



OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

‘Ōlelo Hō‘ike ‘Aha Kau Kānāwai

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 1886 HD2

RELATING TO GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Ke Kōmike ‘Aha Kenekoa o ka Palekana Lehulehu, a me ke Kuleana Pū‘ali Koa

(Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs)

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 23, 2026

3:00 PM

Lumi 016

Aloha e Chair Fukunaga, Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Lee, Vice Chair Chang, Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs, and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs:

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS HB1886 HD2** which establishes limitations on certain state and county collaboration with federal immigration enforcement activities, strengthens safeguards against unconstitutional joint operations, and requires visible identification and clear standards for facial coverings during law enforcement interactions with the public. OHA appreciates the recent amendments, including clarification of the bill’s exceptions tied to federal law, the addition of a good faith safe harbor provision, and the refinement of exemptions to identification and face-covering requirements in limited exigent circumstances. As amended, the measure continues to advance core constitutional principles of due process, accountability, and transparency while providing clearer operational guidance to state and county actors.

For Native Hawaiian communities, historical experiences of surveillance, over-policing, and unequal enforcement of the law have contributed to longstanding mistrust of government systems. Hawai‘i’s history, including the overthrow and the long legacy of militarization, means that deployments of armed authority in civilian contexts can have an outsized impact on community trust, particularly among Kānaka Maoli. When enforcement operations occur without clear identification, transparency, or constitutional guardrails, that mistrust deepens and public safety suffers. Requiring visible identification during public-facing law enforcement activity strengthens accountability while preserving officer safety through carefully tailored exemptions for tactical, undercover, hazardous, and exigent circumstances.

OHA also supports the measure’s effort to clarify the boundaries of state and county participation in federal immigration enforcement activity. Clear limits on discretionary collaboration help ensure that local resources remain focused on local responsibilities and that constitutional rights are not chilled in places where people seek

education, health care, worship, legal process, and other essential services. The addition of a good faith safe harbor also helps address implementation concerns by protecting acts or omissions taken in reasonable efforts to comply with state and federal requirements or in response to perceived federal authority, while still preserving the bill's overall accountability framework.

Public safety is strengthened when communities trust law enforcement, understand who is exercising authority, and know that constitutional protections will be upheld. This bill reinforces transparency, protects civil rights, and provides needed clarity for state and county agencies navigating complex federal-state dynamics.

For these reasons, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs respectfully urges this Committee to **PASS HB1886 HD2**. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 8:06:21 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Golojuch, Jr. (he/him)	Testifying for Pride at Work – Hawai‘i	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

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.

Pride at Work – Hawai‘i fully supports HB 1886 HD 2.

We ask that you support this needed piece of legislation.

Mahalo,

Michael Golojuch, Jr. (he/him)

President

[Pride at Work – Hawai‘i](#)



The Senate Committees on Public Safety and Military Affairs &
Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs

March 23, 2026

Room 016

3:00 PM

RE: **HB 1886 HD2, Relating to Government Operations**

Attention: Chairs Carol Fukunaga, Glenn Wakai, Vice Chairs Chris Lee and Stanley Chang, Members of the Committees

The University of Hawaii Professional Assembly (UHPA), the exclusive bargaining representative for all University of Hawai'i faculty members across Hawai'i's statewide 10-campus system, **supports HB 1886 HD2.**

UHPA supports the intent of this measure to clearly define the boundaries between state public service and federal civil immigration enforcement. We appreciate that the committee incorporated our requested amendments into the HD2 draft to address our previous concerns regarding the strict criminal penalties in Section -6. Specifically, we appreciate the committee incorporating our requested amendment establishing a "good faith" safe harbor.

Exposing public employees to a misdemeanor, a \$2,000 fine, and up to a year in prison for inadvertent procedural errors while facing federal agents was an unacceptable risk. Our faculty members are not legal experts trained to evaluate the validity of warrants under pressure. The addition of Section -7 rightfully ensures that public employees will not face criminal penalties or civil liability for honest mistakes made while attempting to comply with this chapter or when responding to perceived federal authority.

By protecting the workers tasked with implementing these protocols, this measure ensures that our university personnel can remain focused on their primary professional duties while maintaining our campuses as safe, trusted environments for all students.

UHPA supports the passage of HB 1886 HD2.

Respectfully submitted,

Christian L. Fern
Executive Director
University of Hawaii Professional Assembly

University of Hawaii
Professional Assembly

1017 Palm Drive ♦ Honolulu, Hawaii 96814-1928
Telephone: (808) 593-2157 ♦ Facsimile: (808) 593-2160
Website: www.uhpa.org

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 11:08:19 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sam Guckenheimer	Testifying for Kona Indivisible	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing individually and on behalf of Kona Indivisible.

HB1886 HD1 establishes a new “state and federal collaboration” framework limiting state/county assistance in immigration enforcement operations (with federal-law exceptions), restricts certain joint agreements/task-force participation tied to protected activities/immigration objectives, requires visible identification + limits on facial coverings for law enforcement (with narrow safety/undercover exceptions), creates penalties, and establishes crimes/standards around improper facial coverings, lack of visible identification, and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention (Class C felony).

Anonymous or obscured policing undermines public trust and can increase fear and confusion. HB1886 HD1 creates enforceable standards for identification, accountability, and guardrails on state collaboration with immigration enforcement operations.

Communities are safer when residents trust they can report crimes, seek help, and access services without intimidation. Clear rules on identification and limits on unauthorized immigration interrogation reduce risk of profiling, abuse, and impersonation—while still allowing narrowly tailored safety exceptions.



www.AlohaILHawaii.org

Mar 23, 2026

MISSION

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii (AILH) dedicated to providing independent living programs and services for persons with disabilities in Hawaii.

We work together with the community and consumers to improve the quality of life through individual choices and access to services.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Roxanne U. Bolden

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The Honorable Carol Fukunaga, Chair
Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs
The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair
Senate Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs
The Thirty-Third Legislature
State Capitol
State of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

SUBJECT: HB1886 HD2 – Relating to Government Operations

Chair and Members of the Committee:

Aloha Independent Living Hawaii (AILH) submits this testimony in **strong support of HB1886 HD2.**

HB1886 HD2 establishes important limits on state and federal collaboration for immigration enforcement operations and sets clear identification and facial covering standards for state and federal law enforcement officers. The bill restricts state and county agencies from assisting in immigration enforcement operations except when required by law, prevents public employees from using state resources to facilitate certain immigration enforcement activities near schools, health facilities, courthouses, and places of worship, and prohibits participation in certain federal task forces when collaboration would likely result in racial profiling, unlawful surveillance, excessive force, or unlawful detention. It also requires that law enforcement officers display visible identification while on duty and creates penalties for improper facial coverings and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention.

From an Independent Living perspective, these protections are critical to the safety, dignity, and self-determination of disabled immigrants and disabled people in Hawaii. Disabled people—especially disabled people of color and disabled immigrants—are disproportionately affected by policing



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and immigration enforcement. Legal scholars and disability justice advocates have documented how policing can funnel disabled noncitizens from local encounters into immigration systems, often with serious due process problems and heightened risks of violence or detention. When officers conduct operations in ways that are opaque, unaccountable, or intertwined with federal immigration enforcement, many people, including disabled immigrants and their caregivers, become afraid to seek help, report abuse, or access services that support independent living in the community.

Disability-led organizations across the country have raised alarms about the impacts of aggressive federal immigration operations on disabled people and on the care systems they rely on. The Disability Policy Consortium has described how disabled immigrants experience greater brutality during apprehension and abuse in detention, including denial of medical care and communication access, and how immigration enforcement destabilizes the care workforce that many disabled people depend on to live in the community. National disability advocates have similarly reported that immigration enforcement and surveillance near homes, workplaces, and community institutions cause immigrants and their families—including disabled people and caregivers—to stay home, skip medical appointments, and avoid public spaces, pushing people toward isolation and increased risk of institutionalization. HB1886's limits on collaboration in immigration enforcement operations and its protections for activities at schools, health facilities, courthouses, and places of worship directly respond to these concerns by helping ensure that people can access essential spaces without fear.

The bill's identification and facial covering requirements are especially important for disabled people. HB1886 requires law enforcement officers to wear visible identification, including name or unique badge number and agency, and to refrain from concealing their identities with facial coverings while performing official duties, with narrow safety-related exceptions. For people with disabilities, particularly those with cognitive, psychiatric, or communication disabilities, knowing who an officer is and which agency they work for is essential for filing complaints, seeking accommodations,



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and asserting rights after an encounter. Disability law scholarship has emphasized that, without clear accountability mechanisms, reforms to policing often fail disabled people of color and disabled noncitizens, whose experiences are already under-documented and under-remedied. HB1886 addresses this by tying identification requirements to meaningful consequences: officers who commit certain torts while violating the identification rules are not allowed to claim immunity and may face significant damages.

AILH supports HB1886 HD2 because it promotes transparency, limits harmful entanglement between state and federal enforcement systems, and establishes accountability standards that help protect disabled immigrants, their families, and all disabled residents of Hawaii. These measures advance core Independent Living values of choice, control, and full participation in community life. For our consumers to feel safe calling for help, going to school, seeking medical care, or attending religious and cultural services, they must trust that local systems are focused on safety and rights, not on immigration enforcement.

AILH respectfully urges the Committees to pass HB1886 HD2.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Aloha,

Roxanne Bolden

Executive Director



COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY
AFFAIRS

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair
Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

HEARING:

Monday, March 23, 2026 at 3:00 pm, Conference Room 016 & Videoconference

TESTIMONY IN **SUPPORT** OF HB 1886, HD 2 - RELATING TO GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS.

Aloha Chair Fukunaga, Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Lee, Vice Chair Chang, Senator Hashimoto of Maui, Senator DeCoite of Maui, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Veronica Mendoza, Founding Executive Director of Roots Reborn and a founding coalition member of El Pueblo en Acción (EPA) Maui — *The People in Action Maui*. I am writing in **strong support of HB1886, HD1**, which establishes provisions limiting state and federal collaboration for purposes of immigration enforcement operations, establishes identification and facial coverings standards for state and federal law enforcement officers, establishes criminal offenses for improper facial coverings and lack of visible identification and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention.

Roots Reborn is a grassroots, immigrant-justice and disaster-response organization serving migrant and immigrant communities on Maui and across the state. Formed after the August 2023 wildfires, our team has worked alongside families through every phase of recovery by providing aid, navigating systems, and building community trust that remains the foundation of our work today.

Since early 2024, we've kicked into action to meet this new man-made disaster head-on, responding to the fear and confusion caused by federal enforcement activity. Through EPA Maui, we coordinate a community tipline and rapid response network. To date, we have:

- Distributed over 3,500 Know Your Rights flyers
- Trained more than 700 residents through workshops
- Provided 50+ trainings to health, education, business, and faith sectors
- Responded to over 450 community calls regarding enforcement activity
- Trained over 60 volunteer observers in verification, de-escalation, and peaceful documentation

We have repeatedly documented incidents involving masked, unidentified federal agents employing excessive force and refusing to identify themselves. These actions have sown fear across our islands with parents afraid to take children to school, patients delaying medical care, and survivors of domestic violence scared to call for help. *When enforcement loses transparency, trust in all law enforcement erodes and undermines community safety for everyone.*

HB1886, HD2 is a measured and necessary response. It restores clarity, accountability, and the public's trust by requiring identifiable officers and clarifying that warrantless arrests by federal officials are treated as actions in their individual capacity under state law, allowing appropriate accountability when rights are violated. These safeguards better protect both civil rights and public safety.

For the sake of our communities and the integrity of law enforcement, we **respectfully urge you to pass HB1886, HD2**.

Sinceramente,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Veronica Mendoza', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Veronica Mendoza

Maui Roots Reborn, *Founding Executive Director*
El Pueblo en Accion Maui, *Founding Coalition Member*



**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF
HB1886, HD2 – RELATING TO GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
HB2540, HD2 – RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT**

**Committee on Public Safety and
Military Affairs**

Sen. Carol Fukunaga, Chair
Sen. Chris Lee, Vice Chair

**Committee on Energy and
Intergovernmental Affairs**

Sen. Glenn Wakai, Chair
Sen. Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 23, 2026 | Letter Date: March 22, 2026

Dear Chairs Fukunaga and Wakai, Vice Chairs Lee and Chang, and Members:

The Legal Clinic (TLC) strongly supports HB1886, HD2, and HB2540, HD2, two measures that draw clear boundaries on state and county collaboration with federal civil immigration enforcement and reinforce safety and constitutional protections for all Hawai`i residents. These goals are among the highest priorities of the Campaign for Immigrant Justice (CIJ) this legislative session. TLC is a nonprofit organization that advances immigrant justice statewide through legal services, education, and advocacy; we also serve on the CIJ steering committee alongside the Hawai`i Coalition for Immigrant Rights and the American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai`i.

HB1886, HD2 establishes firm limits on state-federal cooperation – prohibiting assistance in civil immigration enforcement, restricting state deputization of federal officers and joint task force participation, and strengthening oversight of any criminal law enforcement cooperation by requiring written, time-limited agreements subject to Attorney General review. The bill also creates enforceable transparency standards requiring visible identification and restricting the use of facial coverings by law enforcement officers, with narrowly tailored safety exceptions and misdemeanor penalties for violations. Importantly, the bill additionally establishes criminal penalties for unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention, ensuring that constitutional safeguards are meaningful and enforceable.

HB2540, HD2 complements this framework by restricting the use of state resources to assist federal immigration enforcement; requiring law enforcement agencies to adopt and publicly post written civil immigration enforcement policies; restricting immigration enforcement activity at sensitive community locations; limiting the collection of immigration-related personal data; and requiring public reporting of civil immigration requests. Like HB1886, HD2 this measure limits state deputization of federal officers, places guardrails on criminal law enforcement agreements and participation in joint task forces, prohibits officers from initiating or prolonging stops solely to investigate civil immigration status and clarifies that reasonable suspicion may not be based on race, ethnicity, language, or other protected characteristics. The Department of Law Enforcement is directed to assist state and county agencies in maintaining compliance.

Both bills offer provisions that restrict state and county participation in civil immigration operations and joint federal-state task forces or activities that exceed statutory authority or risk violating constitutional rights. Both bills promote transparency and accountability in law enforcement. Because these bills and others pending before the Legislature this session address overlapping subjects and amend related chapters of the Hawai`i Revised Statutes, TLC respectfully recommends harmonizing these measures to strengthen implementation, reinforce safeguards on constitutional rights, and provide clear guidance to agencies and officers.

We appreciate the Legislature's leadership in carefully examining how state and county resources are used, how law enforcement accountability can be strengthened, and how trust between communities and local law enforcement institutions can be protected - particularly in this national moment of intensifying federal immigration enforcement and documented violations of constitutional rights. These important measures reflect Hawai`i's commitment to safety, dignity, and due process for all residents, and TLC stands ready to support their effective implementation.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of The Legal Clinic
and Board President Amefil Agbayani,



Christina Sablan
Community & Policy Advocate



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hicoalitionforimmigrantrights@gmail.com

Testimony of Liza Ryan-Gill In SUPPORT of HB1886 HD2 Relating to Government Operations

Senate Joint Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs (PSM) and Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs (EIG)

Senator Carol Fukunaga, PSM Chair | Senator Chris Lee, PSM Vice Chair Senator Glenn Wakai, EIG Chair | Senator Stanley Chang, EIG Vice Chair

Hearing Date: Monday, March 23, 2026

Aloha Chairs Fukunaga and Wakai, Vice Chairs Lee and Chang, and Members of the Committees on Public Safety and Military Affairs and Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs,

My name is Liza Ryan-Gill, and I submit this testimony in **support of HB1886 HD2**, which establishes provisions limiting state and county collaboration with federal authorities for immigration enforcement operations, requires visible identification by state and federal law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits the use of facial coverings by law enforcement with defined exceptions, and establishes criminal offenses for improper facial coverings, lack of visible identification, and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention.

I am the Executive Director of the Hawai‘i Coalition for Immigrant Rights (HCIR), and I am testifying on behalf of HCIR. HCIR is a coalition of more than 30 immigrant-serving and immigrant-led organizations across the pae ‘āina working to advance policies that protect immigrant and migrant communities and strengthen Hawai‘i as a place where all families can thrive.

Visibility and Accountability Are Core Public Safety Principles

HCIR strongly supports HB1886 HD2 because it is a comprehensive public safety, accountability, and transparency measure. When law enforcement officers are unidentifiable, accountability disappears. Residents cannot tell who is exercising authority over them, communities cannot distinguish legitimate officers from impersonators, and fear and confusion escalate in already high-stress situations. Visible identification and clear limits on facial coverings are basic, common-sense safeguards that protect the public and protect responsible officers by reducing dangerous ambiguity during public-facing encounters. The criminal offense provisions in HD2 matter because they make these standards enforceable, not merely aspirational



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— officers who violate the public trust while exercising police power should be held accountable under the law, not just through internal disciplinary processes.

These safeguards are especially important for immigrant communities and others who may already be hesitant to engage with law enforcement. When people cannot tell whether an armed individual is a legitimate officer, a federal immigration agent, or someone falsely impersonating law enforcement, trust breaks down. That harms public safety for everyone. Los Angeles County's own legislative findings for its 2025 ordinance explain that obscured faces heighten fear and intimidation, can increase defensive behavior and conflict, and create a greater risk of false personation by imposters. The County also found that visible identification promotes transparency, safety, and trust in officer-community interactions.

Addressing State and County Collaboration With Federal Immigration Enforcement

HB1886 HD2 also addresses a separate but equally important issue: the role of state and county agencies in federal immigration enforcement. When local agencies are drawn into civil immigration operations, immigrant families become less likely to report crimes, cooperate as witnesses, or seek emergency help. Clear limits on state and county collaboration — including a requirement that new or renewed agreements with federal law enforcement agencies receive prior written approval from the Attorney General — help ensure that local institutions remain focused on local public safety responsibilities rather than functioning as an extension of federal civil immigration enforcement. That distinction is essential to maintaining community trust.

The bill also contains a critical protection against the misuse of such agreements: it prohibits them from being used to conduct surveillance, gather data on, or investigate domestic terrorism and organized political violence in furtherance of National Security Presidential Memorandum-7 objectives. This ensures that Hawai'i's law enforcement infrastructure cannot be weaponized against communities exercising their First Amendment rights.

The "Personal Capacity" Provision Closes a Real Loophole

HD2 amends HRS § 803-5 to provide that federal law enforcement officers who make warrantless arrests shall be deemed to have acted in their personal capacity for purposes of that statute. This is a legally sound and necessary protection. Federal agents operating without judicial warrants have been asserting state law authority to justify civil immigration arrests. This provision clarifies that state law cannot be used to legitimize enforcement actions that lack proper judicial authorization. It does not prevent federal officers from acting within their lawful federal authority — it simply closes the door to misuse of Hawai'i state law.

Hawai'i Would Not Be Acting Alone



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Other jurisdictions have already adopted similar accountability rules. California signed SB 627 on September 20, 2025, creating statewide limits on masked law enforcement operations and requiring agencies to adopt written policies restricting unnecessary face coverings, with specified exemptions. Los Angeles County then adopted Ordinance No. 2025-0060 on December 9, 2025, prohibiting law enforcement officers in unincorporated areas from concealing their identities and requiring visible identification and agency affiliation.

Those measures were not adopted in the abstract. In its December 2, 2025 motion supporting the Los Angeles County ordinance, the Board was explicit: since the start of ICE raids in early June 2025, federal agents had arrested at least 5,000 purportedly undocumented people in the County, often wearing plainclothes or tactical gear while concealing their identities with masks or balaclavas. County officials concluded this created confusion, incited fear, and undermined public trust. Hawai'i has the opportunity to act before similar harms become normalized here.

Responding to Law Enforcement Concerns

We are aware that the Honolulu Police Department and the Department of Law Enforcement have raised concerns about whether identification requirements could compromise backup officers who support undercover operations. HB1886 HD2 already contains a narrowly tailored exception for undercover work. The House JHA Committee carefully considered whether to extend that exception further — to officers in support or perimeter roles — and correctly concluded that doing so would create a loophole large enough to undermine the rule's core purpose. Officers who are in a public-facing capacity — maintaining a perimeter, conducting arrests, or interacting with the public — are exactly the officers who should be identifiable. HCIR believes this balance is appropriate and urges the Committees to preserve it.

Conclusion

At its core, HB1886 HD2 is pro-community, pro-accountability, and pro-public safety. It affirms that government power must be exercised transparently, that people have a right to know who is detaining or questioning them, and that state and county resources should not be used in ways that erode community trust or blur the line between local public safety and federal civil immigration enforcement.

Together with HB2540 HD2, which addresses agency-level civil immigration enforcement policies and the Department of Law Enforcement compliance role, HB1886 HD2 forms the officer-level accountability component of a comprehensive statewide framework. PSM/EIG can and should advance both as essential pillars of the Campaign for Immigrant Justice package.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committees PASS HB1886 HD2.



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Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Liza Ryan Gill

Executive Director

Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights



Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs
Chair Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair Chris Lee

3/23/2026 @ 3:00 pm, CR 016 & Videoconference
HB1886 HD2— Inmates, Immigration Rights, Due Process

TESTIMONY

Stephen Munkelt, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Lee, and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports BILL NUMBER HB1886 HD2

HB 1886 HD2 is about preserving Hawaii’s constitutional autonomy, protecting residents from civil rights violations, and ensuring that the State does not entangle itself—legally, financially, or morally—in federal enforcement schemes that are opaque, discriminatory, and increasingly unaccountable.

Across the country, states and local governments have learned—often through costly litigation—that cooperation with federal law enforcement is not neutral. When state or county agencies lend personnel, data, facilities, or credibility to federal operations, they also absorb the downstream consequences: exposure to civil liability, erosion of community trust, and complicity in actions that violate constitutional norms. HB 1886 HD2 reflects a decision to draw principled boundaries around such cooperation.

HB 1886 HD2 rests squarely on the anti-commandeering doctrine, a foundational principle of American federalism. The United States Supreme Court has repeatedly held that while the federal government may enforce federal law, it may not compel states to use their resources, officers, or political subdivisions to do so. In *New York v. United States*, the Court made clear that Congress may not “commandeer the legislative processes of the States.”ⁱ In *Printz v. United States*, the Court extended that principle to state executive officials, holding that the federal government may not require state officers to administer or enforce a federal regulatory program.

Immigration enforcement is federal, governed by shifting priorities that state governments neither control nor supervise. When states entangle themselves in those efforts, they surrender authority over how their residents are policed while

remaining legally liable. HB 1886 HD2 affirms that Hawai'i will not be commandeered into service of federal programs that it does not direct and cannot meaningfully oversee. Federal courts have consistently upheld this choice. In *United States v. California*, the Ninth Circuit reaffirmed that states are under no obligation to assist with federal immigration enforcement and may affirmatively restrict the use of state resources for that purpose without violating the Supremacy Clause.

HB1886 HD2 also promotes public safety by preventing secret policing tactics and impersonation of law enforcement. HB1886 HD2 addresses this directly by requiring visible identification—name, agency, and unique badge number—and by requiring agencies to maintain publicly available written policies and ensure training for officers on these requirements. These are basic, common-sense accountability measures that protect the public and protect officers by reducing dangerous confusion during fast-moving encounters.

Hawai'i is not alone in pursuing this approach. California enacted the nation's first statewide "No Secret Police Act" (SB 627), which prohibits most law enforcement officers—including federal immigration agents operating in the state—from wearing identity-concealing facial coverings during operations, with carefully defined exceptions (e.g., undercover work, medical masks, hazardous conditions). A federal court invalidated part of California's law, but only because the restrictions did not apply equally to state and local law enforcement. HB1886 HD2 does not have this problem, and should survive court review.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Stephen Munkelt
League of Women Voters

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important Bill.

Stephen Munkelt
League of Woman Voters of Hawaii

**Testimony of Megahn Chun and Alejandro Villarino
In SUPPORT of HB1886 HD2**

Senate Joint Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs (PSM)
and Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs (EIG)

Senator Carol Fukunaga, PSM Chair | Senator Chris Lee, PSM Vice Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, EIG Chair | Senator Stanley Chang, EIG Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 23, 2026

Dear Chairs Fukunaga and Wakai, Vice Chairs Lee and Chang, and members of the Committees on Public Safety and Military Affairs and Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs,

Our names are Megahn Chun and Alejandro Villarino, and we submit this testimony in **support of HB1886 HD2**, which establishes provisions limiting state and county collaboration with federal authorities for immigration enforcement operations, requires visible identification by state and federal law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits the use of facial coverings by law enforcement (with defined exceptions), and establishes criminal offenses for improper facial coverings, lack of visible identification, and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention.

Mercado de la Raza is a Hawai‘i-based community marketplace that uplifts Latin American culture through food, small business, and community programming. We work closely with immigrant families and local entrepreneurs, creating a space that fosters connection, cultural exchange, and economic opportunity.

HB1886 HD2 is a comprehensive accountability and transparency measure. When law enforcement officers are unidentifiable, accountability disappears — and communities cannot tell state officers from federal civil immigration agents. The visible identification and facial covering standards protect everyone: residents who have the right to know who is exercising authority over them, and responsible officers who benefit from clear rules and public trust. The SD2 criminal offense provisions ensure these standards are enforceable, not just aspirational.

The state-federal collaboration limits directly address the fear that drives immigrant communities away from institutions: when residents know local law enforcement is not operating as an extension of federal civil immigration enforcement, they are more willing to report crime, cooperate as witnesses, and seek emergency help. California’s No Secret Police Act (effective Jan. 2026) shows this approach is working at the national level. PSM/EIG can advance Hawai‘i’s version toward final passage.

For these reasons, we respectfully request that the Committees **PASS HB1886 HD2**.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Megahn Chun and Alejandro Villarino
Mercado de la Raza
808.593.2226

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2026 9:04:20 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Badia Muhammad	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We don't want masked mystery agents walking among our community. If you are proud of terror you impose, show your face and identify yourself!

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2026 9:21:07 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Lum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Jen Lum and I strongly support [H.B. 2540 / H.B. 1886], which bans extreme masking by law enforcement, requires that officers visibly identify themselves, and limits state and county law enforcement’s cooperation with federal immigration enforcement.

In Minnesota and throughout the continent, we have witnessed the growing police force that the Trump administration is building employ secret police tactics, including ordering masked law enforcement agencies and military troops into cities. Federal agents are taking our immigrant neighbors. In Hawai‘i, we have seen this occur in Kaua‘i, for example.

We are all less safe when masked agents are in our streets. When people fear law enforcement, they are less likely to report crimes, seek help, or cooperate with law enforcement. Additionally, the lack of identification makes it difficult for ordinary people, local law enforcement, and public officials to differentiate genuine law enforcement actions from impersonators exploiting the situation to harm our community members. It also makes it difficult to identify who is behind operations that may employ aggressive tactics, result in constitutional violations, or cause community harm.

We must also prevent our local law enforcement from being co-opted into federal law enforcement operations that are ripping our neighbors away from their families and hurting our communities. Our state and local policies should ensure our law enforcement agencies do not support this gross federal overreach.

I believe that this legislation is a step towards real community safety and trust. It is our kuleana to protect our neighbors’ right to live without fear.

Mahalo,

Jen Lum, ‘Ewa Beach

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 12:00:23 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
William Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the committee,

I am writing in **strong support of HB1886**, which would establish clear standards for state and federal law enforcement collaboration, require visible identification, and restrict the use of facial coverings by officers. This bill is a common-sense measure to strengthen public trust, ensure accountability, and keep local resources focused on local priorities.

Visible identification and clear rules reduce fear and confusion. When law enforcement officers are easily identifiable—both by their uniforms and their vehicles—it builds public confidence and de-escalates potentially tense encounters. HB1886 ensures that residents can immediately know who is interacting with them and why, replacing uncertainty with transparency.

The bill prevents impersonation risk and strengthens accountability. By establishing clear standards for identification and prohibiting anonymous law enforcement activity, HB1886 closes the door on impersonation and misconduct. These are enforceable rules that encourage de-escalation and ensure that officers are answerable for their actions.

It creates enforceable standards that discourage anonymous law enforcement activity. Law enforcement should never operate in the shadows. By requiring visible identification and restricting facial coverings, this bill ensures that officers are present and accountable in the communities they serve.

Finally, HB1886 clarifies boundaries so local resources stay focused on local public safety priorities. Hawai'i's county and state law enforcement agencies have their hands full keeping our communities safe. They should not be drawn into federal immigration enforcement operations that divert time, personnel, and resources away from their core mission. This bill makes those boundaries clear, allowing our officers to focus on what matters most: protecting Hawai'i's families.

HB1886 is not about obstructing federal law enforcement. It is about ensuring that when law enforcement operates in our communities—whether state or federal—they do so openly, accountably, and with the trust of the people they serve.

I urge you to pass this bill. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 12:31:08 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brodie Lockard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 5:43:00 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Younghee Overly	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for this opportunity to support HB1886 which limits state and federal collaboration for purposes of immigration enforcement operations.

Younghee Overly, a member of Indivisible Hawaii

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 11:03:59 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mariana Monasi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing to you in strong support of this bill. For more than a year now, we have watched insurrectionists, racist pardoned felons, and white supremacists cover up their faces and terrorize communities across the United States. There is nothing worse that the government can do than to violently attack any resident expressing anti-fascist sentiment, and providing impunity and protection to all of those doing the harm while they wear masks. Terrorizing residents across the country while masked is nothing but cowards avoiding accountability. This bill would create real consequences for the oligarchy's secret police. Please protect Hawai'i residents and don't let accountability for violence and racism run rampant in Hawai'i.

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 11:22:03 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James E Raymond	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you. I am a member of Indivisible Windward.

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 11:58:19 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Roger Hamada	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Let us help our local law enforcement maintain their integrity and boost public confidence in their protect and serve functions by passing HB1886.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of HB1886.

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 1:11:40 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Larry Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,
Please pass this Bill

Mahalo

Larry Smith

Indivisible

HD 27

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 2:14:41 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kehaulani Coleman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 9:25:15 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jesse Hutchison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you!

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 9:51:39 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gaye Chan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Over the past year, I have been watching the erosion of due process across the US. I am very concerned that federal agents have arrested, detained and deported people under the scope of Trump’s immigration crackdown. They have done this with impunity, regardless of proof, legal status, including those who are citizens. I have seen the horrible conditions at detention camps. I have read about individuals who have been detained for nearly a year without being charged with anything at all. I have watched video after video of federal agents hurting, and even killing people. Including hurting and killing those who have done nothing except protecting their neighbors, and documenting immigration operations. What is even more concerning is how governmental officers, including the president, blatantly lie about the victims, contradicting the facts that we clearly see with our own eyes.

Because of all of this, many of us are living in a state of constant vigilance and fear. Some are afraid to leave their homes or go to the doctors to receive needed care. With the potential of unidentified, and masked agents who may appear at any moment and do whatever they want without any accountability, we must be able to count on local law enforcement more than ever before.

Because of all of this, HPD must not collaborate nor have any role in immigration operations or share any information about us with those Federal agencies. This Bill is one way to ensure this issue.

I live in Kahalu‘u, and my 97-year-old mom is at a foster care home on School Street in Kalihi. In both neighborhoods, there is drugs, gangs, and domestic violence. In Kahalu‘u, we also have illegal cock and even dog fighting, which comes with gambling and more drugs. Our safety requires that all our neighbors are willing to call on local law enforcement as we need to. We need a hard line drawn so that our neighbors are not afraid. None of us should think that by calling, we might make ourselves, our extended family, or our circle of friends vulnerable to being targeted or racially profiled. If there is collaboration, the growing climate of fear will undoubtedly result in an environment where criminality reigns and an erosion of trust for local law enforcement.

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 9:58:42 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tim Huycke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I very strongly support HB1886. State-certified police officers have no authority enforcing violations of federal law, such as immigration. Local law enforcement is busy enough dealing with issues they do have authority over.

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 5:02:35 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nancy D Moser	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 6:31:30 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
maile nakano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please limit local collaboration with ICE. It does not make our community safer or stronger or helps build trust. Show aloha.

Mahalo, Maile from Honolulu

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair

Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair

Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

HEARING:

Monday, March 23, 2026 at 3:00 pm

Conference Room 016 & Videoconference

TESTIMONY IN **SUPPORT** OF HB 1886, HD 2 - RELATING TO GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS.

Aloha Chair Fukunaga, Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Lee, Vice Chair Chang, Senator Hashimoto for my Maui district, Senator DeCoite of Maui, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Christine Andrews and I am a long-term resident of Wailuku, Maui. I am also an attorney licensed in the state of Hawaii for over 25 years and a founding coalition member of El Pueblo en Acción (EPA) Maui – The People in Action Maui. I am writing in **strong support of HB 1886, HD2**, Relating to Government Operations, which establishes provisions limiting state and federal collaboration for purposes of civil immigration enforcement operations, establishes identification and facial coverings standards for state and federal law enforcement officers, establishes criminal offenses for improper facial coverings and lack of visible identification and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention.

I am a volunteer Know Your Rights and constitutional protector trainer and educator statewide. I have helped train teachers and students, business owners and union members, faith leaders and health care providers, parents and senior citizens on what their constitutional rights are, that these rights apply to all within the United States, regardless of citizenship status, and how to ensure these rights are not violated. I have also trained them how to prepare themselves, their staff, and their places of work and community service for interactions with federal agents.

The images we have seen on the news and in social media of aggressive, untrained, and violent unmasked, unbadged persons attacking citizens and noncitizens alike is eroding trust in law enforcement and our government. In my capacity as a volunteer educator, I have heard concerns that victims of sexual and domestic violence, some of our most vulnerable community members, are afraid to call local law enforcement for assistance because they fear law enforcement may detain them for federal immigration violations. I have heard from health care providers that fear of lawless, violent, unmasked and unidentified persons is making people afraid to leave their homes to seek necessary medical care. In my work as a know your rights educator, I have to try to convince people that our local law enforcement are not engaged in immigration enforcement. It is important for us to have legislative protections to ensure that our local law enforcement focus their time and resources on public safety and do not collaborate with federal immigration enforcement operations. Doing so would **break public trust and interfere with the relationship between local law enforcement and the community it serves. That is why I so strongly support HB 1886, HD2.**

As a lawyer with an understanding of the Constitution and who has taken an oath to uphold it and the rule of law, what I am witnessing nationwide is chilling. Seeing images of the murder of people engaged in lawful, constitutionally-protected activity has impacted my mental health. As a woman and mother, I am afraid of being targeted by unmasked, unbadged government agents or imposters. I am afraid that they will take my picture and find out who I am, where I live, and come to my house and harm not just myself but my loved ones. Just yesterday during a training I was conducting, an audience member asked what constitutional observers like me can do to protect themselves from being targeted by federal agents. I said that there really is not much we can do other than

rely on our community, document the truth, and hope that the courts and the law will protect us as we peaceably engage in constitutionally-protected activity. Our fear is justified based on the unlawful and violent behavior we are witnessing from federal agents. Behavior that is so egregious that federal agents wear masks and refuse to wear identification because of their shame of their behavior and of their desire to terrorize our communities. **It is important to public safety and trust that law enforcement not mask their identities and refuse to identify themselves to hide from accountability to the public they serve. That is why I so strongly support HB 1886, HD2.**

Federal agents take photos of people and use name-recognition software to identify them. They take photos of license plates to learn the identity of and track constitutional observers as well as noncitizens. I would ask that this bill be amended to ensure that law enforcement does not share license-plate identifying or tracking technology with federal immigration enforcement agencies. It would be one protective step that could help protect not just me, I have chosen to assume the risk, but my family members who live with me. I should not have to fear hostile and lawless agents tracking my activities and endangering the community members I serve. **The goal of the federal executive administration is to frighten people into silence. That is why federal agents wear masks and refuse to identify themselves.** I almost hesitated to submit testimony in support of this bill for fear of retaliation. This is how far we have fallen in the direction of authoritarianism, that people like me fear speaking up for basic, civil protections such as unmasked and properly-identified federal agents. Fortunately, I am not alone.

I, like millions of others, have chosen to stand up for and protect my neighbors and community members. People like me are being killed for it. Yet I am undeterred by the deaths of Renne Goode and Alex Pretti. I am inspired and millions are standing alongside me. **The government agents who killed Alex Pretti felt empowered to engage in violence openly and with impunity because they felt protected from accountability because they were masked and unidentified.** This bill provides important protection for volunteers like me and for community members who no longer trust their law enforcement agents of any kind.

I request that you support HB 1886, HD2 and help restore rule of law, instill respect on the part of law enforcement, and rebuild trust in government.

In honor of Alex Pretti and Rene Goode.

Christine L. Andrews, J.D.

Wailuku, Maui

Volunteer Know Your Rights Educator and Constitutional Observer

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 1:45:08 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Denize Machit	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please protect our marginalized communities from this deplorable federal government. We shouldn't need this bill, but here we are.

Anonymous or obscured policing undermines public trust and can increase fear and confusion. HB1886 HD1 creates enforceable standards for identification, accountability, and guardrails on state collaboration with immigration enforcement operations.

Communities are safer when residents trust they can report crimes, seek help, and access services without intimidation. Clear rules on identification and limits on unauthorized immigration interrogation reduce risk of profiling, abuse, and impersonation—while still allowing narrowly tailored safety exceptions.

Mahalo for allowing me to express my opinion.

Denize Machit

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 3:49:06 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gail Morrison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill makes communities safer because it allows residents to trust they can report crimes, seek help, and access services without intimidation. Clear rules on identification and limits on unauthorized immigration interrogation reduce risk of profiling, abuse, and impersonation—while still allowing narrowly tailored safety exceptions.

I support this bill.

Gail Morrison, Honolulu

Eileen Cain
720 Mahi'ai St., Apt. E
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96826-5635
eileencaïn808@gmail.com
March 18, 2026

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair, Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs
Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair, Senate Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs

Aloha, Senators,

I am submitting testimony in Favor of HB1886 HD2, Relating to Government Operations.

Law enforcement officers in Hawai'i must be required to respect and uphold all laws related to **Due Process and any other aspects of residents' civil rights**. Limits are needed regarding what Hawai'i law enforcement officers may do when it comes to collaborating with federal agents. Human rights must be respected.

Arrests and Due Process: Arresting officers in Hawai'i (and elsewhere) need to be **legally required to identify themselves. Hiding their identity is un-American.** Wearing black masks is no better than the wearing of white hoods by the Ku Klux Klan to hide their identities. **If arresting officers are legitimate, they need to be identified and identifiable.**

Officers cannot be permitted to hide their identity when they make an arrest and then claim that they do so for "privacy." (They only get to have privacy when they're not working.) The gestapo-like tactics that have been used during immigration raids are un-American. We in Hawai'i need to know who is making an arrest and what the charges are, and that the arrest is carried out with a warrant signed by a judge.

Due Process is also guaranteed under the Constitution for everyone. If anyone is denied due process, then everyone could lose their right to due process. We are all at risk. Everyone has a right to legal counsel and a chance to plead their case, just as Donald Trump himself had when he was charged with crimes. He always had due process.

Please vote for HB1886 HD2.

Mahalo,

Eileen Cain,

Mō'ili'ili, Honolulu, Hawai'i

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/19/2026 1:49:07 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a citizen. I was born in the United States. It is a shame that it has come to this. But after watching ICE and the rest of Trump's goons in Minneapolis, I believe that this bill is necessary law. I strongly support HB2540 and ask you to move it forward.

lynne matusow

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 11:47:04 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Strongly Oppose this proposal. Next year the Legislator will be proposing a law on what kind of underwear law enforcement officers need to wear. Sound ludicrous? Yup, so is this proposal.

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 3:00:28 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nandita Sharma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing to convey my strongest possible support for this Bill.

It is absolutely unacceptable for any law enforcement agent in the state of Hawaii to work while masked and unidentifiable. It creates enormous distrust and sows fear in the community. It also creates a political climate of repression. There is no good reason to allow law enforcement agents - state or federal - to be masked for the purpose of hiding their identity.

The claims that this is necessary so that agents are not "doxxed" is a total fabrication used to justify unacceptable behaviour. DHS has not shown an iota of evidence that there has been an increase in "doxxing" of federal agents since Trump began his violent, anti-immigrant crackdown.

For this Bill not to pass would be an indication of a willingness to participate in authoritarian, repressive political behaviour by state officials.

Be brave. Do the right thing. Pass this bill.

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 3:38:11 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thaddeus Pham	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Fukunaga and Chair Wakai and PSM and EIG Committee Members,

As a citizen concerned with public safety, I write in **strong support of HB1886 HD2**, which establishes provisions limiting state and county collaboration with federal authorities for immigration enforcement operations, requires visible identification by state and federal law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits the use of facial coverings by law enforcement (with defined exceptions), and establishes criminal offenses for improper facial coverings, lack of visible identification, and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention.

As a state, we should have law enforcement measures that engender trust and accountability. Otherwise, our systems diminish, rather than bolster, public safety.

HB1886 HD2 is a comprehensive accountability and transparency measure. When law enforcement officers are unidentifiable, accountability disappears — and communities cannot tell state officers from federal civil immigration agents. The visible identification and facial covering standards protect everyone: residents who have the right to know who is exercising authority over them, and responsible officers who benefit from clear rules and public trust. The SD2 criminal offense provisions ensure these standards are enforceable, not just aspirational.

The state-federal collaboration limits directly address the fear that drives immigrant communities away from institutions: when residents know local law enforcement is not operating as an extension of federal civil immigration enforcement, they are more willing to report crime, cooperate as witnesses, and seek emergency help. California’s No Secret Police Act (effective Jan. 2026) shows this approach is working at the national level. PSM/EIG can advance Hawai‘i’s version toward final passage.

Please **PASS HB1886 HD2**, so we can ensure safety for our local communities.

Mahalo,

Thaddeus Pham

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/20/2026 3:44:46 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Randy Wong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support HB 1886 HD2. Our communities, and especially our youth, should not have to live in fear of secret police and aggressive/hostile behavior. We should instead be promoting behaviors that engender and inspire societal trust, respect due process, and protect safe/inclusive spaces; including the constitutional rights of freedom of speech and freedom of assembly, both which are connected to creative expression and community engagement. A loss of these rights, along with fear and mistrust, threatens our democracy and more.

R.Kana'iaupuni Gomes
Email: rkgomes@gmail.com

Phone: 808-348-4074

March 20, 2026

Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair
Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair
And Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs
Hawai'i State Legislature

Re: Strong Support for HB1886 HD2 – Relating to Government Operations

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing as a private, concerned citizen to express my strong support for HB1886 HD2, Relating to Government Operations. This bill thoughtfully strengthens civil rights protections, improves transparency in law enforcement, and sets clear limits on state and county participation in federal immigration enforcement operations.

HB1886 HD2 creates a new chapter in the Hawai'i Revised Statutes on state and federal collaboration that limits state and county assistance with immigration enforcement operations, except where expressly required by federal or state law. It ensures that public employees and law enforcement officers do not use state time, money, facilities, equipment, or personnel to support immigration enforcement that targets people for their speech, assembly, petitioning activity, or for seeking humanitarian or legal assistance. The bill also prohibits state involvement in immigration enforcement operations at or near schools, health care facilities, courthouses, and places of worship, protecting community access to essential services and justice.

The measure appropriately separates local law enforcement from routine civil immigration enforcement and restricts participation in federal task forces and joint operations that could lead to racial profiling, unlawful surveillance, excessive force, or unlawful detention. By requiring any criminal-law collaboration agreements with federal authorities to be in writing, time-limited to two years, include civil-rights training, and receive review and approval by the attorney general, the bill promotes careful oversight and consistent adherence to Hawai'i constitutional and statutory protections.

HB1886 HD2 also advances transparency and accountability by requiring law enforcement officers, including applicable federal officers operating in Hawai‘i, to display visible identification—name, agency, and badge or identification number—on their outermost garment in public interactions. It appropriately limits the use of facial coverings that conceal identity, while preserving clear exceptions for tactical operations, undercover work, hazardous environmental conditions, exigent emergencies, necessary protective gear, and certain safety-related equipment. These provisions help community members identify officers, report misconduct, and build trust with the many officers who serve responsibly and honorably.

Importantly, the bill establishes meaningful consequences when officers violate these standards. It creates criminal sanctions for improper facial coverings and lack of visible identification, and removes privileges and immunities for certain tortious conduct, such as assault, false arrest, or false imprisonment, committed while an officer has concealed their identity in violation of the law, with statutory damages of at least \$10,000.

HB1886 HD2 also creates a Class C felony for unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention when an officer acts beyond lawful authority to enforce civil immigration status without reasonable suspicion based on specific and articulable facts, and makes clear that reasonable suspicion cannot be based solely on a person’s race, ethnicity, national origin, language, religion, or exercise of constitutional rights. These accountability provisions deter abuse and signal that Hawai‘i will not tolerate violations of personal liberties under the cover of anonymity or overreach.

I respectfully offer a few recommendations to strengthen the bill further. First, the current effective date of July 1, 3000 delays these protections indefinitely. I encourage the Committee to amend the effective date to a realistic and prompt date, such as July 1, 2026, so that communities and law enforcement agencies can benefit from these safeguards in the near term.

Second, to help officers and agencies implement the new standards consistently, the Legislature may wish to direct the attorney general to issue guidance and training materials on the limits of participation in immigration enforcement, the new felony for unauthorized civil immigration enforcement, and the criteria for determining when agreements with federal authorities are inconsistent with state law.

Finally, the Committee might consider requiring periodic review and public reporting by the attorney general on the implementation of this chapter, including any conflicts with federal agreements and recommended adjustments to data-sharing and task-force participation to ensure that collaboration with federal partners does not undermine the bill’s protections.

With these adjustments and even in its current form, HB1886 HD2 represents a strong and necessary commitment to civil rights, community trust, and transparent, accountable policing in Hawai'i. It clarifies roles between state and federal authorities, protects vulnerable communities from being swept into immigration enforcement for exercising fundamental rights, and ensures that officers who serve the public do so openly and within the bounds of the law.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of HB1886 HD2. I respectfully urge you to pass this measure out of committee.

Sincerely,

R.Kana'iaupuni Gomes

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 7:49:42 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Cuthbert	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony.

I am writing to support HB1886 HD2 both personally and as a member of East Hawai'i Indivisible. HB1886 HD2 would prohibit Hawai'i law enforcement agencies from entering into an agreement to assist federal agencies with immigration enforcement as provided by 287(g) agreements. It also prohibits other actions by state or local law enforcement officials in aid of federal immigration enforcement.

This bill is necessary to assure that Hawai'i law enforcement agencies and personnel do not become squeezed between the wishes of their families, friends and neighbors and those of Federal immigration enforcement agencies. Those federal agencies can carry out their assignments without Hawai'i law enforcement being involved under 287(g) agreements. Additionally, Hawai'i law enforcement exists to protect and serve all who live in Hawai'i and to that end, trust between the community and police is all-important and must not be destroyed by operating under 287(g) agreements.

And, not only does this bill not require additional funding, it saves Hawai'i law enforcement in personnel and facilities costs incurred by participating under 287(g) agreements.

David Cuthbert, Pahoa

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 9:38:44 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kanani Kai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I SUPPORT HB1886.

Mahalo,

Kanani Kai

Member Indivisible Hawaii.

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 9:56:33 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

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-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 1:13:59 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessie L Gonsalves	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support limit collaboration with ICE

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 5:40:19 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nadine Dalton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony of Nadine Dalton

In STRONG SUPPORT of HB1886 HD2

Senate Joint Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs (PSM)

and Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs (EIG)

Senator Carol Fukunaga, PSM Chair | Senator Chris Lee, PSM Vice Chair

Senator Glenn Wakai, EIG Chair | Senator Stanley Chang, EIG Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 23, 2026

Dear Chairs Fukunaga and Wakai, Vice Chairs Lee and Chang, and members of the Committees on Public Safety and Military Affairs and Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs,

My name is Nadine, and I submit this testimony in support of HB1886 HD2, which establishes provisions limiting state and county collaboration with federal authorities for immigration enforcement operations, requires visible identification by state and federal law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits the use of facial coverings by law enforcement (with defined exceptions), and establishes criminal offenses for improper facial coverings, lack of visible identification, and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention.

I am a resident of Oahu and a parent of school-age children, testifying as an individual. I believe residents and visitors, regardless of citizenship, documentation, or reason for existing in Hawaii, **deserve the legal protection from the weaponization of the justice system.** I've seen firsthand the power of human beings with ill intent and a badge, and the effects can be devastating. We need laws to protect us all from the bad apples, and so do the people who work so hard to keep us safe.

Law enforcement holds extraordinary power over ordinary people. That power should be taken seriously. The provisions in this bill help ensure the safety, integrity, and high standards we all deserve, especially the immigrant community, which is being unfairly targeted all across

the nation, which I find horrific. Safety is paramount, and I do not want to see Hawaii suffer someday like Minnesota is right now. It may be a slim chance, but it's a chance nevertheless, and prevention and protection are key, yeah?

ICE is not what it used to be, and we need to protect people from the appaulingly corrupt situation that is a direct result of having a commander in chief who is a 39-count felon. Unskilled, untrained, ill-equipped randos have no business cosplaying as GI-Joe, but if they try it here, **please protect ALL immigrants** from people who choose to weaponize the system against them. Please.

HB1886 HD2 is a comprehensive accountability and transparency measure. When law enforcement officers are unidentifiable, accountability disappears — and communities cannot tell state officers from federal civil immigration agents. The visible identification and facial covering standards protect everyone: residents who have the right to know who is exercising authority over them, and responsible officers who benefit from clear rules and public trust. The SD2 criminal offense provisions ensure these standards are enforceable, not just aspirational.

The state-federal collaboration limits directly address the fear that drives immigrant communities away from institutions: when residents know local law enforcement is not operating as an extension of federal civil immigration enforcement, they are more willing to report crime, cooperate as witnesses, and seek emergency help. California's No Secret Police Act (effective Jan. 2026) shows this approach is working at the national level. PSM/EIG can advance Hawai'i's version toward final passage.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committees PASS HB1886 HD2.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Nadine

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 8:39:51 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheryl Bellamy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill.

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 8:55:39 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lily Troy MD	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I SUPPORT HB1886 - limit collaboration with ICE

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/21/2026 9:46:01 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Kau'i Young	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I wholeheartedly support HB1886 HD2. I support bills that:

- limit collaboration between ICE and local law enforcement,
- establish identification and facial covering standards, and
- create just penalties for violations.

me ka mana, Kau'i Young

To: Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair
Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair
Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair
Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair
Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs

From: Veronica Moore, Individual Citizen

Date: March 22, 2026

RE: House Bill 1886 HD2
Measure Title: RELATING TO GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS.
Report Title: Law Enforcement; State and County Law Enforcement; Federal Law
Enforcement; State and Federal Collaboration; Visible Identification; Facial
Coverings; Criminal Offenses

To All Concerned,

My name is Veronica Moore and I support House Bill 1886 HD2. Your consideration is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Veronica M. Moore

LATE

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 1:54:07 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Calvin Black	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a member of Indivisible. Thank you for supporting this bill.

LATE

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 1:59:43 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in support of HB1886 HD2 which will create guardrails to insure the independence and protection of state law enforcement and to create transparency and accountability for the public at large. Mahalo for your consideration

LATE

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/22/2026 2:49:38 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen Takamine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this bill! Do not let law enforcement hide their faces or identities. We need to hold them accountable for their actions and we can't do that if they're hiding. Thanks

Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1886 HD2

LATE

Senate Joint Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs (PSM)
and Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs (EIG)

Senator Carol Fukunaga, PSM Chair | Senator Chris Lee, PSM Vice Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, EIG Chair | Senator Stanley Chang, EIG Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 23, 2026

Dear Chairs Fukunaga and Wakai, Vice Chairs Lee and Chang, and members of the Committees on Public Safety and Military Affairs and Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs,

My name is Jeremiah Brown and I strongly support HB1886 HD2, which which establishes provisions limiting state and county collaboration with federal authorities for immigration enforcement operations, requires visible identification by state and federal law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits the use of facial coverings by law enforcement (with defined exceptions), and establishes criminal offenses for improper facial coverings, lack of visible identification, and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention.

In Minnesota and elsewhere, we have witnessed how the ICE and Border Patrol have been employing secret police tactics, including ordering masked law enforcement agencies and military troops into cities. Federal agents are terrorizing our immigrant neighbors.

HB1886 HD2 is important because public safety depends on trust and transparency. When people cannot identify who is exercising authority in a public space, fear and confusion increase, and the risk of abuse or impersonation grows. Clear identification standards help protect residents' rights and also protect responsible officers by ensuring accountability and reducing misunderstandings.

This measure also draws important guardrails around state and county involvement in civil immigration enforcement operations. Clear boundaries help prevent mission creep, reduce profiling risks, and ensure local resources remain focused on local public safety priorities—so victims and witnesses are not deterred from reporting crime or seeking help.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee **PASS HB1886 HD2**.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Jeremiah Brown
Waialua, Oahu

LATE

Testimony in Strong Support of HB1886 HD2

Aloha Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committees on PSM/EIG,

My name is Vivienne - I am a student at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, and I am testifying in **strong support of HB 1886 HD2.**

People should know who they are dealing with when law enforcement approaches them. The identification requirements in this bill make that possible. The bill includes exceptions for tactical and hazardous situations, so officer safety is not being set aside - transparency and safety are not sacrificed.

Local resources belong to local communities. When agencies are pulled into federal enforcement actions that separate families or make people afraid to go to a hospital or a school, that erodes the trust that public safety depends on. This bill sets a clear line: Hawai'i agencies will not be instruments of harm, while still allowing cooperation where the law requires it.

As a kama'āina and a student, I want to live in a place where constitutional protections mean something in practice, not just on paper. HB 1886 moves us in that direction.

Please support HB 1886.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Vivienne
Student, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
Aiea, HI 96701

LATE

HB-1886-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/23/2026 11:05:28 AM
Testimony for PSM on 3/23/2026 3:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Wassell	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Why it's important:

Anonymous or obscured policing undermines public trust and can increase fear and confusion. HB1886 HD1 creates enforceable standards for identification, accountability, and guardrails on state collaboration with immigration enforcement operations.

Why it matters:

Communities are safer when residents trust they can report crimes, seek help, and access services without intimidation. Clear rules on identification and limits on unauthorized immigration interrogation reduce risk of profiling, abuse, and impersonation—while still allowing narrowly tailored safety exceptions.

Please pass this bill.

JJ Wassell