of HB 110 Proposed SD1 to authorize the issuance of special number plates to commemorate Duke Kahanamoku to raise funds for water safety in Hawaii.

My name is George R. Norcross, born 1/9/1949. I have lived in Hawaii since 1962.

I love, play in and respect the the ocean as did Duke. He was amazing human & waterman who spread Aloha despite being discriminated against by people of lesser stature. He took the discrimination in stride, without conflict

Duke had an exemplary character. The more people that learn about that character and embrace it themselves, the better off they will be.

This is a great opportunity get his name in front of people and hopefully entice them to educat themselves about his supreme achievements as a human and Native Hawaiian.

The money raised will go to water safety which will potentially save lives

I strongly urge you to pass this bill.

Why would you not pass this bill??!!

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this written testimony.

Mahalo!

Aloha,  
George