



March 18, 2026

House Committee on Economic Development & Technology
Comments on SB 2057, SD2, Relating to Law Enforcement

Aloha Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey, and Members of the Committee:

The **State of Hawai'i Organization of Police Officers (SHOPO)** respectfully submits **comment on SB 2057, SD2**, which, prohibits law enforcement officers from using any personnel or funds originating in the State to assist or facilitate conduct by federal immigration agents that is for the purposes of civil immigration enforcement or exceeds their law enforcement duty or authority.

SHOPO recognizes the intent of SB 2057, SD2, to ensure that Hawai'i law enforcement officers operate within their legal authority and do not participate in federal immigration enforcement activities that could conflict with state law or constitutional protections. We appreciate the concern for protecting individual rights and maintaining clear boundaries for officers' duties.

At the same time, the bill introduces broad restrictions on collaboration with federal agencies, which could create uncertainty for officers in the field. Terms such as "exceeding their law enforcement duty or authority" or prohibitions on assisting with civil immigration enforcement are not clearly defined. Without more precise guidance, officers may face confusion when determining whether routine coordination, joint task forces, or requests for assistance fall within permissible activity.

SHOPO respectfully notes that cooperation between local, state, and federal law enforcement is often essential for addressing public safety concerns, including investigations that involve serious crime or threats to the community. While officers should not be required to act outside their scope, overly broad restrictions could unintentionally prevent them from participating in important public safety measures or responding effectively in critical situations. Clear definitions and guidance would help ensure officers can carry out their duties safely.

The more than 2,700 law enforcement officers who are members of SHOPO risk their lives every day to keep our islands safe. SHOPO is dedicated to protecting public safety. We strive to work in partnership with community members because, together, we can build stronger and safer neighborhoods. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

Respectfully submitted,

State of Hawai'i Organization of Police Officers (SHOPO)



**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2057 SD2
RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Ke Kōmike Hale o ka Ho‘omohala Waiwai a me ka ‘Enehana
(House Committee on Economic Development & Technology)

Ke Kapitala ‘o Hawai‘i
(Hawai‘i State Capitol)

Malaki 18, 2026

8:30AM

Lumi 423

Aloha e Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey, a me Members of Ke Kōmike Hale o ka Ho‘omohala Waiwai a me ka ‘Enehana:

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS SB2057 SD2** which limits the use of state and county law enforcement resources to assist federal immigration agents in civil immigration enforcement operations, operations targeting First Amendment protected activity, and immigration enforcement at or near schools, health facilities, places of worship, and courthouses. OHA appreciates the recent amendments clarifying the scope of the bill, defining key terms, and expressly preserving compliance with state law duties, judicial warrants, court orders, subpoenas, and mandatory information-sharing requirements under federal or state law.

OHA supports measures that protect free expression, preserve access to essential services, and maintain community trust in public institutions. This measure establishes clear guardrails to help ensure that residents can safely seek education, medical care, spiritual support, and court services without fear that these essential spaces will become sites of unrelated civil immigration enforcement. It also helps protect nonviolent speech, assembly, protest, and other First Amendment activity from improper enforcement entanglement.

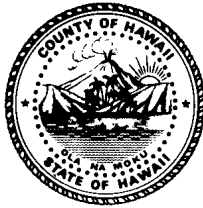
The recent amendments strengthen the bill by making clear that it does not interfere with legitimate state law enforcement responsibilities. Rather, it clarifies that state and county personnel and resources should not be used for discretionary federal civil immigration enforcement or to facilitate conduct that exceeds lawful authority. That distinction is important both for constitutional accountability and for the practical stewardship of limited local law enforcement resources.

For Kānaka Maoli, these issues must also be understood in historical context. Hawai‘i’s history demonstrates that government power exercised without clear limits can

have lasting consequences for civil liberties, community well-being, and public trust. Clear boundaries on enforcement cooperation help reinforce the principle that public institutions should serve the safety and dignity of the people of Hawai'i, not deter them from accessing core civic and community spaces. This measure promotes fairness, transparency, and trust while preserving legitimate law enforcement functions required by law. For these reasons, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs respectfully urges this Committee to **PASS SB2057 SD2.**

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

Jennifer Kagiwada
Council Member District 2 South Hilo



Office: (808) 961-8272
jennifer.kagiwada@hawaiicounty.gov

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL - DISTRICT 2

25 Aupuni Street • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

DATE: March 17, 2026
TO: House Committee on Economic Development & Technology
FROM: Jennifer Kagiwada, Council Member
Council District 2
SUBJECT: SB2057 SD2

Aloha Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey, and esteemed Committee Members,

I am writing in strong support of SB2057. Adding a new section to Chapter 139 is essential to creating a clear boundary between local law enforcement and federal immigration agents. This measure strengthens jurisdictional clarity protecting our state resources and ensures that state funds are used for state priorities. Without clear statutory limits, local law enforcement can gradually become optional partners in federal immigration enforcement, even when state law does not require such cooperation.

By clarifying these boundaries, we can ensure that local law enforcement remains focused on serving and protecting our communities under state law. Preventing any sort of mission drift and avoiding unnecessary entanglement in federal civil enforcement matters.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jenn Kagiwada".

Jenn Kagiwada

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2026 3:20:59 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bridget Llanes	Indivisible Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in strong support of SB2057 both personally and as a member of the Indivisible Hawaii State Network (IHSN). This Bill would add a section to Chapter 139 HRS prohibiting law enforcement from collaborating with federal agents in an operation seeking to penalize the exercise of First Amendment rights or constituting immigration enforcement.

We see daily examples of ICE, CBP and other DHS agents scooping people off the streets of America claiming immigration enforcement against “terrible criminals and really bad people” and disappearing them to facilities around the country. They are incarcerated, apparently in substandard facilities with inadequate sanitation and food, deprived of their due process rights, and too often shipped to foreign countries before any judicial process.

SB2057 puts a tool in Hawaii’s toolbox which protects our law enforcement personnel and funds from being dragooned into service of the unAmerican, unconstitutional violations of civil rights and basic standards of decency we are seeing fom federal agents. It’s the kind of law that you hope you never need, but if you do it could save lives and families. Pass this bill to keep Hawaii law enforcement from becoming involved in these activities for which they would later be held accountable.

Thank you for allowing the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Mahalo,

Bridget Llanes,

Waianae, Hawaii



MARCH 18, 2026

SENATE BILL 2057 SD2

CURRENT REFERRAL: ECD

808-679-7454
kris@imuaalliance.org
www.imuaalliance.org
@imuaalliance

Kris Coffield,
President

David Negaard,
Director

Mireille Ellsworth,
Director

Justin Salisbury,
Director

Eileen Roco,
Director

Beatrice DeRego,
Director

Corey Rosenlee,
Director

Amy Zhao,
*Policy and Partnerships
Strategist*

POSITION: SUPPORT

Imua Alliance supports SB 2057 SD2, relating to law enforcement, which prohibits law enforcement officers from using any personnel or funds originating in the State to assist or facilitate conduct by federal immigration agents that is for the purposes of civil immigration enforcement or exceeds their law enforcement duty or authority; and prohibits law enforcement officers from assisting or cooperating with or allowing resources to be used to facilitate federal immigration agents engaged in operations with the purpose of civil immigration enforcement or that target individuals or entities for activities protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution or immigration enforcement operations.

Imua Alliance is a Hawai‘i-based organization dedicated to ending sexual exploitation and gender-based violence, and ensuring survivors—regardless of immigration status—can access safety, services, and justice. Many victims of exploitation in the islands are migrants. To ensure their path to safety from sexual and gender harm, we must defend their fundamental rights.

The essential protections included in this bill reflect a longstanding principle of American federalism: states are not required to use their resources to carry out federal enforcement priorities. Courts have repeatedly recognized that the federal government cannot compel states to administer federal regulatory or enforcement programs, a doctrine commonly referred to as the anti-commandeering principle.

This proposal helps ensure that state resources are not used to facilitate enforcement actions that target activities protected under the First Amendment, including peaceful protest, free speech, and political organizing. The right to speak, assemble, and petition the government is foundational to a democratic society.

Across the country, civil rights organizations have documented instances in which federal enforcement actions—particularly during periods of protest or political mobilization—have raised concerns about surveillance, intimidation, and enforcement targeting constitutionally protected conduct. By ensuring that Hawai‘i’s law enforcement agencies cannot assist in operations that penalize protected speech or discriminate against vulnerable populations, this measure reinforces Hawai‘i’s commitment to civil liberties and democratic participation.

The bill also limits cooperation with immigration enforcement operations conducted in sensitive locations such as schools, hospitals, courthouses, and places of worship. These locations have historically been recognized as spaces where individuals must be able to access essential services without fear of immigration enforcement actions.

When immigration enforcement occurs in or near these spaces, families avoid seeking medical care, sending their children to educational institutions, or participating in legal proceedings due to fear of detention or deportation. This chilling effect undermines both public health and public safety. Policies limiting enforcement in sensitive locations have, therefore, been widely recognized as a way to ensure that communities can safely access essential services and participate fully in civic life.

The protections afforded through this measure are firmly grounded in constitutional principles governing the relationship between the federal government and the states. The United States Supreme Court has repeatedly held that the federal government cannot compel states or state officials to carry out federal enforcement programs, a principle known as the anti-commandeering doctrine derived from the Tenth Amendment.

Additionally, the Court has also clarified the relationship between federal immigration authority and state enforcement. In *Arizona v. United States* (2012), the Court struck down several provisions of

Arizona's immigration law because immigration enforcement is primarily a federal responsibility. At the same time, the decision reaffirmed that states retain discretion over how their own law enforcement resources are deployed and are not obligated to assist federal immigration enforcement.

Hawai'i is one of the most diverse states in the nation, and immigrant communities are deeply woven into the fabric of our islands. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, approximately 18 percent of Hawai'i residents are immigrants, and roughly one in five children in the state lives in a household with at least one immigrant parent. These families contribute to Hawai'i's workforce, cultural life, and economy across every sector, from health care and agriculture to tourism and lifelong learning.

Hawai'i has long embraced policies grounded in community trust, fairness, and respect for civil liberties. Maintaining clear lines between federal enforcement priorities and state law enforcement responsibilities upholds those values, while preserving Hawai'i's authority over the use of its own resources.

The people of Hawai'i should determine how state resources are used within our communities. By reaffirming those boundaries, the legislature can align our public safety policies with Hawai'i's traditions of mālama, mutual respect, and aloha for all.

With aloha,

Kris Coffield

President, Imua Alliance



COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TECHNOLOGY

Rep. Greggor Ilagan, Chair

Rep. Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

HEARING:

Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at 8:30 am

Via Videoconference and Conference Room 423

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2057, SD2 - RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT.

Aloha Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey, Rep. Yamashita 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 SB 2057, SD2**, which prohibits law enforcement agencies from using any personnel or funds originating in the state to assist or facilitate conduct by federal agents that exceeds their statutory duty or authority, and prohibits law enforcement officers from assisting or cooperating with or allowing resources to be used to facilitate federal agents engaged in operations that target individuals or entities for activities protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution or immigration enforcement operations.

Roots Reborn is a grassroots immigrant justice and disaster-response organization formed in the aftermath of the 2023 Maui wildfires. Since then, we have become essential infrastructure for immigrant residents navigating recovery, housing instability, and federal policy shifts. Trust is the foundation of safety in our communities — and today, that trust is eroding under the fear of federal overreach. Families skip work and school; patients decline medical care; congregants stay home from church. We hear from survivors of violence, including women and children, who are now afraid to seek help from local police.

SB 2057, SD2 is critical to restore confidence that Hawai'i's law enforcement serves and protects our communities — not federal operations that violate constitutional rights.

Our coalition's volunteer observers, trained to lawfully and peacefully document enforcement activity in public spaces, do so to promote transparency and accountability, values central to democracy. The tragic deaths of Renee Good and Alex Pretti, volunteer observers killed by federal agents in Minneapolis, underscore the stakes. Their story was told only because other observers were present to record the incident — a right protected under the First Amendment.

We are increasingly concerned about data-sharing between local law enforcement and federal agencies that could expose observers or community members to intimidation. Reports from the continent describe the use of facial recognition and license plate data to track and target individuals engaged in constitutionally protected activity. SB 2057, SD2 offers needed guardrails to prevent such misuse of local resources and protect both residents and those who defend their rights.

We urge your support for SB 2057, SD2. Protecting local autonomy, civil rights, and community trust strengthens public safety for all.

Sinceramente and in memory of Renee Good and Alex Pretti,

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*



Cade Watanabe, Financial Secretary-Treasurer

Gemma G. Weinstein, President

Eric W. Gill, Senior Vice-President

March 16, 2026

House Committee on Economic Development and Technology
Rep. Greggor Ilagan, Chair
Rep. Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

Testimony in Strong Support of SB 2057

Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey, and Committee Members:

UNITE HERE Local 5 represents 10,000 working people in the hotel, food service and health care industries across Hawaii. The experiences of our sister locals elsewhere in the U.S., including Minneapolis, Los Angeles, and Washington DC, make clear to us that it is necessary to take action to rein in ICE and DHS across the country.

We do not want our union members, their families, or anyone else in our community to be targeted, terrorized, assaulted, kidnapped, or killed by government agents or anyone else. We do not want their rights to be violated. All people should be treated with respect and dignity.

We urge your support of SB 2057. This measure is an important step toward greater accountability and safeguarding the most vulnerable people in our community.

Thank you.

**Testimony of Hawaii Filipino Lawyers Association
In SUPPORT of SB2057 SD2**

Committee on Economic Development & Technology

Representative Greggor Ilagan, Chair
Representative Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 18, 2026

Dear Chair Greggor Ilagan, Vice Chair Ikaika Hussey, and members of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology,

My name is Wilfredo Tungol, chair of Advocacy Committee of the Hawaii Filipino Lawyers Association (HFLA). We submit this testimony in **support of SB2057 SD2**, which prohibits law enforcement officers from using any state personnel or funds to assist or facilitate conduct by federal immigration agents that is for the purposes of civil immigration enforcement or that exceeds their lawful authority, and prohibits assisting federal agents engaged in operations targeting First Amendment-protected activities or immigration enforcement operations.

HFLA is very concerned with protecting the civil rights of our immigrant population. This bill will help facilitate those protections.

SB2057 SD2 is a commonsense public safety and civil rights measure. State resources—personnel, funds, and equipment—belong to Hawai‘i’s residents and should serve Hawai‘i’s public safety priorities. This bill draws a clear line so that state law enforcement is not used to assist federal civil immigration operations or actions targeting constitutionally protected activity. The SD2 amendment’s explicit reference to “civil immigration enforcement” makes this distinction legally clear while still permitting cooperation on criminal matters.

Community trust is the foundation of effective public safety. When immigrant and mixed-status families fear that local law enforcement is an extension of federal civil immigration enforcement, they stop reporting crime, cooperating as witnesses, and seeking help in emergencies—making everyone less safe. SB2057 SD2 strengthens Hawai‘i’s communities by reinforcing constitutional boundaries and ensuring state resources serve our state.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee **PASS SB2057 SD2**.
Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Wilfredo Tungol

HFLA Advocacy Chair

808-387-7412

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 5:32:15 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Thank you for this opportunity to support SB2057 which prohibits law enforcement officers from using any personnel or funds originating in the State to assist or facilitate conduct by federal immigration agents that is for the purposes of civil immigration enforcement.

Younghee Overly, a member of Indivisible Hawaii

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 5:59:41 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Yvette Kay	Kona Indivisible and Matriarchy Rising	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony of YVETTE KAY

In SUPPORT of SB2057 SD2

Committee on Economic Development & Technology

Representative Greggor Ilagan, Chair

Representative Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 18, 2026

Dear Chair Greggor Ilagan, Vice Chair Ikaika Hussey, and members of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology,

My name is Yvette Kay, and I submit this testimony in support of SB2057 SD2, which prohibits law enforcement officers from using any state personnel or funds to assist or facilitate conduct by federal immigration agents that is for the purposes of civil immigration enforcement or that exceeds their lawful authority, and prohibits assisting federal agents engaged in operations targeting First Amendment-protected activities or immigration enforcement operations.

I am a resident of Kailua Kona, HI

I am the Leader of Matriarchy Rising and a member of the Kona Indivisible Leadership Team. I am testifying as an individual / on behalf of these 2 organizations. SB2057 SD2 is a commonsense public safety and civil rights measure. State resources—personnel, funds, and equipment—belong to Hawai‘i’s residents and should serve Hawai‘i’s public safety priorities. This bill draws a clear line so that state law enforcement is not used to assist federal civil immigration operations or actions targeting constitutionally protected activity. The SD2 amendment’s explicit reference to “civil immigration enforcement” makes this distinction legally clear while still permitting cooperation on criminal matters.

Community trust is the foundation of effective public safety. When immigrant and mixed-status families fear that local law enforcement is an extension of federal civil immigration enforcement, they stop reporting crime, cooperating as witnesses, and seeking help in emergencies—making

everyone less safe. SB2057 SD2 strengthens Hawai'i's communities by reinforcing constitutional boundaries and ensuring state resources serve our state.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee PASS SB2057 SD2.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Yvette Kay

Leader of Matriarchy Rising and Leadership Team of Kona Indivisible

yvettekay_99@yahoo.com

[415-706-9638](tel:415-706-9638)

Kailua-Kona, HI 96740



**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB2057 SD2
RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs

Rep. Greggor Ilagan, Chair

Rep. Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 18, 2026 | Conference Room 423 | Letter Date: March 17, 2026

Dear Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey, and Members of the Committee:

The Legal Clinic (TLC) supports SB2057, SD2, a measure that strengthens public safety, transparency, and protections for community rights in law enforcement interactions. TLC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to immigrant justice in Hawai'i through immigration legal services, community education, and policy advocacy. We serve on the steering committee of the Campaign for Immigrant Justice alongside Hawai'i Coalition of Immigrant Rights and ACLU of Hawai'i, and this measure is among the campaign's legislative priorities this session.

SB2057, SD2, reinforces the fundamental principle that state and local resources should not be used to facilitate federal actions that exceed statutory authority or infringe on constitutionally protected activity. The bill establishes clear intergovernmental boundaries to ensure that state and local agencies do not participate in actions that improperly burden lawful speech, assembly, or association.

The bill also limits state and local involvement in federal immigration enforcement. Entanglement in civil immigration enforcement undermines community trust in local law enforcement and discourages victims and witnesses from seeking assistance. SB2057, SD2, further disallows the use of state and local resources for civil immigration enforcement at or near sensitive locations such as schools, hospitals, and courthouses, ensuring these community spaces and the essential services they provide remain safe and accessible to all residents, regardless of immigration status.

SB2057, SD2, is a necessary step to safeguard constitutional rights, promote public safety, and uphold the integrity of state and local law enforcement in Hawai'i. We urge the Committee's support.

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

Christina Sablan

Community & Policy Advocate



Committee on [NAME]
Chair [NAME], Vice Chair [NAME]

Date, Time and Location of Hearing
NUMBER OF BILL — TITLE OF BILL

TESTIMONY

[Your Name], Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair [NAME], Vice Chair [NAME], and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports BILL NUMBER SB2057 SD2

This bill would add a new Section to Chapter 139 of HRS to prohibit state law enforcement from assisting or facilitating activities by federal agents that threaten First Amendment activities and/or immigration enforcement.

The League of Women Voters supports an open governmental system that is representative, accountable, and responsive. In the last few months there have been countless reported incidents of masked federal agents attacking peaceful demonstrators and abducting persons they believe may be subject to civil immigration proceedings. These violations of civil rights, including the rights to due process and liberty, are not transparent and the perpetrators are apparently not held accountable in the federal government. Although Hawaii cannot directly control federal agents who may be deployed here, we can at least act to deprive them of support for actions which impact our civil rights and community.

As amended in SB2057 SD2 the bill identifies and defines the terms necessary to give guidance to law enforcement management and officers in the field when federal agencies seek support or collaboration with immigration enforcement and rights protected by the Constitution. For these reasons the League supports SB2057 SD2.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



Committee: House Committee on Economic Development & Technology
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at 8:30am
Place: Conference Room 423 & Videoconference
Re: **Testimony of the ACLU of Hawai'i in SUPPORT of SB2057 SD2, Relating to Law Enforcement**

Dear Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey, and Committee Members:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i (ACLU-HI) writes in **support of SB2057 SD2**, which would prevent our local authorities from being commandeered to serve federal operations that run counter to the safety and interests of Hawaii's communities or that violate constitutional rights.

Throughout the continent, we have witnessed President Trump deploy troops and militarized federal agents into cities to scare our communities.¹ This blending of law enforcement agencies with military units in a single deportation force is a recipe for the abuse of civil rights – including excessive use of force, racial profiling, and illegal detention.

In Hawai'i, we have seen federal agents taking our immigrant neighbors.² Immigration enforcement has spiked in Hawai'i as compared to previous years: between January 20, 2025 and October 15, 2025, detainers nearly doubled, administrative arrests more than tripled, and detention stays nearly tripled, as compared to the same period in 2024.³ We know that throughout the country, most people being held in detention have not been convicted of a crime.⁴

We must prevent our local authorities from being co-opted into federal law enforcement operations that are ripping our neighbors away from their families and

¹ Planas R and Witherspoon A. (2026, January 28). The federal agents deployed in Trump's immigration crackdown – visualized. The Guardian. <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2026/jan/19/donald-trump-immigration-crackdown>

² Leonard, M. (2026, January 6). Hawai'i ICE arrests and detentions in 2025 spiked from year before. Honolulu Civil Beat. <https://www.civilbeat.org/2026/01/hawaii-ice-arrests-detentions-2025-far-exceed-2024/>

³ Hausman, D. (2025). "U.S. immigration enforcement data." California Law Review Online, 16 (13).

⁴ Hausman, D. (2025).

hurting our communities. Our state and local policies should ensure our law enforcement agencies do not support this gross federal overreach.

It is our kuleana to protect our neighbors' rights to live without fear. For the above reasons, we respectfully request that you pass SB2057.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Mandy Fernandes
Policy Director
ACLU of Hawai'i

With more than 4,000 Hawaii-based members, the mission of the American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the United States and Hawai'i State Constitutions through legislative, litigation, and public education work. The ACLU of Hawai'i is a non-partisan and private non-profit organization that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds. The ACLU of Hawai'i has been serving our communities in Hawai'i for over 60 years.

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2026 3:59:46 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

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 testifying in strong support of SB2057, which establishes a critical and principled boundary to prohibit the use of state resources and personnel from facilitating specific forms of federal overreach. This bill is a necessary safeguard for the constitutional rights of all Hawai‘i residents, a pillar of true public safety, and a declaration that our state’s assets will not be commandeered for operations that undermine our laws and values.

At its core, SB2057 is about the responsible stewardship of public resources and the protection of fundamental freedoms. It explicitly prevents state and county agencies from using their funds, facilities, property, equipment, or personnel to assist in federal operations that unlawfully target individuals based on their exercise of First Amendment rights—such as their speech, religion, or political activism—or in certain immigration enforcement actions that fall outside of congressionally authorized purposes. This is not about non-cooperation with legitimate federal law; it is about non-participation in unlawful or retaliatory federal missions that would violate the rights of people in our state.

The policy justifications for this bill are clear and compelling:

1. **It Protects Constitutional Rights:** By drawing a bright line against facilitating operations that target First Amendment activities, this bill ensures that Hawai‘i’s resources are never used to enable the suppression of free speech, assembly, or religious practice. It protects our residents from being subject to surveillance or investigation simply for exercising their most basic American liberties.
2. **It Strengthens Community Trust and Public Safety:** Public safety depends on the trust between community members and local institutions. When immigrant families or individuals engaged in lawful protest fear that interacting with a state agency—whether to report a crime, seek healthcare, or enroll a child in school—could lead to their targeting by federal authorities, they retreat into the shadows. This bill reduces that fear, ensuring that all residents feel safe accessing essential services and cooperating with local law enforcement, which makes **everyone** safer.
3. **It Ensures Accountability and Clarity:** SB2057 provides unambiguous guidance for state and county employees, preventing them from being placed in an ethical and legal bind. It creates a clear standard for interagency cooperation, ensuring that collaboration is conducted within a framework that respects civil rights and state sovereignty.

4. **It Upholds State Sovereignty:** This legislation affirms that Hawai'i's resources are dedicated to serving the people of Hawai'i according to our laws and priorities. It prevents the diversion of our limited public funds and personnel to carry out federal agendas that may be politically motivated, unconstitutional, or destructive to community cohesion.

SB2057 is a measured, targeted, and profoundly important piece of legislation. It wisely chooses to invest our state's resources in building trust, protecting rights, and serving the common good, rather than in facilitating operations that would fracture our community and violate our shared principles.

For the protection of our Constitution, the strength of our public safety, and the well-being of all who call Hawai'i home, I urge you to pass SB2057.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2026 6:50:19 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Julie Rivers	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

am writing in strong support of SB2057 both personally and as a member of the Indivisible Hawaii State Network (IHSN).

We see daily examples of ICE, CBP and other DHS agents scooping people off the streets of America claiming immigration enforcement against “terrible criminals and really bad people” and disappearing them to facilities around the country. They are incarcerated, apparently in substandard facilities with inadequate sanitation and food, deprived of their due process rights, and too often shipped to foreign countries before any judicial process.

SB2057 provides a tool to protect our law enforcement personnel and funds from being dragged into service of the unAmerican, unconstitutional violations of civil rights and basic standards of decency we are seeing from federal agents. It’s the kind of law that you hope you never need, but if you do it could save lives and families. Please pass this bill to keep Hawaii law enforcement from becoming involved in these activities for which they would later be held accountable.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Julie Rivers

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2026 7:24:22 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I very strongly support SB2057.

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2026 7:24:48 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dwight T. Martin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a registered Hawaii voter, resident, member of the Indivisible Hawaii State Network (IHSN). I am writing in strong support of SB2057 to add a section to Chapter 139 HRS prohibiting law enforcement from collaborating with federal agents in an operation seeking to penalize the exercise of First Amendment rights or constituting immigration enforcement.

Mahalo.

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2026 7:43:01 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support HB322 HD2

I prefer no cooperation with feds!

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2026 10:15:33 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Thank you. I am a member of Indivisible Windward.

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2026 11:23:34 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marcela Montalto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill to limit collaboration with federal authorities helps protect the autonomy of local and state governments while strengthening trust between communities and public institutions. When local agencies are not required to carry out federal enforcement responsibilities, they can focus their resources on the needs and safety of their own communities. Limiting such collaboration can also encourage residents to interact with local services—such as law enforcement, health providers, or schools—without fear, which supports public safety and community well-being. Overall, the measure promotes clearer boundaries between levels of government and prioritizes local accountability.

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2026 2:34:09 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vivian S. Toellner	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2026 5:47:06 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steven Whaley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

ICE has been breaking the law, arresting or killing citizens, failing to provide due process in immigration courts, and is running rough shod over our Constitution. I strongly support this bill. Local law enforcement should not cooperate with ICE or CPB unless they have a judicial warrant signed by a judge. Steven Whaley

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2026 5:53:43 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bruce Mirken	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly urge yiubto pass SB2057, which would add a section to Chapter 139 HRS prohibiting law enforcement from collaborating with federal agents in an operation seeking to penalize the exercise of First Amendment rights or constituting immigration enforcement.

This should not be necessary, but itvis. We see daily examples of ICE, CBP and other DHS agents scooping people off the streets of America claiming immigration enforcement against “terrible criminals and really bad people” and disappearing them to facilities around the country. They get incarcerated, often in inhumane facilities with inadequate sanitation and food, deprived of their due process rights, and too often shipped to foreign countries before any judicial process. FOR NO VALID REASON.

SB2057 puts a tool in Hawaii’s toolbox to protect our law enforcement personnel and funds from being dragooned into service of such egregious violations of constitutional rights and basic standards of decency. This could literally save lives and families. Please, please pass this bill.

Mahalo.

Regards,

Bruce Mirken

Thank you for allowing the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2026 1:23:21 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SB2057 both personally and as a member of the Indivisible Hawaii State Network (IHSN). This Bill would add a section to Chapter 139 HRS prohibiting law enforcement from collaborating with federal agents in an operation seeking to penalize the exercise of First Amendment rights or constituting immigration enforcement.

We see daily examples of ICE, CBP and other DHS agents scooping people off the streets of America claiming immigration enforcement against “terrible criminals and really bad people” and disappearing them to facilities around the country. They incarcerated, apparently in substandard facilities with inadequate sanitation and food, deprived of their due process rights, and too often shipped to foreign countries before any judicial process.

SB2057 puts a tool in Hawaii’s toolbox which protects our law enforcement personnel and funds from being dragooned into service of the unAmerican, unconstitutional violations of civil rights and basic standards of decency we are seeing fom federal agents. It’s the kind of law that you hope you never need, but if you do it could save lives and families. Pass this bill to keep Hawaii law enforcement from becoming involved in these activities for which they would later be held accountable.

Mahalo for allowing the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Kanani Kai

Member Indivisible Hawaii

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2026 8:06:39 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathleen Dickson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in STRONG support of SB2057. This Bill would add a section to Chapter 139 HRS prohibiting law enforcement from collaborating with federal agents in an operation seeking to penalize the exercise of First Amendment rights or constituting immigration enforcement.

We see daily examples of ICE, CBP and other DHS agents unlawfully scooping people off the streets of The United States claiming immigration enforcement against “terrible criminals and really bad people” and disappearing them to facilities around the country. They are incarcerated, apparently in substandard facilities with inadequate sanitation and food, deprived of their due process rights, and too often shipped to foreign countries without any judicial process.

SB2057 puts a tool in Hawaii’s toolbox which protects our law enforcement personnel and funds from being dragged into service of the unconstitutional violations of civil rights and basic standards of decency we are seeing fom federal agents. It’s the kind of law that you hope you never need, but if you do, it could save lives and families. Please pass this bill to keep Hawaii law enforcement from becoming involved in these activities, for which they, and potentially the state for allowing it, would later be held accountable.

Thank you for allowing the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Kathleen "kate" Dickson

Waikiki

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2026 8:38:08 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SB2057 both personally and as a member of the Indivisible Hawaii State Network (IHSN). This Bill would add a section to Chapter 139 HRS prohibiting law enforcement from collaborating with federal agents in an operation seeking to penalize the exercise of First Amendment rights or constituting immigration enforcement.

We see daily examples of ICE, CBP and other DHS agents scooping people off the streets of America claiming immigration enforcement against “terrible criminals and really bad people” and disappearing them to facilities around the country. They incarcerated, apparently in substandard facilities with inadequate sanitation and food, deprived of their due process rights, and too often shipped to foreign countries before any judicial process.

SB2057 puts a tool in Hawaii’s toolbox which protects our law enforcement personnel and funds from being dragooned into service of the unAmerican, unconstitutional violations of civil rights and basic standards of decency we are seeing fom federal agents. It’s the kind of law that you hope you never need, but if you do it could save lives and families. Pass this bill to keep Hawaii law enforcement from becoming involved in these activities for which they would later be held accountable.

I don't have to tell you that I never thought that I would need to support a bill like this, yet here we are. Our only path is to protect ourselves.

Mahalo for allowing the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Denize Machit

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2026 9:25:50 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelle Bonk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass this bill.

Please help ensure that Hawaii law enforcement remains focused on protecting and serving the citizens on Hawaii, not getting caught up in Federal priorities and practices that are making people less safe.

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TECHNOLOGY

Rep. Gregor Ilagan, Chair

Rep. Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

HEARING:

Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at 8:30 am

Via Videoconference and Conference Room 423

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2057, SD2 - RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT.

Aloha Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey, Rep. Yamashita 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 today in **strong support of SB 2057, SD2**, relating to law enforcement, which prohibits law enforcement officers from using any personnel or funds originating in the State to assist or facilitate conduct by federal immigration agents that is for the purposes of civil immigration enforcement or exceeds their law enforcement duty or authority; prohibits law enforcement officers from assisting or cooperating with or allowing resources to be used to facilitate federal immigration agents engaged in operations with the purpose of civil immigration enforcement or that target individuals or entities for activities protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution or immigration enforcement operations.

I am a Know Your Rights volunteer educator and constitutional protector. I have trained teachers and students, business owners and union members, faith leaders and health care providers, as well as parents and senior citizens on their constitutional rights, that these rights apply to all within the United States regardless of citizenship status, and ways to ensure these rights are protected. I have taught them to prepare themselves, their staff, and their places of work and community service for interactions with federal agents. I am also a constitutional observer, through which I engage in First Amendment–protected documentation of federal agent activity to ensure that they do not violate people’s rights.

The images we see on the news and social media of aggressive, untrained, and violent unmasked, unbadged persons attacking citizens and noncitizens alike is eroding trust in law enforcement and our government. There are 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 of fear that our local law enforcement is collaborating with federal agents. People now worry that calls to our local police for help by crime victims may result in the victim being detained by federal agents as the result of racial profiling.

People are afraid to go to school and work due to fear of getting swept up in immigration enforcement raids that, in a reversal of long-standing policy, now focus on law-abiding members of our communities. Our friends and family members, parents of children at our schools, spouses of our neighbors, and owners of small businesses we frequent and depend upon are being detained. I have witnessed families torn apart. The federal government’s attacks on immigrants have expanded to detentions based on the color of people’s skin, the work they do, and the way that they speak. We are all at risk when federal agents engage in racial profiling. Attacks on people engaged in constitutionally protected First Amendment recording of law enforcement or in peaceable protest have escalated to the use of chemical deterrents on children and families and the murder of two people.

I support SB 2057, SD2 because it reflects that our local enforcement agencies should use funding to protect the communities they serve, not engage in immigration activities beyond their authority. SB 2057, SD1 also preserves the historical separation between local law enforcement and federal immigration enforcement responsibilities. As an attorney, I feel obligated to remind the members of the Committee that federal law does not require state or local entities to collect or share information with federal agents conducting immigration enforcement or infringing upon people’s First Amendment rights. Our law enforcement agencies have neither the

personnel nor the funding to be deputized to undertake federal functions. To do so would interfere with the primary responsibility of our law enforcement agencies, which is to maintain the trust and confidence of the residents that live here by clearly delineating their role as public safety officers. When police officers inappropriately blur the lines by getting involved with federal agents in immigration matters, immigrants will not come forward as witnesses in criminal investigations, and women will feel that they cannot report domestic or sexual violence. Collaboration between local law enforcement and federal immigration agents chills our relationship with local law enforcement agencies and the security of our communities is compromised as a result.

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. This bill offers vital protection from federal agents collaborating with local law enforcement on the use of these surveillance techniques to identify people engaged in protected First Amendment activity. It would be one protective step that could help protect not just me, but my family members who live with me. I should not have to fear hostile and lawless federal agents tracking my activities and endangering my family and the community members I serve.

As a lawyer with an understanding of the Constitution and who has taken an oath to uphold it and the rule of law, it is alarming to witness federal agents attack people lawfully engaged in First Amendment-protected activities, such as documenting federal agents in public and protesting federal activity. Seeing video footage of the murders 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 while engaged in volunteer work to document, record, or protest the activity of federal agents. I am afraid that federal agents, in collaboration with local law enforcement, will take my picture or track my license plate, find out who I am and where I live, and come to my house and harm not just myself but my loved ones. During a recent training I conducted, an audience member asked what constitutional observers like me can do to protect ourselves 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. That is why bills like SB 2057, SD2 are so important.

The goal of the current administration is to frighten people into silence. 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. Fortunately, I am not alone. Recently, the No Kings Coalition held an Eyes on ICE: Document and Record national training call in which over 200,000 people participated.

I am undeterred by the deaths of Renne Goode and Alex Pretti. I am inspired by them and millions are standing alongside me. This bill helps ensure that our local law enforcement does not exceed the scope of its authority by collaborating with federal immigration activity. It protects community members who no longer trust their law enforcement agents of any kind. This bill also provides important protection for volunteers like me engaged in constitutional observer work. **I request that you support SB 2057, SD2** and help protect the Constitution and rebuild trust in government.

Thank you for siding with your community on this issue.

Mahalo,

Christine L. Andrews, J.D.
Wailuku, Maui

Eileen Cain
720 Mahi'ai St., Apt. E
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96826-5635
eileencaïn808@gmail.com
March 14, 2026

Representative Greggor Ilagan, Chair, Committee on Economic Development & Technology
Representative Ikaika Hussey, Vice-Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Economic Development & Technology

Aloha, Representatives,

I am submitting this testimony in support of SB2057 SD2, "Relating to Law Enforcement."

This Bill will prohibit local law enforcement officers from collaborating unduly with activities of federal law enforcement. I applaud the fact that the bill would not allow local law enforcement to "...assist or facilitate conduct by federal immigration agents that is for the purposes of civil immigration enforcement or exceeds their law enforcement duty or authority."

This Bill will protect the Constitutional First Amendment rights of all of us. People must never be targeted by law enforcement activities that seek to prevent them from expressing their views or punish them for doing so. No one, no matter how important or powerful they aspire to be, can be permitted to come between the people of this land and their First Amendment rights to practice their religion or other belief system. Also, people need to know that they can say what they need to say without retaliation from law enforcement. Children need to be safe at their schools. People who are ill and hospitalized need to be protected, too.

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 would all be at risk. Everyone has a right to legal counsel and **a chance to plead their case if ever taken into custody**, just as Donald Trump himself had when he was charged with crimes. He always had due process.

I am haole (caucasian) and have lived in Hawai'i for nearly 50 years; I embrace diversity and oppose the white-supremacist agenda that is playing out in the US.

I urge you to protect us all by voting for **SB2057 SD2**.

Mahalo and Aloha,

Eileen Cain,
Mō'ili'ili, Honolulu, Hawai'i

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2026 11:34:02 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Collaboration between local law enforcement and federal immigration enforcement actions — often through 287(g) agreements — is dangerous, because it erodes community trust, discourages crime reporting, and fuels racist profiling. Collaboration between local law enforcement and federal immigration enforcement ultimately makes us all less safe.

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2026 11:54:23 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support SB2057 SD2.

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2026 2:47:11 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Justice, M.D.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Representative Ilagan, Chair, Representative Hussey, Vice Chair and Committee Members,

I am a resident of Kapolei and member of the Indivisible Hawai‘i Statewide Network. I am writing to testify my strong support for SB2057. This Bill would add a section to Chapter 139 HRS prohibiting law enforcement from collaborating with federal agents in an operation seeking to penalize the exercise of First Amendment rights or constituting immigration enforcement.

We see daily examples of ICE, CBP and other DHS agents scooping people off the streets of America claiming immigration enforcement against “terrible criminals and really bad people” and disappearing them to facilities around the country. They incarcerated, apparently in substandard facilities with inadequate sanitation and food, deprived of their due process rights, and too often shipped to foreign countries before any judicial process.

SB2057 puts a tool in Hawai‘i’s toolbox which protects our law enforcement personnel and funds from being dragooned into service of the un-American, unconstitutional violations of civil rights and basic standards of decency we are seeing fom federal agents. It’s the kind of law that you hope you never need, but if you do it could save lives and families. Please pass this bill to keep Hawai‘i law enforcement from becoming involved in these activities for which they would later be held accountable.

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Respectfully,

Robert L. Justice, M.D.

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2026 3:03:18 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

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.

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2026 5:24:51 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SB2057 both personally and as a member of the Indivisible Hawaii State Network (IHSN). This Bill would add a section to Chapter 139 HRS prohibiting law enforcement from collaborating with federal agents in an operation seeking to penalize the exercise of First Amendment rights or constituting immigration enforcement.

SB2057 puts a tool in Hawaii's toolbox which protects our law enforcement personnel and funds from being dragooned into service of the unAmerican, unconstitutional violations of civil rights and basic standards of decency we are seeing fom federal agents. It's the kind of law that you hope you never need, but if you do it could save lives and families. Pass this bill to keep Hawaii law enforcement from becoming involved in these activities for which they would later be held accountable.

Thank you for allowing the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Gail Morrison, Honolulu

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2026 6:43:16 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB2057 SD2

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2026 9:32:12 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly support this bill.

Thank you!

JON N. IKENAGA
PUBLIC DEFENDER

DEFENDER COUNCIL
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HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817

HONOLULU OFFICE
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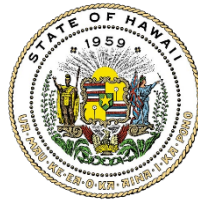
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March 16, 2026

SB 2057, SD2: RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

Chair Ilagan, Vice-Chair Hussey, and Members of the Committee on Economic Development and Technology:

The Office of the Public Defender (OPD) **supports SB 2057 SD2** which is an important and measured step to ensure that State and county law enforcement resources are not used in ways that exceed federal statutory authority or undermine fundamental constitutional protections.

The OPD represents indigent individuals statewide and is uniquely positioned to observe how law enforcement practices intersect with constitutional rights, community trust, and access to the courts. Through daily representation, the OPD has observed that fear of law enforcement collaboration, particularly in the context of immigration enforcement, has a direct and measurable impact on our clients' willingness to access essential services and participate in the justice system.

Many OPD clients already face significant barriers, including poverty, language access challenges, mental health needs, and prior system involvement. This measure appropriately recognizes the importance of protecting access to essential institutions such as schools, health facilities, places of worship, and courthouses. When individuals believe that seeking medical care, enrolling their children in school, attending places of worship, or appearing in court could expose them or their loved ones to federal enforcement actions, they may delay or entirely avoid those settings. The OPD has seen clients miss court dates, decline to report victimization, or hesitate to cooperate with legal processes out of fear, even when they are attempting to comply with the law.

This avoidance not only harms individuals and families but also undermines public safety and the effective administration of justice. Courts function best when all parties can participate freely and without fear. This measure helps preserve courthouses and other essential institutions as places where individuals can engage without the chilling effect of unrelated enforcement activity.

SB 2057 SD2 appropriately clarifies that, except where required by federal or state law, Hawai'i law enforcement agencies may not use State personnel or funds to assist or facilitate federal conduct that exceeds federal statutory authority. This safeguard reinforces the rule of law by ensuring that State resources are not deployed in support of actions that fall outside lawful bounds.

Of particular importance, the bill expressly prohibits State assistance in federal operations targeting individuals or entities for activities protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. From the OPD's perspective, these protections are essential to ensuring that individuals can exercise their constitutional rights without fear of surveillance, arrest, or penalty.

This measure does not prohibit cooperation where it is required by law, nor does it interfere with lawful federal enforcement. Instead, it establishes clear and reasonable boundaries that prevent the diversion of State resources into activities that exceed statutory authority or erode community trust.

Clear boundaries benefit law enforcement officers, community members, and the justice system alike. They reduce confusion, limit constitutional risk, and allow State and county agencies to focus on local public safety priorities while preserving access to essential public institutions.

For these reasons, the OPD supports SB 2057 SD2.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2026 11:36:50 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janet Teare	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for supporting this bill to Protect our people by Prohibiting our law enforcement to assist with Federal immigration. I'm a member of East Hawaii Indivisible

Testimony of In SUPPORT of SB2057 SD2

Committee on Economic Development & Technology

Representative Greggor Ilagan, Chair
Representative Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 18, 2026

Dear Chair Greggor Ilagan, Vice Chair Ikaika Hussey, and members of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology,

My name is Jeremiah Brown, and I submit this testimony in **support of SB2057 SD2**, which prohibits law enforcement officers from using any state personnel or funds to assist or facilitate conduct by federal immigration agents that is for the purposes of civil immigration enforcement or that exceeds their lawful authority, and prohibits assisting federal agents engaged in operations targeting First Amendment-protected activities or immigration enforcement operations.

SB2057 SD2 is a commonsense public safety and civil rights measure. State resources belong to Hawai'i's residents and should serve Hawai'i's public safety priorities. This bill draws a clear line so that state law enforcement is not used to assist federal civil immigration operations or actions targeting constitutionally protected activity. The SD2 amendment's explicit reference to "civil immigration enforcement" makes this distinction legally clear while still permitting cooperation on criminal matters.

Community trust is the foundation of effective public safety. When immigrant and mixed-status families fear that local law enforcement is an extension of federal civil immigration enforcement, they stop reporting crime, cooperating as witnesses, and seeking help in emergencies, making everyone less safe. SB2057 SD2 strengthens Hawai'i's communities by reinforcing constitutional boundaries and ensuring state resources serve our state.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee **PASS SB2057 SD2**.
Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,
Jeremiah Brown
Waialua, Oahu

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2026 2:06:05 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in support of SB2057, and think it is a very important bill.

I believe a bill like this is necessary to codify in state law to protect the independence of our state and local law enforcement.

I also think it is wise to codify that the local police of Hawai'i are there to protect those engaged in nonviolent First Amendment rights practices (i.e., filming, protesting, yelling), regardless of their point of view.

I do not believe that assisting with federal officers who want to target those who are expressing their First Amendment rights by arresting or otherwise detaining them is in our state's best interest when they are in essence, acting as agents for the federal officers. Having a law like this on the side of our local officers gives them clear guidance and bona fide authority to not be compelled to do so.

Mahalo for your consideration.

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2026 3:46:21 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Doris Segal Matsunaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a grandmother living in Waimea on Hawaii Island, I am writing in strong support of SB2057 both personally and as a member of the Indivisible Hawaii State Network (IHSN). This Bill would add a section to Chapter 139 HRS prohibiting law enforcement from collaborating with federal agents in an operation seeking to penalize the exercise of First Amendment rights or constituting immigration enforcement.

We see daily examples of ICE, CBP and other DHS agents scooping people off the streets of America claiming immigration enforcement against “terrible criminals and really bad people” and disappearing them to facilities around the country. They incarcerated, apparently in substandard facilities with inadequate sanitation and food, deprived of their due process rights, and too often shipped to foreign countries before any judicial process.

SB2057 puts a tool in Hawaii’s toolbox which protects our law enforcement personnel and funds from being dragooned into service of the unAmerican, unconstitutional violations of civil rights and basic standards of decency we are seeing fom federal agents. It’s the kind of law that you hope you never need, but if you do it could save lives and families. Pass this bill to keep Hawaii law enforcement from becoming involved in these activities for which they would later be held accountable.

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2026 4:34:44 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SB2057 both personally and as a member of the Indivisible Hawaii State Network (IHSN). This Bill would add a section to Chapter 139 HRS prohibiting law enforcement from collaborating with federal agents in an operation seeking to penalize the exercise of First Amendment rights or constituting immigration enforcement.

Daily we see examples of ICE, CBP and other DHS agents taking people off the streets of America claiming immigration enforcement against “terrible criminals and really bad people” and disappearing them to facilities around the country and too often shipped to foreign countries before any judicial process.

SB2057 provides Hawaii the means to protect our law enforcement personnel and funds from being put into service of illegal violations of civil rights and basic standards of decency we are seeing from these federal agents. Pass this bill to keep Hawaii law enforcement from becoming involved in these activities for which they would later be held accountable.

Thank you for allowing the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2026 7:02:39 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Richard S Velasquez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

we should not use resources for this kind of abuse of civil rights

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2026 8:25:59 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brett Kulbis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Ilagan and Committee Members,

My name is Brett Kulbis, I'm a 26yr retired Navy Veteran, who took a solemn oath to defend the Constitution from all enemies foreign and domestic, and that oath didn't expire when I retired. I live in Ewa Beach.

I STRONGLY OPPOSE BILL SB-2057 SD2.

I am a proud military veteran who took an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. That oath did not end when I took off the uniform. It continues today in my commitment to upholding the rule of law, respecting our constitutional framework, and protecting the safety of my community and my country. SB-2057 SD2 undermines all three.

First, this bill weakens cooperation with federal immigration authorities whose mission is to enforce laws passed by Congress. Immigration enforcement is not optional or a "suggestion law"; it is federal law. As a veteran, I have seen firsthand the importance of clear chains of command, unity of effort, and mutual support between agencies. This bill does the opposite. It tells our state and county law enforcement to stand back, even when federal officers are conducting lawful civil immigration operations, unless they jump through narrow legal hoops. That is not how you protect a nation governed by the rule of law.

Second, SB-2057 SD2 sends a dangerous message: that Hawai'i will become a sanctuary from federal immigration enforcement, not a partner in it. By broadly prohibiting the use of state personnel, facilities, vehicles, databases, and other resources to "assist or facilitate" federal immigration agents in civil immigration enforcement, the bill creates gaps that can—and will—be exploited by those who wish to do harm. Veterans understand that threats do not respect jurisdictional boundaries. Drug trafficking, human trafficking, and transnational gangs often involve immigration violations. When you tie the hands of local officers and cut off routine collaboration, you make it easier for bad actors to hide in our communities.

Third, the bill's special carve-outs around certain locations and activities set a troubling precedent. It restricts cooperation when federal immigration enforcement occurs at or near schools, health facilities, places of worship, and courthouses, and when individuals are engaged in a wide range of expressive activities. Of course, the First Amendment must be protected. But

those protections already exist in our Constitution and our courts. Writing them into state law as a trigger to deny cooperation with federal immigration officials politicizes law enforcement and implies that federal officers cannot be trusted to respect constitutional rights. As someone who served alongside federal agents and military police, I find that implication both insulting and counterproductive.

Fourth, SB-2057 SD2 will confuse and demoralize our officers. Veterans know what it is like to operate under complex rules of engagement, and we also know the risk of overcomplicating them. This bill uses vague standards such as whether conduct “exceeds” a federal agent’s authority based on what a “reasonable” officer would think. That invites endless second-guessing, legal uncertainty, and hesitation in the field. When seconds matter, hesitation can cost lives. Our officers deserve clear guidance that supports their mission to keep the public safe, not politically driven restrictions that make them question whether helping a federal partner could cost them their career.

Finally, from a veteran’s perspective, SB-2057 SD2 disrespects the sacrifices of those who served to preserve this nation’s sovereignty and laws. We did not serve so that individual states could selectively obstruct the enforcement of federal law for political reasons. We served so that every level of government would work together to secure our borders, our communities, and our constitutional order. If Hawai’i chooses to step back from that responsibility, it does so not only at the expense of public safety, but also at the expense of the trust and sacrifices of its veterans and their families.

For these reasons, I respectfully and strongly urge you to defer SB-2057 SD2. Please stand with the men and women who served this country, with the officers who protect our streets, and with the principle that our laws are meant to be enforced, not selectively ignored.

Mahalo,

Brett Kulbis
U.S. Navy Retired

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 7:20:27 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SB2057 both personally and as a member of the Indivisible Hawaii State Network (IHSN). This Bill would add a section to Chapter 139 HRS prohibiting law enforcement from collaborating with federal agents in an operation seeking to penalize the exercise of First Amendment rights or constituting immigration enforcement.

We see daily examples of ICE, CBP and other DHS agents scooping people off the streets of America claiming immigration enforcement against “terrible criminals and really bad people” and disappearing them to facilities around the country. They incarcerated, apparently in substandard facilities with inadequate sanitation and food, deprived of their due process rights, and too often shipped to foreign countries before any judicial process.

SB2057 puts a tool in Hawaii’s toolbox which protects our law enforcement personnel and funds from being dragooned into service of the unAmerican, unconstitutional violations of civil rights and basic standards of decency we are seeing fom federal agents. It’s the kind of law that you hope you never need, but if you do it could save lives and families. Pass this bill to keep Hawaii law enforcement from becoming involved in these activities for which they would later be held accountable.

Thank you for allowing the opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Jane Aquino, Indivisible

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 10:30:18 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Danielle Goren	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB2057 SD 2 – DANIELLE GOREN TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

Dear Chair Greggor Ilagan, Vice Chair Ikaika Hussey, and members of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology,

Thank you for this opportunity to submit my testimony in **strong support of SB2057 SD2**, personally, as a Lahaina resident, and as a member of Indivisible Hawai'i, a member of the Hawaii Campaign for Immigrant Justice, and a member of the ACLU.

SB2057 SD2 would prohibit law enforcement officers from using any state personnel or funds to assist or facilitate conduct by federal immigration agents that is for the purposes of civil immigration enforcement or that exceeds their lawful authority, and prohibits assisting federal agents engaged in operations targeting First Amendment-protected activities or immigration enforcement operations.

SB2057 SD2 is a commonsense public safety and civil rights measure. State resources— personnel, funds, and equipment—belong to Hawai'i's residents and should serve Hawai'i's public safety priorities. This bill draws a clear line so that state law enforcement is not used to assist federal civil immigration operations or actions targeting constitutionally protected activity. The SD2 amendment's explicit reference to "civil immigration enforcement" makes this distinction legally clear while still permitting cooperation on criminal matters.

In September of 2025, as part of President Trump's pattern of abusing his power to target critics through unconstitutional invocations of law enforcement, national security, and financial sanctions authorities, he issued a presidential memorandum authorizing government-wide investigations into non-profits, activists, and their donors and funders, using vague and overbroad labels of "terrorism" and "conspiracy against rights." This National Security Presidential Memorandum, NSPM-7, called "Countering Domestic Terrorism and Organized Political Violence," essentially allows the Trump administration to go after *anyone* who disagrees with him and is not devoutly MAGA.

Who are these citizens the Trump administration has categorized as domestic terrorist threats? Anyone with a view that is "anti-Americanism," "anti-Christianity," "extremism on migration,"

“extremism on race,” “extremism on gender,” or opposition to the good old “traditional American views on family, religion, and morality.” But as we all should know, having an opinion that differs from the Trump administration is not domestic terror; it is civic duty, and it is protected by the First Amendment. This NSPM-7 flies in the face of our First Amendment rights and the use of local law enforcement to affect this aggressive attack on liberty must be rejected.

National security policies and practices are most effective when they respect constitutional values and the rule of law and are subjected to stringent oversight as well as public accountability. Yet, NSPM-7 actively rejects the rule of law, and we have seen that there has been absolutely no accountability, much less public accountability.

Hima Shamsi, Director of the ACLU’s National Security Project, issued the following statement in response to Trump’s memorandum:

Working from a fever dream of conspiracies, President Trump has launched yet another effort to investigate and intimidate his critics.

After one of the most harrowing weeks for our First Amendment rights, the President is invoking political violence, which we all condemn, as an excuse to target non-profits and activists with the false and stigmatizing label of ‘domestic terrorism.’ This is a shameful and dangerous move. But the President cannot rewrite the Constitution by memo.

Intimidation tactics against those standing up for human rights and civil liberties are sadly not new in the history of this country. In an earlier era, civil rights movement leaders were also labeled security threats and investigated, monitored, threatened, and even arrested. True strength in this country comes not from political leaders engaged in fearmongering and political vendettas, but from our vibrant civil society, activists, and communities steadfastly pursuing the goals of equality, fairness, and democracy for all.[\[1\]](#)

We see daily examples of ICE, CBP and other DHS agents scooping people off the streets of America claiming immigration enforcement against “terrible criminals and really bad people” and disappearing them to facilities around the country. They incarcerated, apparently in substandard facilities with inadequate sanitation and food, deprived of their due process rights, and too often shipped to foreign countries before any judicial process.

Community trust is the foundation of effective public safety. When immigrant and mixed-status families fear that local law enforcement is an extension of federal civil immigration enforcement, they stop reporting crime, cooperating as witnesses, and seeking help in emergencies—making everyone less safe. SB2057 SD2 strengthens Hawai‘i’s communities by reinforcing constitutional boundaries and ensuring state resources serve our state.

It is the duty of city and state governments to protect their residents from this aggressive and illegal federal overreach. One extremely effective way for city and state governments to satisfy their obligations to their residents is through implementing policies that limit cooperation with

immigrant authorities. SB2057 does just that, giving Hawaii's a vital tool to protect our law enforcement personnel and funds from being dragooned into service of the un-American, unconstitutional violations of civil rights and basic standards of decency we are seeing from federal agents. SB2057 is the kind of law that you hope you never need, but if you do it could save lives and families. Pass this bill to keep Hawaii law enforcement from becoming involved in these activities for which they would later be held accountable.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee **PASS SB2057 SD2**.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Danielle Goren

Lahaina, HI

[1] ACLU Statement on the Trump Administratino's Memorandum Targeting Political Opponents, Sep. 25, 2025, ret. <https://www.aclu.org/press-releases/aclu-statement-on-the-trump-administrations-memorandum-targeting-political-opponents>

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 10:42:29 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amy Wake	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony of Rev. Amy C. Wake

In SUPPORT of SB2057 SD2

Committee on Economic Development & Technology

Representative Greggor Ilagan, Chair

Representative Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 18, 2026

Dear Chair Greggor Ilagan, Vice Chair Ikaika Hussey, and members of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology,

My name is Rev Amy Wake pastor of Wesley United Methodist Church in Kahala and I submit this testimony in support of SB2057 SD2, which prohibits law enforcement officers from using any state personnel or funds to assist or facilitate conduct by federal immigration agents that is for the purposes of civil immigration enforcement or that exceeds their lawful authority, and prohibits assisting federal agents engaged in operations targeting First Amendment-protected activities or immigration enforcement

SB2057 SD2 is a commonsense public safety and civil rights measure. State resources— personnel, funds, and equipment—belong to Hawai‘i’s residents and should serve Hawai‘i’s public safety priorities. This bill draws a clear line so that state law enforcement is not used to

assist federal civil immigration operations or actions targeting constitutionally protected activity. The SD2 amendment's explicit reference to "civil immigration enforcement" makes this distinction legally clear while still permitting cooperation on criminal matters.

Community trust is the foundation of effective public safety. When immigrant and mixed-status families fear that local law enforcement is an extension of federal civil immigration enforcement, they stop reporting crime, cooperating as witnesses, and seeking help in emergencies—making everyone less safe. SB2057 SD2 strengthens Hawai'i's communities by reinforcing constitutional boundaries and ensuring state resources serve our state.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee PASS SB2057 SD2.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Rev. Amy Wake

Lead Pastor, Wesley United Methodist Church
pastoramywake@gmail.com

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 11:25:49 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Perez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony of Andrew Perez

In SUPPORT of SB2057 SD2

Committee on Economic Development & Technology

Representative Greggor Ilagan, Chair

Representative Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 18, 2026

Dear Chair Greggor Ilagan, Vice Chair Ikaika Hussey, and members of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology,

My name is Andrew Perez, and I submit this testimony in support of SB2057 SD2, which prohibits law enforcement officers from using any state personnel or funds to assist or facilitate conduct by federal immigration agents that is for the purposes of civil immigration enforcement or that exceeds their lawful authority, and prohibits assisting federal agents engaged in operations targeting First Amendment-protected activities or immigration enforcement operations.

I am testifying as an individual. SB2057 SD2 is a commonsense public safety and civil rights measure. State resources—personnel, funds, and equipment—belong to Hawai‘i’s residents and should serve Hawai‘i’s public safety priorities. This bill draws a clear line so

that state law enforcement is not used to assist federal civil immigration operations or actions targeting constitutionally protected activity. The SD2 amendment’s explicit reference to “civil immigration enforcement” makes this distinction legally clear while still permitting cooperation on criminal matters.

Community trust is the foundation of effective public safety. When immigrant and mixed-status families fear that local law enforcement is an extension of federal civil immigration enforcement, they stop reporting crime, cooperating as witnesses, and seeking help in emergencies—making everyone less safe. SB2057 SD2 strengthens Hawai‘i’s communities by reinforcing constitutional boundaries and ensuring state resources serve our state.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee PASS SB2057 SD2.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Andrew Perez

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 11:54:36 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I submit this testimony in support of SB2057 SD2, which prohibits law enforcement officers from using any state personnel or funds to assist or facilitate conduct by federal immigration agents that is for the purposes of civil immigration enforcement or that exceeds their lawful authority, and prohibits assisting federal agents engaged in operations targeting First Amendment-protected activities or immigration enforcement operations.

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 12:08:23 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Lewis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB2057 SD 2 – TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

Dear Chair Greggor Ilagan, Vice Chair Ikaika Hussey, and members of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology,

Thank you for this opportunity to submit my testimony in **strong support of SB2057 SD2**, personally, as a Lahaina resident, and as a member of Indivisible Hawai'i, a member of the Hawaii Campaign for Immigrant Justice, and a member of the ACLU.

SB2057 SD2 would prohibit law enforcement officers from using any state personnel or funds to assist or facilitate conduct by federal immigration agents that is for the purposes of civil immigration enforcement or that exceeds their lawful authority, and prohibits assisting federal agents engaged in operations targeting First Amendment-protected activities or immigration enforcement operations.

SB2057 SD2 is a commonsense public safety and civil rights measure. State resources— personnel, funds, and equipment—belong to Hawai'i's residents and should serve Hawai'i's public safety priorities. This bill draws a clear line so that state law enforcement is not used to assist federal civil immigration operations or actions targeting constitutionally protected activity. The SD2 amendment's explicit reference to "civil immigration enforcement" makes this distinction legally clear while still permitting cooperation on criminal matters.

In September of 2025, as part of President Trump's pattern of abusing his power to target critics through unconstitutional invocations of law enforcement, national security, and financial sanctions authorities, he issued a presidential memorandum authorizing government-wide

investigations into non-profits, activists, and their donors and funders, using vague and overbroad labels of “terrorism” and “conspiracy against rights.” This National Security Presidential Memorandum, NSPM-7, called “Countering Domestic Terrorism and Organized Political Violence,” essentially allows the Trump administration to go after *anyone* who disagrees with him and is not devoutly MAGA.

Who are these citizens the Trump administration has categorized as domestic terrorist threats? Anyone with a view that is “anti-Americanism,” “anti-Christianity,” “extremism on migration,” “extremism on race,” “extremism on gender,” or opposition to the good old “traditional American views on family, religion, and morality.” But as we all should know, having an opinion that differs from the Trump administration is not domestic terror; it is civic duty, and it is protected by the First Amendment. This NSPM-7 flies in the face of our First Amendment rights and the use of local law enforcement to affect this aggressive attack on liberty must be rejected.

National security policies and practices are most effective when they respect constitutional values and the rule of law and are subjected to stringent oversight as well as public accountability. Yet, NSPM-7 actively rejects the rule of law, and we have seen that there has been absolutely no accountability, much less public accountability.

We see daily examples of ICE, CBP and other DHS agents scooping people off the streets of America claiming immigration enforcement against “terrible criminals and really bad people” and disappearing them to facilities around the country. They incarcerated, apparently in substandard facilities with inadequate sanitation and food, deprived of their due process rights, and too often shipped to foreign countries before any judicial process.

Community trust is the foundation of effective public safety. When immigrant and mixed-status families fear that local law enforcement is an extension of federal civil immigration enforcement, they stop reporting crime, cooperating as witnesses, and seeking help in emergencies—making everyone less safe. SB2057 SD2 strengthens Hawai‘i’s communities by reinforcing constitutional boundaries and ensuring state resources serve our state.

It is the duty of city and state governments to protect their residents from this aggressive and illegal federal overreach. One extremely effective way for city and state governments to satisfy their obligations to their residents is through implementing policies that limit cooperation with immigrant authorities. SB2057 does just that, giving Hawaii’s a vital tool to protect our law enforcement personnel and funds from being dragooned into service of the un-American,

unconstitutional violations of civil rights and basic standards of decency we are seeing from federal agents. SB2057 is the kind of law that you hope you never need, but if you do it could save lives and families. Pass this bill to keep Hawaii law enforcement from becoming involved in these activities for which they would later be held accountable.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee **PASS SB2057 SD2**.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Jason Lewis

Lahaina, HI

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 12:21:29 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support SB 2057 because it:

- Protects constitutional rights and prevents misuse of Hawai'i resources to facilitate unlawful or retaliatory operations.
- Strengthens public safety: when communities trust local institutions, people report crime and cooperate as witnesses.
- Reduces fear among immigrant and mixed-status families so they can seek help and access services without avoidance.
- Provides clear boundaries and accountability for interagency cooperation.

Please pass SB 2057.

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 12:24:28 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pamela Elders	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony of Pamela Elders

In SUPPORT of SB2057 SD2

Committee on Economic Development & Technology

Representative Greggor Ilagan, Chair

Representative Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 18, 2026

Dear Chair Greggor Ilagan, Vice Chair Ikaika Hussey, and members of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology,

My name is Pamela Elders, and I submit this testimony in **support of SB2057 SD2**, which prohibits law enforcement officers from using any state personnel or funds to assist or facilitate conduct by federal immigration agents that is for the purposes of civil immigration enforcement or that exceeds their lawful authority, and prohibits assisting federal agents engaged in operations targeting First Amendment-protected activities or immigration enforcement operations.

I am a resident of Laupahoehoe, Hawaii, testifying as an individual.

SB2057 SD2 is a commonsense public safety and civil rights measure. State resources— personnel, funds, and equipment—belong to Hawai‘i’s residents and should serve Hawai‘i’s public safety priorities. This bill draws a clear line so that state law enforcement is not used to assist federal civil immigration operations or actions targeting constitutionally protected activity. The SD2 amendment’s explicit reference to “civil immigration enforcement” makes this distinction legally clear while still permitting cooperation on criminal matters.

Community trust is the foundation of effective public safety. When immigrant and mixed-status families fear that local law enforcement is an extension of federal civil immigration enforcement, they stop reporting crime, cooperating as witnesses, and seeking help in emergencies—making everyone less safe. SB2057 SD2 strengthens Hawai‘i’s communities by reinforcing constitutional boundaries and ensuring state resources serve our state.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee **PASS SB2057 SD2**.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Pamela Elders

Laupahoehoe, HI 96764

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 2:02:55 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Renee Rabb	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Good morning:

I'm Renee Rabb from Keaau, HI on Big Island and I'm in strong support of SB2057, which would limit participation by local and state law enforcement with ICE and Border Control. What is happening across the country is terrible beyond belief. Please do not provide assistance to these federal agencies as that ignore the rule of law and basic human decency.

Thank you,

Renee Rabb

Keaau, HI 96749

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 2:16:29 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert I Nehmad	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a resident of the City & County of Honolulu and support this Bill.

Please approve the Bill

Mahalo

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 2:39:30 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carla Allison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey and Committee Members of Economic Development & Technology.

My name is Carla Allison and I strongly **support of SB2057 SD2**. This is a commonsense public safety and civil rights measure, drawing a clear line so that state law enforcement is not used to assist federal civil immigration operations or actions targeting constitutionally protected activity.

The SD2 amendment’s explicit reference to “civil immigration enforcement” makes this distinction legally clear while still permitting cooperation on criminal matters.

SB2057 SD2 strengthens Hawai‘i’s communities by reinforcing constitutional boundaries and ensuring state resources serve our state.

Please support and pass **SB2057 SD2**.

Mahalo,

Carla Allison - Honolulu

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 4:55:01 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB2057 SD2 that prohibits law enforcement agencies from using any personnel or funds originating in the state to assist or facilitate conduct by federal agents that exceeds their statutory duty or authority, and prohibits law enforcement officers from assisting or cooperating with or allowing resources to be used to facilitate federal agents engaged in operations that target individuals or entities for activities protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution or immigration enforcement operations.

The misuse of federal partnerships to conduct raids, broaden surveillance, and intimidate communities is a threat to democratic governance and local safety. When state and local police take part in ICE’s abusive practices and play the role of federal immigration agents, it makes communities less safe by eroding trust in local law enforcement and deterring immigrant families from coming forward when they are the victims of crime or even asking for basic assistance.

It is in the interest of our communities to make sure that no public employee volunteers state and local resources, including data and equipment, to federal personnel who would use it to violate our rights. I urge the committee to pass this important measure. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

SB-2057-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 11:59:24 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/18/2026 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Deanna Espinas	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Submitting testimony is support. Thank you.