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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION | KA 'OIHANA ALAKAU
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

Thursday, March 19, 2026
3:03 PM
State Capitol, 224

HB1667, HD1
RELATING TO CIVIL IDENTIFICATION

Senate Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs

The Department of Transportation (DOT) supports H.B. 1667, H.D. 1.

This bill amends Hawaii Revised Statutes §286-303 to lower the age requirement for obtaining a state civil identification card without a parental or guardian signature from eighteen years old to sixteen years old. The bill further specifies the required information and documentation for applicants aged sixteen and older, with an effective date of July 1, 3000.

The DOT supports this measure as it recognizes the practical need for younger individuals between the ages of sixteen and seventeen to independently obtain a state civil identification card. At sixteen years of age, many Hawaii residents are entering the workforce, enrolling in higher education preparatory programs, participating in financial institutions, and engaging in a range of civic and social activities that require a valid government-issued identification. Requiring parental or guardian consent as a prerequisite for obtaining such identification can create unnecessary barriers, particularly for individuals in situations where parental involvement is limited, unavailable, or otherwise impractical.

Lowering the age threshold to sixteen is consistent with the recognition that individuals of this age are already permitted to engage in various legal activities, including obtaining a driver's license with appropriate training requirements. Extending independent access to a state civil identification card aligns with these existing provisions and supports greater inclusion and accessibility within the state's identification framework.

The DOT looks forward to working with the Legislature to ensure the implementation of this measure is carried out in a manner that maintains the integrity and security of the state's identification system, consistent with applicable federal standards and requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.



OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

‘Ōlelo Hō‘ike ‘Aha Kau Kānāwai

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 1667 HD1

RELATING TO CIVIL IDENTIFICATION

Ke Kōmike ‘Aha Kenekoa o ke Ikehu, a me ka Pilina O Nā Aupuni

(Senate Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs)

Ke Kapitala ‘o Hawai‘i

(Hawai‘i State Capitol)

Malaki 19, 2026

3:03 PM

Lumi 224

Aloha e Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs:

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS HB1667 HD1** which lowers the age at which a person may obtain a state civil identification card without the signature of a parent or guardian from eighteen to sixteen years old.

OHA supports practical measures that remove unnecessary barriers to basic identification and improve access to essential services for youth. A state identification card is often necessary to secure employment, obtain housing, access health care, open a bank account, enroll in programs, and meet other basic administrative requirements of daily life. For many youth, especially those navigating family instability or living with limited adult support, lack of identification can become a major barrier to stability and self-sufficiency.

This measure is particularly important for youth who may be acting independently but cannot obtain parental or guardian consent. That can include youth experiencing homelessness, youth involved in the foster care or juvenile legal systems, and other vulnerable young people whose family circumstances make the current requirement difficult or impossible to satisfy. Lowering the age threshold to sixteen creates a more realistic pathway for these youth to access documentation necessary for safety, opportunity, and continuity of care.

Reducing barriers to identification also supports broader well-being goals. Youth who can access lawful identification are better positioned to engage with education, work, services, and other stabilizing supports. This measure promotes fairness by recognizing that some young people must navigate adult systems before they reach eighteen, and that access to identification should not depend entirely on the availability of a parent or guardian. For these reasons, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs respectfully urges this Committee to **PASS HB1667 HD1**.

Mahalo nui for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.

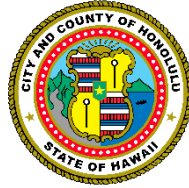
**DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES
KA 'OIHANA LAWELAWE KUPA
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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March 17, 2026

The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair
The Honorable Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs
State Capitol, Conference Room 224
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Chang, and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs:

SUBJECT: H.B. No. 1667, H.D. 1 - Relating To Civil Identification
HEARING: Thursday, March 19, 2026, 3:03 p.m.

The City and County of Honolulu, Department of Customer Services (CSD), provides **comments** on H.B. No. 1667, H.D. 1, which would lower the age at which an applicant may obtain a State identification card without parental or guardian signature from eighteen to sixteen years of age.

While the bill does not change identity verification or documentation requirements, CSD notes that implementation will require updates to staff training, public information materials, application forms, and supporting technology systems to ensure consistent statewide administration. Accordingly, CSD respectfully requests **one year from the date of enactment** to fully implement the operational and system changes required by this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on H.B. No. 1667, H.D. 1.

Sincerely,

for Kimberly M. Hashiro
Director

Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i

KAWAIILOA

March 17, 2026

Senate Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs

Hearing Time: 3:03 PM

Location: Conference Room 224

Re: HB1667 HD1, Relating to Civil Identification

Aloha e Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Chang, and members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i hui, we are writing in **strong support of HB1667 HD1 relating to civil identification, with amendment**. This bill lowers the age at which individuals can obtain a state civil identification card without a parent or guardian's signature from 18 to 16.

Sixteen- and seventeen-year-olds are often regarded as young adults, with increased responsibilities and expectations placed upon them. They are expected to solve problems and exercise autonomy, frequently with limited support from their parents or guardians. Additionally, youth at this age are typically in their junior or senior years of high school, beginning to consider life after graduation and pursue steady employment opportunities. In Hawai'i, for various reasons, many sixteen- and seventeen-year-olds are forced to act independently.

Therefore, a state civil identification card could be extremely valuable for sixteen-year-olds (and seventeen-year-olds) in accessing resources and materials that require identity verification. It would allow them access to daily necessities and enable them to perform tasks essential to survival, such as obtaining employment, applying for public benefits like SNAP, opening a bank account, enrolling in school, or participating in workforce programs. It also offers a sense of belonging to a place and symbolizes almost a rite of passage into "adulthood." However, particularly for homeless youth, youth who are estranged from or have unhealthy familial relationships, or who are victims of abuse, obtaining an identification card to gain access to such necessities can be difficult because they cannot easily retrieve a parent or guardian's signature.

Therefore, this bill helps address the issues faced by sixteen-year-olds (and seventeen-year-olds) who experience homelessness or have familial relationships that make it difficult to obtain the requisite signatures to obtain an identification card. By lowering the age to obtain a state civil identification card from eighteen to sixteen without a parent or guardian's signature, HB1667 HD1 acknowledges that sixteen is an important age for an individual to access resources essential to their health and future, and gives youth experiencing homelessness or difficult family circumstances the chance to still succeed. Additionally, a state civil identification card differs from a driver's license in that it does not authorize an individual to drive. Nothing in this bill would alter the age requirements for obtaining a driver's license. HB1667 HD1 is strictly about allowing youth with difficult family circumstances to obtain a state civil identification card without a parent or guardian signature.

Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i is a collaboration of organizations and individuals committed to reducing the harmful effects of a punitive incarceration system for youth; promoting equity in the justice system; and improving and increasing resources to address adolescent and young adult mental health needs.

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March 17, 2026

To: Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair,
And members of the Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs

Testimony in Support of HB 1667 HD 1 Relating to Civil Identification

As a community advocate who coordinated a statewide homeless youth partnership for 25 years and a person with lived experience of youth homelessness, I strongly support HB 1667 HD 1.

The lack of official government identification is a major barrier for homeless youth in accessing services. Unaccompanied homeless minors do not have a parent or guardian to sign consent for them. Unsafe home situations and family abuse are the most common reason why young people run away from home.

Lowering the age in which minors can obtain a state identification card without parental signature will facilitate access to housing, education, health, and social services for homeless young people. For youth who are immigrants, COFA migrants, or persons who may be mistakenly targeted by immigration enforcement, having legal identification provides protection from detention or arrest.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH