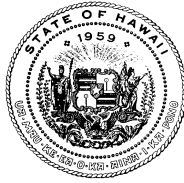


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII
KE KIA'ĀINA O KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I



KENNETH S. FINK, M.D., M.G.A, M.P.H
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH
KA LUNA HO'OLELE

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

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1452
RELATING TO BIRTH CERTIFICATES.**

REPRESENTATIVE GREGG TAKAYAMA, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Friday, January 30, 2026, Room 329

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** N/A.
- 2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health supports this measure to authorize
- 3 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to attest by affidavit that the birth registrant has a bona
- 4 fide provider-patient relationship and has treated and evaluated the birth registrant's medical
- 5 history for purposes of documenting a vital event.
- 6 This will expand options for residents for whom physician access is limited.
- 7 Thank you for the opportunity to testify.
- 8 **Offered Amendments:** N/A.



LATE *Testimony submitted late may not be considered by the Committee for decision making purposes.

Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus Commission

Advocating for the Hawai'i LGBTQIA+ Community



Mailing Address: LGBTQ+ Commission, c/o The Department of Human Services,
P.O. Box 339, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96809-0339

Email: hawaiistatelgbtqpluscommission@gmail.com
Web: <https://humanservices.hawaii.gov/lgbtq-commission/>

January 29, 2026

LATE

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

Hearing: Friday, January 30, 2026 at 10:30 AM

RE: **STRONG SUPPORT for House Bill 1452**

Aloha Chair Takayama, Vice-Chair Keohokapu-Loy and fellow committee members,

I am writing in strong support of House Bill 1452 on behalf of the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus (LGBTQ+) Commission, which was established by the 2022 Hawai'i State Legislature to

"improve the State's interface with members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus community; identify the short- and long-range needs of its members; and ensure that there is an effective means of researching, planning, and advocating for the equity of this population in all aspects of state government."

The Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission submits this testimony in **strong support** of House Bill 1452, which expands the types of licensed health care providers authorized to submit an affidavit for the issuance of a new certificate of birth for certain registrants.

The Commission was established by the Hawai'i State Legislature to improve the State's interface with māhū and LGBTQIA+ communities and to advocate for equity across all aspects of state government. HB 1452 directly advances that mission by removing unnecessary administrative barriers that prevent transgender and gender-diverse people from obtaining identity documents that accurately reflect who they are.

Birth certificates are foundational documents. They are required for employment, education, housing, travel, healthcare, and countless routine interactions with government and private institutions. When a person's birth certificate does not align with their lived identity, it exposes them to discrimination, delays, and harm—often in moments when privacy and dignity should be respected.

Proudly established pursuant to Hawai'i Revised Statutes Chapter 369, as enacted through Act 41, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2022

HI State LGBTQ+ Commission Testimony in Support of HB 1452

Current limitations on who may provide an affidavit create inequitable access, particularly for individuals living in rural communities, those with limited financial resources, or those whose care is provided by qualified professionals outside of narrowly defined categories. HB 1452 addresses this gap by recognizing the full spectrum of licensed health care providers who are competent to attest to a person's gender-related care. This change reflects modern healthcare delivery and respects the professional judgment of providers who are already serving these communities.

Importantly, this bill does not lower standards or undermine the integrity of vital records. Instead, it streamlines an existing process in a way that is practical, medically sound, and rooted in respect for lived experience. It acknowledges that there is no single path or provider type that defines gender identity or gender-affirming care.

For māhū, transgender and gender non-confirming people—especially keiki, kūpuna, and those most vulnerable—having accurate identity documents can reduce harassment, improve safety, and support mental well-being. HB 1452 is a commonsense measure that affirms that government systems should work for the people they serve, not against them.

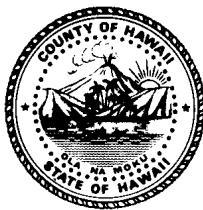
Hawai'i has long been a leader in advancing equity and inclusion. By passing HB 1452, the Legislature affirms that all people deserve to navigate their lives without unnecessary bureaucratic obstacles rooted in outdated assumptions.

For these reasons, the Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission respectfully urges your **STRONG support** for House Bill 1452.

If you or any member of your staff has any questions regarding my testimony you can reach me at hawaiistatelgbtqpluscommission@gmail.com.

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration,

Sandy Harjo Livingston, PhD (he/him/they/them)
Chair
[Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission](#)



HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL - DISTRICT 2

25 Aupuni Street • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

DATE: January 28, 2026

TO: House Committee on Health

FROM: Jennifer Kagiwada, Council Member
Council District 2

SUBJECT: HB 1452

Aloha Chair Takayama, Vice Chair Keohokapu-Lee Loy, and esteemed Members of the Committee,

Please support HB 1452. For transgender and gender-diverse people, having identity documents that do not reflect who they are creates real and harmful barriers. When a birth certificate does not align with a person's lived gender, it can lead to discrimination, harassment, and forced disclosure in everyday situations. Tasks such as applying for a job, enrolling in school, accessing healthcare, or traveling can become moments of exclusion, limiting a person's ability to participate in society fully and safely.

Hawai'i has long been a leader in advancing fairness, inclusion, and aloha for all people. Passing HB 1452 continues that legacy by affirming that transgender and gender-diverse residents are full members of our 'ohana, deserving of respect, privacy, and accurate legal recognition.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jenn Kagiwada", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jenn Kagiwada

JLK:slm
Att.



TESTIMONY FROM THE STONEWALL CAUCUS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII

HEARING OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

January 27, 2026

Testimony in Strong Support of House Bill 1452 Relating to Birth Certificates

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and esteemed Members of the Committee:

My name is Abby Simmons, Chair of the Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and I am submitting testimony on behalf of our Caucus in **strong support of HB1452**.

HB1452 is a necessary and compassionate measure that modernizes Hawai'i's process for updating birth certificates so they reflect a person's authentic gender identity. This bill is fundamentally about dignity, safety, and equal treatment under the law.

For transgender and gender-diverse people, having identity documents that do not match who they are creates real and lasting harm. When a birth certificate does not reflect a person's lived gender, it can lead to discrimination, harassment, and forced disclosure in everyday situations — including applying for jobs, enrolling in school, accessing healthcare, traveling, or securing housing. These barriers place unnecessary stress on individuals and families and undermine their sense of belonging in our community.

Current requirements for updating gender markers can be invasive, outdated, and inconsistent with modern medical and legal standards. Many transgender people cannot or choose not to pursue medical interventions, and no one should be forced to meet unnecessary medical criteria in order to have accurate legal documents. HB1452 appropriately removes these barriers and replaces them with a fair, respectful, and medically informed process.

Research consistently shows that when transgender people are able to have documents that reflect their identity, their mental health improves, their safety increases, and their ability to fully participate in society is strengthened. This bill is therefore not only a matter of civil rights — it is also a matter of public health and community well-being.

Importantly, HB1452 does not harm anyone else. It does not infringe on the rights of others, alter existing records inappropriately, or compromise public systems. It simply ensures that

Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB1452

transgender people are treated with the same respect and accuracy afforded to everyone else.

Hawai'i has long been a leader in advancing fairness, inclusion, and aloha for all people. Passing HB1452 continues that proud tradition. It affirms that our state recognizes transgender residents as full members of our 'ohana — deserving of respect, privacy, and legal recognition.

On behalf of the Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, we respectfully urge this Committee to pass HB1452 with a favorable recommendation.

Mahalo nui loa for your time, your leadership, and your commitment to equity and justice.

Respectfully,

Abby Simmons (she/her)
Chair, Stonewall Caucus
Democratic Party of Hawai'i

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/28/2026 12:31:12 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maddalynn Sesepasara	Kua'ana Project	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB1452, legislation that would allow transgender and gender-diverse people to update the sex designation on their birth certificates in a way that affirms their authentic selves.

This bill is about dignity, inclusion, and equity. Today, too many transgender people in Hawai‘i still struggle with outdated policies that make it difficult, if not impossible, to have a birth certificate that reflects their lived gender. Modernizing this process honors the lived experiences of transgender residents and aligns Hawai‘i with best practices nationwide.

Under current law, some transgender people have faced requirements that are unnecessary barriers, such as invasive medical or surgical conditions, simply to update a vital identity document. These requirements are not grounded in current medical science or the lived realities of transgender individuals, many of whom cannot or choose not to undergo such interventions.

Updating birth certificates to match a person’s gender identity is more than a bureaucratic change; it improves mental health, safety, and access to everyday life opportunities. When official documents don’t match someone’s identity:

They face stigma and discrimination in employment, housing, travel, and healthcare.

They experience increased anxiety and risk for harassment in routine interactions.

They may be forced to “come out” against their wishes simply to prove who they are.

Allowing an accessible, respectful process for updating birth certificates reduces these risks, honors personal dignity, and affirms Hawai‘i’s values of aloha, inclusion, and fairness.

HB1452 makes commonsense updates to our laws, ensuring that everyone — including transgender Keiki, kūpuna, kama‘āina, and our own Ohana- can live authentically without unnecessary, invasive hurdles to basic identity documentation.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your favorable support of HB1452.

Mahalo nui loa,

Maddalynn Sesepasara

Kua'ana Project Manager



HAWAI'I HEALTH &
HARM REDUCTION CENTER

677 Ala Moana Blvd, Ste 226
Honolulu, HI 96813

(808) 521-2437

www.hhhrc.org

*"Reducing harm,
promoting health,
creating wellness, and
fighting stigma
in Hawai'i and
the Pacific."*

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1452

TO: Chair Takayama, Vice Chair Keohokapu-Lee Loy, & HLT
Committee

FROM: Nikos Leverenz, Policy & Advancement Manager

DATE: January 30, 2026 (10:30 AM)

Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center (HHHRC) strongly supports HB 1452, which adds advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) to the list of health care providers who can submit an affidavit for a new birth certificate.

This bill is needed to expand the opportunities for trans persons to obtain birth certificates that comport with their gender identity. HHHRC has APRN's on staff who serve members of our island's trans community.

As noted by a recent opinion article in the *American Journal of Public Health*, "LGBTQ public health is public health. It embodies the field's most notable principles: evidence guided by empathy, science grounded in justice, and policy shaped by humanity. To marginalize it is to misunderstand what public health is meant to be. In this moment—when the rights and health of LGBTQ people are under [attack—] the stakes could not be higher." (Halkitis PN, Krause KD. LGBTQ Public Health Is Public Health: Advancing Equity When Institutions Falter. *Am J Public Health*. 2026 Feb;116(2):159-161.)

In contrast to the oppositional posture of the current federal government and other state governments, Hawai'i should continue to ensure that trans persons and other sexual and gender minorities are able to access needed care and social services and participate fully in civic and economic life.

HHHRC's mission is to reduce harm, promote health, create wellness, and fight stigma in Hawai'i and the Pacific. We work with many individuals impacted by poverty, housing instability, and other social determinants of health. Many have behavioral health problems, including those related to substance use and mental health conditions, and have also been deeply impacted by trauma related to histories of physical, sexual, and psychological abuse.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.



LATE

January 29, 2026

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

Hearing: Friday, January 30, 2026 at 10:30 AM

RE: **STRONG SUPPORT for House Bill 1452**

Aloha Chair Takayama, Vice-Chair Keohokapu-Lee Loy and fellow committee members,

Pride at Work – Hawai'i is an official chapter of [Pride at Work](#) which is a national nonprofit organization that represents LGBTQIA+ union members and their allies. We are an officially recognized constituency group of the AFL-CIO that organizes mutual support between the organized Labor Movement and the LGBTQIA+ Community to further social and economic justice. We write in **strong support of House Bill 1452**.

HB 1452 makes a necessary and thoughtful update to Hawai'i law by expanding the types of licensed health care providers who may submit an affidavit for the issuance of a new certificate of birth for certain registrants. This change ensures that transgender and gender-diverse people can access accurate identity documents through a process that reflects modern medical practice and lived reality—rather than outdated assumptions or unnecessary gatekeeping.

Accurate identity documents are essential to navigating everyday life. When a birth certificate does not align with a person's sex designation, it can expose them to repeated scrutiny, discrimination, and forced disclosure in settings such as employment, housing, education, travel, and health care. These barriers place transgender people—especially workers—at heightened risk of harassment and economic insecurity.

Current limitations on who may submit the required affidavit are arbitrary and harmful. They restrict access based on provider type rather than professional competence, disproportionately impacting people in rural communities, those with limited provider options, and those whose care is managed by fully licensed professionals who are excluded under existing law. HB 1452 removes these barriers without compromising the integrity of Hawai'i's vital records system.

This legislation is especially urgent **now**. At the federal level, **H.R. 22, the SAVE Act, continues to advance**, threatening to impose restrictive documentation requirements that would disproportionately harm transgender people and others whose identity documents do not align due to systemic barriers. Alarming, **Hawai'i's own Congressman Ed Case voted in favor of this measure**, underscoring the real and present risk that federal actions may further marginalize our communities.

Pride at Work – Hawai‘i’s Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of Re: HB 1452

In this climate, it is imperative that Hawai‘i act decisively to protect its residents. HB1452 serves as a critical safeguard, ensuring that people can access accurate state-issued identity documents that allow them to live, work, and participate in society without fear or unnecessary exposure.

For māhū and LGBTQIA+ workers, accurate documentation is not abstract—it is a matter of workplace safety, job security, and dignity. When identity documents do not match, workers may be denied employment, face harassment on the job, or be forced to out themselves simply to exist in professional spaces.

HB 1452 reflects Hawai‘i’s values of aloha, inclusion, and fairness. It affirms that māhū and transgender keiki, adults, kūpuna, kama‘āina, and their ‘ohana deserve respect and recognition—especially in moments when federal policy is moving in the opposite direction.

For these reasons, **Pride at Work – Hawai‘i strongly urges your support of HB 1452.**

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

In Solidarity,

Michael Golojuch, Jr. (he/him)
President
[Pride at Work – Hawai‘i](#)



HA‘AHEO, ‘OHANA, KAULIKE, UI
Pride Family Justice Activate
WHERE PRIDE BECOMES POLITICAL POWER

Website: www.hokupac.org ♦ Email: info@hokupac.org

LATE

January 29, 2026

House’s Committee on Health
Hawai‘i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Hearing: Friday, January 30, 2026 at 10:30 AM

RE: STRONG SUPPORT for House Bill 1452 – Relating to BirthCertificates

Aloha Chair Takayama, Vice-Chair Keohokapu-Lee Loy and fellow committee members,

This testimony on behalf of **HOKU PAC**, Hawai‘i’s LGBTQ+ political action committee dedicated to building queer political power and advancing policies that protect our communities. We stand in **strong support of House Bill 1452**.

HB 1452 takes an important and necessary step to modernize Hawai‘i’s process for issuing updated birth certificates by expanding the types of licensed health care providers who may submit an affidavit for certain birth registrants. This change removes unnecessary and outdated barriers that prevent māhū, transgender and gender-diverse people from obtaining identity documents that accurately reflect who they are.

Accurate identity documents are not a luxury—they are essential to safety, stability, and full participation in public life. When a person’s birth certificate does not align with their sex designation, they may be subjected to repeated questioning, forced disclosure, and discrimination in employment, housing, education, travel, and health care. These harms fall disproportionately on māhū and transgender people and create real risks to economic security and personal safety.

Existing restrictions on who may provide the required affidavit serve no legitimate purpose. They limit access based on provider category rather than medical competence, creating inequities for people in rural areas, those with limited health care options, and individuals receiving care from fully licensed providers excluded under current law. HB1452 corrects this by aligning state policy with modern medical practice while preserving the integrity of Hawai‘i’s vital records system.

The need for this bill is **more urgent than ever**. At the federal level, **H.R. 22, the SAVE Act, continues to move forward**, threatening to impose restrictive documentation requirements that would disproportionately harm māhū and transgender people and others whose identity documents do not align due to systemic barriers. It is deeply concerning that **Hawai‘i’s own Congressman Ed Case voted in favor of this legislation**, underscoring that federal protections cannot be assumed.

In this moment, Hawai‘i must lead. HB 1452 provides a critical state-level safeguard, ensuring that residents can obtain accurate identity documents that allow them to live, work, vote, and access services without fear of unnecessary exposure or discrimination.

Paid for by HOKU PAC – Not Authorized by any Candidate or Candidate Committee

HOKU PAC Testimony in support of HB 1452:
RELATING TO BIRTH CERTIFICATES

For māhū, queer, and transgender people, especially those navigating hostile political environments beyond our islands, this bill sends a clear message: Hawai'i will not allow federal overreach or outdated policies to erase our identities or undermine our safety.

HB1452 reflects Hawai'i's values of aloha, dignity, and justice. It affirms that māhū and transgender keiki, kūpuna, kama'āina, and their 'ohana deserve recognition, respect, and protection under the law.

For these reasons, **HOKU PAC strongly urges your support of HB 1452.**

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.

Me ke aloha,

HOKU PAC



LATE

LAMBDA LAW STUDENT ASSOCIATION OF HAWAI'I

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF [HB1452](#)

House Committee on Health

January 29th, 2025

Aloha e Chair Takayama, Vice Chair Keohokapu-Lee Loy, and Members of the Committee,

Lambda Law Student Association of Hawai'i is a Registered Independent Organization at UH Mānoa's William S. Richardson School of Law. **We support HB1452**, and offer the following suggestions/comments.

We appreciate the intent to ensure access to amended birth certificates for transgender individuals, particularly in the current climate of heightened uncertainty surrounding gender-affirming documentation. In recent years, transgender people have faced increased scrutiny, inconsistent agency practices, and shifting legal standards related to identity documents. These inconsistencies create tangible barriers to daily life (such as obtaining employment, housing, health care, education, and travel), and increase the risk of discrimination, harassment, or denial of services when identity documents do not accurately reflect a person's gender. **Clear, inclusive statutory language governing birth certificate amendments is therefore essential not only for administrative efficiency, but also for ensuring equal access to legal recognition, personal safety, and full participation in civic life.** In reviewing the language of the proposed bill, our members identified concerning language that could lead to problems in implementation and a fundamental misunderstanding of the medical science on transgender people and the process of transitioning.

We suggest that the bill language should be changed to address:

- The named process in subsection (a) (1) of **"paternity" should properly be changed to "parentage,"** in order to be aligned with the passage of the amendments to the Uniform Parentage Act passed in the 2025 session ([Act 298](#)).
- The phrase **"completed transition to the new gender" in subsection (a) (4) (C) is imprecise and potentially harmful language** that fails to include the range of experiences and medical interventions sought after by transgender patients. Per a Senate Committee report from the legislative history of this statute, **"the majority of transgender individuals do not choose to undergo sex reassignment surgeries for various reasons, including prohibitive costs and other medical and personal reasons."** [SCR1524](#) of 2015. This conclusion is consistent with prevailing medical evidence. Major medical organizations, including the American Medical Association and the American Psychiatric Association, recognize that **gender transition is not a single, finite process and does not require any particular surgical procedure to be considered medically appropriate or complete.** Clinical guidelines emphasize that transition-related care is individualized and may include social transition, hormone therapy, counseling, or other treatments, depending on the patient's needs and circumstances. No recognized medical authority defines "completion" of gender transition as a prerequisite for legal recognition. **We suggest striking the end of this clause entirely, so that subsection (a) (4) (C) would read, "The birth registrant has had appropriate clinical treatment for gender transition".**

- While we appreciate adding that Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) to the list of medical professionals authorized to issue necessary affidavits, we would love to see this section **also include any “licensed mental health provider”** so as to increase accessibility, as per suggestions from past Representatives that worked on amending this bill in previous years. See [SCR572](#) of 2015.

We humbly ask that you please support HB1452 and consider our suggested changes. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify.

Lambda Law Hawai‘i, a Law Student Association at the William S. Richardson School of Law.

Mission: To advance equal rights for LGBTQIA+ individuals at WSRSL and beyond.

LATE

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/29/2026 1:53:08 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joanne Okika Shigeko Qinaau	Pilina Center for Wellbeing	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB1452, legislation that would allow transgender and gender-diverse people to update the sex designation on their birth certificates in a way that affirms their authentic selves.

This bill is about dignity, inclusion, and equity. Today, too many transgender people in Hawai‘i still struggle with outdated policies that make it difficult, if not impossible, to have a birth certificate that reflects their gender. Modernizing this process honors the lived experiences of transgender residents and aligns Hawai‘i with best practices across the nation.

Under current law, some transgender people have faced requirements that are unnecessary barriers, such as invasive medical or surgical conditions , simply to update a vital identity document. These requirements are not grounded in current medical science or the lived realities of transgender individuals, many of whom cannot or choose not to undergo such interventions.

Updating birth certificates to match a person’s gender (which is a social construct) is more than a bureaucratic change, it improves mental health, safety, and access to everyday life opportunities. When official documents don’t match someone’s identity:

They face stigma and discrimination in employment, housing, travel, and healthcare.

They experience increased anxiety and risk for harassment in routine interactions.

They may be forced to “come out” against their wishes simply to prove who they are.

Allowing an accessible, respectful process for updating birth certificates reduces these risks, honors personal dignity, and affirms Hawai‘i’s values of aloha, inclusion, and fairness.

As a clinical psychologist, I have seen these impacts, and worse, for many of our SGM community members. This doesn't need to be their reality.

HB1452 makes commonsense updates to our laws, ensuring that everyone — including transgender Keiki, kūpuna, kama‘āina, and our own `Ohana, can live authentically without unnecessary, invasive hurdles to basic identity documentation.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your favorable support of HB1452.

Mahalo Piha,

Dr. Jo

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/27/2026 2:02:07 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noelle Lindenmann	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB1452, legislation that would allow transgender and gender-diverse people to update the sex designation on their birth certificates in a way that affirms their authentic selves.

This bill is about dignity, inclusion, and equity. Today, too many transgender people in Hawai‘i still struggle with outdated policies that make it difficult — if not impossible — to have a birth certificate that reflects their lived gender. Modernizing this process honors the lived experiences of transgender residents and aligns Hawai‘i with best practices across the nation.

Under current law, some transgender people have faced requirements that are unnecessary barriers — such as invasive medical or surgical conditions — simply to update a vital identity document. These requirements are not grounded in current medical science or the lived realities of transgender individuals, many of whom cannot or choose not to undergo such interventions.

Updating birth certificates to match a person’s gender identity is more than a bureaucratic change — it improves mental health, safety, and access to everyday life opportunities. When official documents don’t match someone’s identity:

They face stigma and discrimination in employment, housing, travel, and healthcare. They experience increased anxiety and risk for harassment in routine interactions. They may be forced to “come out” against their wishes simply to prove who they are.

Allowing an accessible, respectful process for updating birth certificates reduces these risks, honors personal dignity, and affirms Hawai‘i’s values of aloha, inclusion, and fairness.

HB1452 makes commonsense updates to our laws, ensuring that everyone — including transgender Keiki, kūpuna, kama‘āina, and whānau — can live authentically without unnecessary, invasive hurdles to basic identity documentation.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your favorable support of HB1452.

Mahalo nui loa.

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/27/2026 2:02:49 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mona Eisa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha State legislators, I am testifying today in support of HB1452, so that individuals identities match that of their birth certificates. It is already incredibly hard to navigate this world as a human, but even harder when you are being told that you can not be your authentic self. Having someone's gender match who they are on an I.D. or birth certificate hurts no one, but helps these individuals immensely. Please do the right thing and pass HB1452. Mahalo,

Mona Eisa

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/27/2026 3:10:15 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
nicole m street	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony for HB1452 Re: Birth Certificates -- Allowing update of Sex Designation

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to express my support of HB1452 legislation that would allow birth certificate information to match current status of transgender and gender divergent individuals so that they can navigate the world without the embarrassment and humiliation that comes with having to prove one's sex when it does not match what is on record.

As a society, it is important that we exercise our abilities to make the world a safer place. For many, the fear of showing documentation is very real and traumatic. We can help eliminate these fears by enacting a bill that honors the true identities of our fellow human beings.

In addition, by aligning our policies with compassionate reason, we are preventing some from the necessity of medical intervention so that individuals will not be subjected to routine identity indignity. Unnecessary surgeries might be avoided and those who are intersex will be able to choose whether or not to have their bodies altered to match with unrealistic societal expectations.

The population of transgender and gender divergent people already live with challenges to their mental health and safety, and face discrimination and sadly abuse. They suffer emotional and physical harm. This bill would eliminate one area of anxiety, and thereby improve the lives of many of our Hawaii residents.

By exercising compassion through policy, our society is elevated to a more caring society. For the above reasons, I respectfully urge support of HB1452. Mahalo

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/28/2026 8:16:03 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lisa Pollak	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

As a parent of a transgender person who was born overseas. We don't have the option to change their birth certificate. This is making things incredibly difficult in their adult life. It's such a simple matter that makes a huge difference in the overall life of someone. Safety and financial issues are a primary concern as a parent. My adult child should be able to live their life to the fullest as their authentic self.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Lisa Pollak
Wailua, Hawaii

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/28/2026 8:39:51 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lisa Lee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB1452, legislation that would allow transgender and gender-diverse people to update the sex designation on their birth certificates in a way that affirms their authentic selves.

This bill is about dignity, inclusion, and equity. Today, too many transgender people in Hawai‘i still struggle with outdated policies that make it difficult, if not impossible, to have a birth certificate that reflects their lived gender. Modernizing this process honors the lived experiences of transgender residents and aligns Hawai‘i with best practices across the nation.

Under current law, some transgender people have faced requirements that are unnecessary barriers, such as invasive medical or surgical conditions , simply to update a vital identity document. These requirements are not grounded in current medical science or the lived realities of transgender individuals, many of whom cannot or choose not to undergo such interventions.

Updating birth certificates to match a person’s gender identity is more than a bureaucratic change, it improves mental health, safety, and access to everyday life opportunities. When official documents don’t match someone’s identity:

They face stigma and discrimination in employment, housing, travel, and healthcare.

They experience increased anxiety and risk for harassment in routine interactions.

They may be forced to “come out” against their wishes simply to prove who they are.

Allowing an accessible, respectful process for updating birth certificates reduces these risks, honors personal dignity, and affirms Hawai‘i’s values of aloha, inclusion, and fairness.

HB1452 makes commonsense updates to our laws, ensuring that everyone — including transgender Keiki, kūpuna, kama‘āina, and our own Ohana, can live authentically without unnecessary, invasive hurdles to basic identity documentation.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your favorable support of HB1452.

Mahalo nui loa,
Lisa Lee

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/28/2026 10:26:21 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Coan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this bill, so that trans people can have a birth certificate that reflects their lived identity. This bill shows the respect, protection and support for authentic self expression that residents of Hawaii expect from their state.

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/28/2026 10:44:27 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Judith White	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is a critically important measure to protect individual's physical and mental health. Mahalo

Judith C. White, Psy. D.
Clinical Psychologist

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/28/2026 12:04:02 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rick Ramirez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee Chari, Vice Chair and members,

Thank for you for taking a hearing on this bill. I want to note that overall, this is not changing any wording at this already established law that was passed a couple of years ago. This bill is adding in APRN's to the persons who can complete the already established documents needed outline in this law. APRN's have had full practice authority in Hawaii since 1995, so when this bill was created, for some reason APRN's were left out, APRN's already provide care services independantly, so the additon of that role to this law will create an easier workflow, throughput, and ease of care for persons who are needing this documentation AND the Department of Health Vital Records Department.

Thank you all to support in favor of this change!

Rick Ramirez, DNP, APRN, AGACN-BC, FNP-BC

APRN services

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/28/2026 12:11:03 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Martha Nakajima	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill. Thank you. Martha Nakajima, Honolulu, member of Indivisible

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/28/2026 12:15:07 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brennah-Czyz Perez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of HB1452, legislation that would allow transgender and gender-diverse people to update the sex designation on their birth certificates in a way that affirms their authentic selves.

This bill is about dignity, inclusion, and equity. Today, too many transgender people in Hawai‘i still struggle with outdated policies that make it difficult, if not impossible, to have a birth certificate that reflects their lived gender. Modernizing this process honors the lived experiences of transgender residents and aligns Hawai‘i with best practices nationwide.

Under current law, some transgender people have faced requirements that are unnecessary barriers, such as invasive medical or surgical conditions, simply to update a vital identity document. These requirements are not grounded in current medical science or the lived realities of transgender individuals, many of whom cannot or choose not to undergo such interventions.

Updating birth certificates to match a person’s gender identity is more than a bureaucratic change; it improves mental health, safety, and access to everyday life opportunities. When official documents don’t match someone’s identity:

- They face stigma and discrimination in employment, housing, travel, and healthcare.
- They experience increased anxiety and risk for harassment in routine interactions.
- They may be forced to “come out” against their wishes simply to prove who they are.

Allowing an accessible, respectful process for updating birth certificates reduces these risks, honors personal dignity, and affirms Hawai‘i’s values of aloha, inclusion, and fairness.

HB1452 makes commonsense updates to our laws, ensuring that everyone — including transgender Keiki, kūpuna, kama‘āina, and our own Ohana- can live authentically without unnecessary, invasive hurdles to basic identity documentation.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your support of HB1452.

Mahalo nui,
Brennah Perez

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/28/2026 12:21:20 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Isabel Casimiro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB1452, legislation that would allow transgender and gender-diverse people to update their sex designation on their birth certificates.

I am an endocrinologist practicing here in Hawai'i who prescribes hormone therapy to several gender diverse people in a safe way according to medical standard of care principles.

Under current law, some transgender people have faced many requirements, simply to update a vital identity document. Allowing them to update their birth certificates to match their gender identity is vital for them to be able to access everyday life opportunities in settings such as employment, housing, travel, and healthcare.

Allowing an accessible, respectful process for updating birth certificates reduces these risks, honors personal dignity, and affirms Hawai'i's values of aloha, inclusion, and fairness.

HB1452 makes commonsense updates to our laws, ensuring that everyone — including transgender Keiki, kūpuna, kama'āina, and our own Ohana, can live authentically without unnecessary, invasive hurdles to basic identity documentation.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your favorable support of HB1452.

Mahalo nui loa,

Isabel Casimiro, MD, PhD

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/28/2026 1:04:01 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shannon Matson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Members,

I am a resident of Hawai'i Island who recently carried a baby for someone else. I am weighing in on this bill to remind Committee Members that Birth Certificates need to be updated for a variety of reasons, some common and some less common, but deserve equal consideration and support to make the process as pain-free as possible. At the beginning of this month, we had to amend the birth certificate of the baby I recently birthed to remove me as his mom, as I am not in any way related to him. I wish this could have taken place at the hospital immediately after birth, but due to the policies in place I had to be added to his birth certificate initially and then we had to go through court to remove me. This process took about 5 months to complete. Neither me, nor my husband, nor the baby's parent and provider of DNA were in any sort of disagreement that we wanted this change to happen. Even with a straight forward (non-contested) case like this, it was complicated and time consuming.

I am strongly in favor of allowing APRNs to participate in this process to help create a quicker, easier, and less invasive process to amend birth certificates for those who need to amend them. APRNs have had full practice authority in Hawai'i since 2009 and seem to have been overlooked in the original passage of this bill. This is a common sense change to allow those most connected to an individual's care to sign off on an affidavit needed to support those updating their gender markers.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Shannon M.

Hawai'i Island Resident

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/28/2026 1:08:29 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Micaela	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB1452. It is vital that individuals have autonomy over their own gender markers and have the ability to speak with their comfortable provider to seek that change. Allowing APRNs to sign off on this process allows individuals to pursue their care without disruption. Please support this bill.

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/28/2026 1:14:53 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
alicia hedlesky	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB1452, legislation that would allow transgender and gender-diverse people to update the sex designation on their birth certificates in a way that affirms their authentic selves.

This bill is about dignity, inclusion, and equity. Today, too many transgender people in Hawai‘i still struggle with outdated policies that make it difficult — if not impossible — to have a birth certificate that reflects their lived gender. Modernizing this process honors the lived experiences of transgender residents and aligns Hawai‘i with best practices across the nation.

Under current law, some transgender people have faced requirements that are unnecessary barriers — such as invasive medical or surgical conditions — simply to update a vital identity document. These requirements are not grounded in current medical science or the lived realities of transgender individuals, many of whom cannot or choose not to undergo such interventions.

Updating birth certificates to match a person’s gender identity is more than a bureaucratic change — it improves mental health, safety, and access to everyday life opportunities. When official documents don’t match someone’s identity:

They face stigma and discrimination in employment, housing, travel, and healthcare.

They experience increased anxiety and risk for harassment in routine interactions.

They may be forced to “come out” against their wishes simply to prove who they are.

Allowing an accessible, respectful process for updating birth certificates reduces these risks, honors personal dignity, and affirms Hawai‘i’s values of aloha, inclusion, and fairness.

HB1452 makes commonsense updates to our laws, ensuring that everyone — including transgender Keiki, kūpuna, kama‘āina, and whānau — can live authentically without unnecessary, invasive hurdles to basic identity documentation.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your favorable support of HB1452.

Mahalo nui loa.

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/28/2026 1:16:31 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB1452. Please pass. Thanks, Mike Golojuch

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Raven Kame‘enui-Becker and I am a māhū ‘Ōiwi (non-binary Native Hawaiian person). Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB1452, legislation that would allow transgender and gender-diverse people to update the sex designation on their birth certificates in a way that affirms their authentic selves.

This bill is about dignity, inclusion, and equity. Today, too many transgender people like me in Hawai‘i still struggle with outdated policies that make it difficult, if not impossible, to have a birth certificate that reflects their gender. Modernizing this process honors the lived experiences of transgender residents and aligns Hawai‘i with best practices across the nation.

Under current law, some transgender people have faced requirements that are unnecessary barriers, such as invasive medical or surgical conditions, simply to update a vital identity document. These requirements are not grounded in current medical science or the lived realities of transgender individuals, many of whom cannot or choose not to undergo such interventions.

Updating birth certificates to match a person’s gender identity is more than a bureaucratic change, it improves mental health, safety, and access to everyday life opportunities. When official documents don’t match someone’s identity:

They face stigma and discrimination in employment, housing, travel, and healthcare.

They experience increased anxiety and risk for harassment in routine interactions.

They may be forced to “come out” against their wishes simply to prove who they are.

Allowing an accessible, respectful process for updating birth certificates reduces these risks, honors personal dignity, and affirms Hawai‘i’s values of aloha, inclusion, and fairness.

HB1452 makes commonsense updates to our laws, ensuring that everyone — including transgender keiki, kūpuna, kama‘āina, and our own ‘ohana, can live authentically without unnecessary, invasive hurdles to basic identity documentation.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your favorable support of HB1452.

Mahalo nui loa,

Raven Kame‘enui-Becker

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/28/2026 1:49:18 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
DeWaine Tollefsrud	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB1452, legislation that would allow transgender and gender-diverse people to update the sex designation on their birth certificates in a way that affirms their authentic selves.

I am a 72 year old cis male who has never had any problem at all with transgender people living the lives that are truthful to them. It seems that that is a basic human right. That members of the trans community have to be put through such bureaucratic nonsense brings up the question, “WHY?” That said, updating birth certificates to match a person’s gender identity is more than a bureaucratic change — it improves mental health, safety, and access to everyday life opportunities including joy and satisfaction of self.

This bill is about dignity, inclusion, and equity. Rights that all SHOULD enjoy.

Life should not be more difficult for the queer community than for the rest of us. We are all in the same canoe, we should all learn to paddle together as one.

HB1452 makes commonsense and compassionate updates to our laws, ensuring that everyone — including transgender Keiki, kūpuna, and kama‘āina — can live their true selves without unnecessary and invasive hurdles to basic identity documentation.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your favorable support of HB1452.

Mahalo nui loa for your time and service to our state and ALL its peoples.

DeWaine Tollefsrud

15-1543 Beach Rd

Kea’au, HI 96749

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/28/2026 2:14:59 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jane Tollefsrud	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Chair, and Members of the Committee 1/28/26

Support of HB1452

Thank you for hearing testimony regarding HB1452, legislation that would allow transgender and gender-diverse people to update the sex designation on their birth certificates.

It is time to update our laws to better represent, support, and serve our gender-diverse population. Among the many hurdles facing them is the challenge to have a birth certificate reflect their living gender.

Our current, outdated policies are not respectful to certain personal choices. They are not inclusive. Not being able to update one's birth certificate to definitively represent one's chosen gender is not right. Certainly, we in Hawaii have enough Aloha to include all our residents.

Please vote to SUPPORT HB1452!

Thank you!

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Tollefsrud

15-1543 Beach Rd.

Keaau, HI 96749

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/28/2026 5:11:33 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Torrance Kam	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB1452, legislation that would allow transgender and gender-diverse people to update the sex designation on their birth certificates in a way that affirms their authentic selves.

This bill is about dignity, inclusion, and equity. Today, too many transgender people in Hawai‘i still struggle with outdated policies that make it difficult, if not impossible, to have a birth certificate that reflects their lived gender. Modernizing this process honors the lived experiences of transgender residents and aligns Hawai‘i with best practices nationwide.

Under current law, some transgender people have faced requirements that are unnecessary barriers, such as invasive medical or surgical conditions, simply to update a vital identity document. These requirements are not grounded in current medical science or the lived realities of transgender individuals, many of whom cannot or choose not to undergo such interventions.

Updating birth certificates to match a person’s gender identity is more than a bureaucratic change; it improves mental health, safety, and access to everyday life opportunities. When official documents don’t match someone’s identity:

They face stigma and discrimination in employment, housing, travel, and healthcare.

They experience increased anxiety and risk for harassment in routine interactions.

They may be forced to “come out” against their wishes simply to prove who they are.

Allowing an accessible, respectful process for updating birth certificates reduces these risks, honors personal dignity, and affirms Hawai‘i’s values of aloha, inclusion, and fairness.

HB1452 makes commonsense updates to our laws, ensuring that everyone — including transgender Keiki, kūpuna, kama‘āina, and our own Ohana- can live authentically without unnecessary, invasive hurdles to basic identity documentation.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your favorable support of HB1452.

Mahalo nui loa,

Torrance Kam

28 January 2026

House Committee on Health

Testimony for the hearing of 1-30-2026 at 10:30 am

HB1452

Conference Room 329

State Capital

415 S. Beretania St.

Dear Chairman Takayama, Vice Chairwoman Keohokapu-Lee Loy, and Committee Members,

My name is Danielle Lum, a resident of Honolulu, and I am representing myself. My testimony is in support of HB1452.

It is of utmost importance for a transgender person to have their birth certificate match their gender identity. The list of reasons is long, but since this legislation is about who can attest to a person being transgender I will limit my remarks to that subject.

I am a pediatrician and have practiced for 40 years. For most of that time I have had an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) working in my office. More recently I have also had PAs working in my office. I can tell you that both APRNs and PAs are highly skilled and can do many of the things that a physician can do, including the diagnosis of gender dysphoria.

Both PAs and APRNs have advanced degrees and at a minimum, 6-8 years of training. They often function in similar roles in various healthcare settings. Given that PAs already have the authority to attest to a person's gender dysphoria (for the purpose of changing a birth certificate), it is logical that APRNs should have that same authority.

Moreover, APRNs can and do function independently in Hawai'i, whereas PAs cannot. In some rural parts of our state, the APRN may be the only provider for that area. Allowing APRNs to have this authority will provide better access to this necessary care for transgender individuals.

It is critical that all people have access to all the health care services that they need, and APRNs are not only fully capable of providing care but also may be the only source of care. These are the reasons that I support HB1452.

Respectfully,

Danielle T.W. Lum, MD

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/28/2026 7:43:41 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mecca Monson-Gere	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

For the consideration of the House Committee on Health,

I am writing to offer my strong support for HB 1452, Relating to Birth Certificates. This measure seeks to expand the types of health care providers authorized to submit an affidavit for a new certificate of birth for certain birth registrants. This is a crucial, common-sense reform that directly improves the accessibility and administrative efficiency of a vital process.

Currently, registrants may face unnecessary hurdles in obtaining a new birth certificate if the types of authorized providers are too restrictive. By expanding this list, the bill recognizes the diverse and evolving landscape of medical professionals in Hawaii, ensuring that more citizens can complete this necessary legal process without undue difficulty or delay. Critically, this bill is a vital step toward inclusivity, particularly benefiting members of the LGBTQ+ community who often navigate complex and sensitive processes when updating official documents. This expansion helps ensure that the process is affirming and respectful of their identity.

I urge the Committee to pass this important measure. HB 1452 is a simple yet significant step toward reducing bureaucratic barriers and affirming the rights of certain birth registrants in Hawaii, promoting greater equity and inclusion for all of our residents.

Mahalo,

Mecca Monson-Gere

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and members of the Committee,

My name is Dale VanderBrink. I am a member of the Ala Moana Kaka'ako Neighborhood Board. This testimony is my personal one.

I am writing in strong support for HB1452.

This legislation will help update our laws so that individuals, who are transgender and gender diverse, can update their birth certificate in a way that affirms who they are.

As we have seen with actions by the federal government, as well as many mainland states, laws are enacted that target and restrict transgender people primarily based on their birth certificate. Our state needs to help make it easier for transgender people to update their birth certificate not only to allow them to identify as who they are, but also so Hawai'i residents feel safer if they travel to the mainland.

The laws today make it difficult, if not impossible, for transgender people to be able to update their birth certificate that reflects who they are. Some of these steps include invasive medical or surgical procedures.

Being unable to update one's birth certificate can cause unnecessary mental health struggles as transgender and gender diverse individuals navigate employment, housing, travel and healthcare. While it is often difficult for cisgender individuals to understand joy that transgender people have when updating their birth certificate to reflect who they are, the closest comparison can be someone getting their first driver's license, or a couple getting their marriage certificate. It is a reaffirmation of who one is and their life today.

I urge you to support HB1452

Mahalo,

Dale

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/29/2026 7:01:18 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shanda Brack	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB1452.

The current law in Hawai‘i allows transgender people to change their gender marker on their birth certificate with a form signed by a doctor or physician assistant, but NOT nurse practitioners. I believe this was an oversight that HB1452 can correct.

As a primary care Nurse Practitioner, I take care of patients all day. I prescribe medications, order labs and imaging testing, refer to specialists, and sign death certificates. This is called "Full Practice Authority." In Hawai‘i, nurse practitioners have had full practice authority since 1995. Because of this, I do not need a medical doctor in order to care for my patients. No one co-signs my charts or oversees my patient care. I am fully responsible for my patients' medical treatment.

Please support this bill, HB1452, which would correct an administrative error. Nurse practitioners have the legal authority to care for patients in Hawai‘i, and HB1452 will further reflect that by correcting the law to allow us to sign off on changes to patients' birth certificates.

HB1452 makes commonsense updates to our laws, ensuring that everyone — including our transgender ohana - can live authentically without unnecessary, invasive hurdles to basic identity documentation.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your support of HB1452.

Mahalo nui loa,

Shanda Brack, APRN

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/29/2026 8:01:06 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kirk Southcott	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this bill to extend the abilities of nurse practitioners to serve our ohana

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/29/2026 8:22:51 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alberta Silva	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of **HB1452**.

Current Hawai‘i law allows transgender individuals to update the gender marker on their birth certificate with a form signed by a physician or physician assistant—but not a nurse practitioner. This appears to be an administrative oversight that **HB1452** would correct.

As a Medical Case Manager, I work closely with clients every day and regularly connect them with nurse practitioners who provide their primary medical care. Nurse practitioners are trusted, licensed healthcare providers who already have the legal authority to diagnose, treat, and manage patient care in Hawai‘i. Excluding them from this process creates unnecessary barriers for transgender people who are simply seeking accurate identity documents.

Please support **HB1452**, which would modernize the law by recognizing nurse practitioners’ authority to sign these forms—just as physicians and physician assistants already can.

HB1452 is a commonsense update that ensures everyone, including our transgender *‘ohana*, can live authentically without facing unnecessary and hurdles to basic identity documentation.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your support of **HB1452**.

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/29/2026 8:26:19 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kala Fisher	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB1452.

The current law in Hawaii allows transgender people to change their gender marker on their birth certificate with a form signed by a doctor or physician assistant, but NOT nurse practitioners. I believe this was an oversight that HB1452 can correct.

Please support this bill, HB1452, which would correct an administrative error. Nurse practitioners have the legal authority to care for patients in Hawaii, and HB1452 will further reflect that by correcting the law to allow us to sign off on changes to patients' birth certificates.

HB1452 makes commonsense updates to our laws, ensuring that everyone — including our transgender ohana - can live authentically without unnecessary, invasive hurdles to basic identity documentation.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your support of HB1452.

Mahalo nui loa,

Kala Fisher

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/29/2026 8:29:43 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vanessa Murthy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this bill, HB1452, which would correct an administrative error. Nurse practitioners have the legal authority to care for patients in Hawaii, and HB1452 will further reflect that by correcting the law to allow us to sign off on changes to patients' birth certificates.

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/29/2026 8:57:45 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Erin Furuichi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB1452.

The current law in Hawaii allows transgender people to change their gender marker on their birth certificate with a form signed by a doctor or physician assistant, but NOT nurse practitioners. I believe this was an oversight that HB1452 can correct.

Please support this bill, HB1452, which would correct an administrative error. Nurse practitioners have the legal authority to care for patients in Hawaii, and HB1452 will further reflect that by correcting the law to allow us to sign off on changes to patients' birth certificates.

HB1452 makes commonsense updates to our laws, ensuring that everyone — including our transgender ohana - can live authentically without unnecessary, invasive hurdles to basic identity documentation.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge your support of HB1452.

Sincerely,

Erin Furuichi

Aloha Chair Takayama, Vice Chair Keohokapu-Lee Loy, and Committee Members,

I am writing in strong support of HB1452, a bill to expand the types of providers who can submit an affidavit for a new birth certificate.

Since 1995 APRNs, advanced practice nurse practitioners, have had full practice authority in Hawai'i. Unfortunately, under current law their patients need to have a physician or physician assistant complete the affidavit to amend the gender marker on the patient's birth certificate.

This bill, HB1452, would address that oversight and allow APRNs to submit the affidavit themselves, no longer requiring someone else (often outside of the practice) to involve themselves in a patient's care. This would make the process easier and quicker for those trying to amend their birth certificate's that are under the care of an APRN.

-Mahalo for your time,

Michael Paul

Resident of House District 27

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/29/2026 9:44:17 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aaron Ruddick	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of HB1452.

The current law in Hawaii allows transgender people to change their gender marker on their birth certificate with a form signed by a doctor or physician assistant, but NOT nurse practitioners. I believe this was an oversight that HB1452 can correct.

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/29/2026 9:53:12 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Allen Novak	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for accepting my testimony.

I am in support of HB1452.

APRNs are well qualified to within their scope of practice to allow transgender people to change their gender marker on their birth certificate.

Please pass HB1452

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB1452.

The current law in Hawai'i allows transgender individuals to change their gender marker on their birth certificates with a form signed by physicians or physician associates (PAs), but NOT by advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs). APRNs include nurse practitioners (NPs), clinical nurse specialists (CNSs), certified nurse midwives (CNMs), and certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs), and they play an essential role in healthcare systems. According to the Hawai'i State Center for Nursing, there are 1,545 licensed APRNs in our state.

In Hawai'i, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) are licensed to practice independently and serve a vital role in addressing physician shortages, which have worsened in recent years. This is especially critical in rural communities, where shortages of primary care providers and specialists are more severe. I can attest to this through my firsthand experience serving as a nurse practitioner at a federally qualified health center in West Oahu for the past 10 years. Therefore, APRNs should be included in the law to allow them to provide the Affidavit needed for gender marker changes, as well as their physician and PA colleagues.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,
Miki Miura, DNP, APRN, FNP-C

LATE

Aloha

Thank you for allowing me to submit my comments.

My name is Dr Matthew Mitschele. I am a husband, father of four and family physician here in the great state of Hawai'i. I decided to submit testimony not in an attempt to change anyone's mind or preach about my personal beliefs on the matter, but rather to share how I came to providing gender affirming care and how that relates to your decision.

I had no prior formal training in gender affirming care. I can't imagine the topic was ever brought up in the 7 years of my medical training. I also had no personal experience with friends or family. My only passing experience was like many, through crass depictions and jokes of transgender persons in movies and TV. I only entered into this space through the bravery of my patients. Patients who had the courage to share their life's story to someone they did not know. A doctor they had no relationship with, a stranger. A 6'2", white, cisgender male. It still shocks me that they would take that leap of faith.

During that first patient visit I had a choice. Looking across at another human being who is telling me their life story, their truth. Do you stand as a barrier or obstruction to their hopes of living their full life or do you help. That is the power held by health care providers. Even in inaction you hold great power over others. And that is the power of the State. You hold great power whether it be by action or inaction. You can be a barrier or obstruction to someone living their full life and truth or an ally. So I ask you to be mindful of that power over another human being's feelings of completeness and acceptance.

Thank you for your time

Mahalo

Matthew W Mitschele, M.D.

LATE

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/29/2026 2:50:04 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Celine Chang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

I respectfully submit testimony in strong support of HB1452.

Birth certificates are essential identity documents, and they should be accurate, respectful, and reflective of a person's lived reality. For many people, especially transgender and intersex individuals, outdated or inaccurate birth certificates can create unnecessary barriers, expose them to discrimination, and compromise personal safety.

HB1452 promotes dignity, privacy, and fairness by modernizing the process for amending birth certificates. This measure ensures that government documents serve the people who rely on them, rather than creating harm or exclusion.

Mahalo for your consideration, and I urge you to pass HB1452.

With Aloha,

Celine

LATE

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/29/2026 11:16:25 PM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carmela Resuma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this legislation.

HB-1452

Submitted on: 1/30/2026 11:00:31 AM

Testimony for HLT on 1/30/2026 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Laura S Anderson	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

HI- I am writing in STRONG support of expanding the situation so that NPs can be part of supporting LGBTQ+ citizens with birth certificate changes. This is a needed move to support community and reduce barriers to deserved care.

Thank you.