



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



*Advocating for the Hawai'i LGBTQIA+ Community*

Mailing Address: LGBTQ+ Commission, c/o The Department of Human Services,  
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February 28, 2026

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

Hearing: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 2:00 PM

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

Aloha Chair Matayoshi, Vice-Chair Grandinetti and fellow committee members,

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

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

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

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

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

Current limitations on who may provide an affidavit create inequitable access, particularly for individuals living in rural communities, those with limited financial

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

## HI State LGBTQ+ Commission Testimony in Support of HB 1452

resources, or those whose care is provided by qualified professionals outside of narrowly defined categories. HB 1452 addresses this gap by recognizing the full spectrum of licensed health care providers who are competent to attest to a person's gender-related care. This change reflects modern healthcare delivery and respects the professional judgment of providers who are already serving these communities.

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

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

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

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

If you or any member of your staff has any questions regarding my testimony you can reach me at [hawaiistatelgbtqpluscommission@gmail.com](mailto:hawaiistatelgbtqpluscommission@gmail.com).

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration,

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



HAWAII HEALTH &  
HARM REDUCTION CENTER

677 Ala Moana Blvd, Ste 226  
Honolulu, HI 96813

(808) 521-2437

[www.hhhrc.org](http://www.hhhrc.org)

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

## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1452, HD 1

TO: Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Grandinetti, & CPC Committee

FROM: Nikos Leverenz, Policy & Advancement Manager

DATE: March 3, 2026 (2:00 PM)

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Hawai'i Health & Harm Reduction Center (HHHRC) strongly supports HB 1452, HD 1, which adds advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) to the list of health care providers who can submit an affidavit for a new birth certificate.

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

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

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

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.



February 28, 2026

House's Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Hearing: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 2:00 PM

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

Aloha Chair Matayoshi, Vice-Chair Grandinetti and fellow committee members,

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

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

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

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

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

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

In this climate, it is imperative that Hawai'i act decisively to protect its residents. HB 1452 serves as a critical safeguard, ensuring that people can access accurate state-issued identity documents that allow them to live, work, and participate in society without fear or unnecessary exposure.

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

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

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

**Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.**

In Solidarity,

Michael Golojuch, Jr. (he/him)

President

[Pride at Work – Hawai'i](#)



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

Website: [www.hokupac.org](http://www.hokupac.org) ♦ Email: [info@hokupac.org](mailto:info@hokupac.org)

February 28, 2026

House's Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Hearing: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 at 2:00 PM

**RE: STRONG SUPPORT for House Bill 1452 HD 1 – Relating to Birth Certificates**

Aloha Chair Matayoshi, Vice-Chair Grandinetti and fellow committee members,

This testimony on behalf of **HOKU PAC**, Hawai'i's LGBTQ+ political action committee dedicated to building queer political power and advancing policies that protect our communities. We stand in **strong support of House Bill 1452 House Draft 1**.

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

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

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

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

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

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

**HOKU PAC Testimony in support of HB 1452 HD 1:  
RELATING TO BIRTH CERTIFICATES**

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

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

For these reasons, **HOKU PAC strongly urges your support of HB 1452 HD 1.**

**Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify.**

Me ke aloha,

**HOKU PAC**

**HB-1452-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 2:45:00 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/3/2026 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Carolyn M Golojuch  | Rainbow Family 808  | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

Rainbow Family 808 strongly supports HB 1452 HD1 because our Nonproffit firmly supports We the People means everyone deserves the right to be free to feel comfortable in who they are.

This bill harms no one. HB 1452 HD1 provides the right to be free. There's no reason to deny this right to anyone! It's a matter of control to deny tis freedom.

Rainbow Family 808 requets freedom to all.

With kindness regards,

Carolyn M. Golojuch, President/Founder

Advocate

Tuesday, March 3, 2026; 2:00 p.m.  
Conference Room 329 & Video Conference

**House Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce**

To: Representative Scott Matayoshi, Chair  
Representative Tina Grandinetti, Vice Chair

From: Michael Robinson  
Vice President, Government Relations & Community Affairs

Re: **HB 1452, HD1 – Testimony In Support  
Relating to Birth Certificates**

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My name is Michael Robinson, and I am the Vice President of Government Relations & Community Affairs at Hawai'i Pacific Health. Hawai'i Pacific Health is a not-for-profit health care system comprised of its four medical centers – Kapi'olani, Pali Momi, Straub and Wilcox and over 70 locations statewide with a mission of creating a healthier Hawai'i.

I am writing in SUPPORT of HB 1452, HD1 which expands the types of health care providers who can submit an affidavit for a new certificate of birth for certain birth registrants to include licensed advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs).

Currently, under HRS §338-17.7 only licensed physicians or physician assistants are allowed to submit affidavits for a new birth certificate under the circumstances described in the statute. Updating HRS §338-17.7 to allow an APRN to submit an affidavit for a new birth certificate would align with their scope of practice and simplify the evaluation process, eliminating the need for additional evaluations by a physician or physician assistant is not necessary.

APRNs are an integral part of the health care provider community. They are highly educated health care professionals who provide a broad range of primary, acute, and specialty care services. APRNs are authorized to perform many tasks historically reserved for physicians, including diagnosing illnesses, ordering diagnostic tests, and prescribing medications. Often, APRNs, rather than a physician or physician assistant, are the primary providers for many patients. HB 1452, HD1 updates the law to reflect modern health care delivery.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



## TESTIMONY FROM THE STONEWALL CAUCUS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII

### HEARING OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

March 3, 2026

#### Testimony in Strong Support of House Bill 1452 HD1 Relating to Birth Certificates

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

My name is Abby Simmons, Chair of the Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, and I am submitting testimony on behalf of our Caucus in **strong support of HB1452 HD1**.

HB1452 HD1 is a necessary and compassionate measure that modernizes Hawai'i's process for updating birth certificates so they reflect a person's authentic gender identity. This bill is fundamentally about dignity, safety, and equal treatment under the law.

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

Current requirements for updating gender markers can be invasive, outdated, and inconsistent with modern medical and legal standards. Many transgender people cannot or choose not to pursue medical interventions, and no one should be forced to meet unnecessary medical criteria in order to have accurate legal documents. HB1452 HD1 appropriately removes these barriers and replaces them with a fair, respectful, and medically informed process.

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

Importantly, HB1452 HD1 does not harm anyone else. It does not infringe on the rights of others, alter existing records inappropriately, or compromise public systems. It simply ensures that

## Testimony in STRONG SUPPORT of HB1452

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

Hawai'i has long been a leader in advancing fairness, inclusion, and aloha for all people. Passing HB1452 HD1 continues that proud tradition. It affirms that our state recognizes transgender residents as full members of our 'ohana - deserving of respect, privacy, and legal recognition.

On behalf of the Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, we respectfully urge this Committee to pass HB1452 HD1 with a favorable recommendation.

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

Respectfully,

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

## Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses (HAPN)



To: The Honorable Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Chair, and  
Members of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and  
Commerce (CPC)

From: Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses (HAPN)

RE: HB1452 HD1 — Relating to Birth Certificates

Position: Strong Support

Hearing: Tuesday, 03-03-26 at 2:00 p.m.

**LATE**

Aloha Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Grandinetti, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Hawai'i Association of Professional Nurses (HAPN), we submit this testimony in strong support of HB1452 HD1. This measure expands the types of health care providers who may submit an affidavit for a new certificate of birth for certain birth registrants by including advanced practice registered nurses. For the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce, HB1452 HD1 is a practical consumer-access and administrative-efficiency measure that removes an unnecessary procedural barrier while preserving professional accountability within Hawai'i's existing licensure framework.

HAPN supports HB1452 HD1 because Hawai'i-licensed APRNs are already regulated, independently licensed professionals who evaluate, diagnose, treat, and manage patient care across settings. Excluding APRNs from this affidavit process does not create a meaningful consumer safeguard. Instead, it forces some individuals to seek out a different provider solely for documentation purposes, even when an APRN is already the qualified clinician managing their care. That creates delay, duplication, and avoidable inconvenience without improving quality or oversight.

From HAPN's perspective, the benefits are practical and immediate:

### **HB1452 HD1 improves consumer access by reducing unnecessary administrative barriers.**

When a person is already receiving care from a qualified APRN, requiring an additional appointment with another provider simply to complete a statutory affidavit creates avoidable friction in the process. This bill allows consumers to work with the licensed clinician who is already evaluating and caring for them. That is a more efficient and patient-centered approach.

### **The bill promotes administrative consistency and modernizes statute.**

Hawai'i law already recognizes APRNs as licensed professionals with responsibility and accountability in patient care. HB1452 HD1 helps align the statute governing this affidavit process with the reality of modern healthcare delivery. Laws work better when provider categories accurately reflect current licensure and practice authority rather than outdated assumptions.

### **The measure preserves oversight and does not weaken standards.**

HB1452 HD1 does not eliminate professional review or open the process to unqualified individuals. It simply includes APRNs among the Hawai‘i-licensed providers who may complete the affidavit. APRNs remain subject to state licensure, regulation, scope-of-practice requirements, and professional discipline, just like other licensed clinicians.

**The bill supports consumer convenience without sacrificing accountability.**

For CPC, that balance matters. Consumers benefit when state processes are clear, efficient, and workable, but those processes must also remain grounded in professional accountability. HB1452 HD1 meets both standards by expanding access within an already regulated provider framework rather than creating a new or less accountable pathway.

**The bill reflects fair treatment of qualified Hawai‘i providers.**

When statute recognizes some licensed clinicians but excludes others who are also educated, regulated, and responsible for patient care, the result is inconsistency rather than protection. HB1452 HD1 corrects that problem in a narrow and reasonable way. It treats APRNs as the qualified professionals Hawai‘i law already recognizes them to be.

**LATE**

Conclusion

HB1452 HD1 is a straightforward consumer-access and administrative-modernization measure. It reduces unnecessary burden, supports efficient processing, and aligns statute with Hawai‘i’s current licensure framework while preserving professional accountability. HAPN respectfully urges the Committee to PASS HB1452 HD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hawai‘i Association of Professional Nurses (HAPN)

**HB-1452-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/27/2026 2:34:53 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/3/2026 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Breanna Zoey        | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

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

I am writing in strong support of HB1452 HD1, which expands the list of authorized healthcare providers who can submit an affidavit for a new birth certificate to include Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs).

Currently, Hawaii law allows physicians and physician assistants to provide the necessary medical attestation for a birth registrant who has undergone gender transition. This bill recognizes that APRNs are primary care providers who maintain bona fide provider-patient relationships and are fully qualified to evaluate a registrant’s medical history and clinical treatment.

By including APRNs, this bill:

- **Increases Access:** Many members of the sexual and gender minority community, especially in rural areas, rely on APRNs as their primary medical providers.
- **Reduces Barriers:** It removes the unnecessary administrative burden of requiring a patient to see a physician solely for an affidavit when their APRN has managed their transition care.
- **Ensures Consistency:** It aligns birth certificate procedures with modern healthcare practices where APRNs operate with full practice authority.

Please pass this bill to remove unnecessary barriers for the SGM community and ensure our state’s vital statistics processes reflect how healthcare is actually delivered in Hawaii today

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. -breanna zoey (she/they)

**HB-1452-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/27/2026 2:41:49 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/3/2026 2:00:00 PM

| Submitted By    | Organization | Testifier Position | Testify                |
|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| Amanda Martinez | Individual   | Support            | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

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

I am writing in strong support of HB1452 HD1, which expands the types of authorized healthcare providers who can submit an affidavit for a new birth certificate to include Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs).

Currently, Hawaii law allows physicians and physician assistants to provide the necessary medical attestation for a birth registrant who has undergone gender transition. This bill recognizes that APRNs are primary care providers who maintain bona fide provider-patient relationships and are fully qualified to evaluate a registrant’s medical history and clinical treatment.

By including APRNs in our law, this bill:

- **Increases Access:** Many members of the sexual and gender minority (SGM) community, especially in rural areas, rely on APRNs as their primary medical providers.
- **Reduces Barriers:** It removes the unnecessary administrative burden of requiring a patient to see a physician solely for an affidavit when their APRN has managed their transition care.
- **Ensures Consistency:** It aligns birth certificate procedures with modern healthcare practices where APRNs operate with full practice authority.

Please pass this bill to remove unnecessary barriers for the SGM community and ensure our state’s vital statistics processes reflect how healthcare is actually delivered in Hawaii today

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Amanda Martinez, MPH

**HB-1452-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/27/2026 3:36:15 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/3/2026 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>            |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Aaron Ruddick       | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony<br>Only |

Comments:

I strongly support HB1452 HD1.

**HB-1452-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/27/2026 4:27:24 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/3/2026 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Lisa Lee            | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

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

I am writing in strong support of HB1452 HD1, which expands the types of authorized healthcare providers who can submit an affidavit for a new birth certificate to include Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs).

1. Hawaii law allows physicians and physician assistants to provide the necessary medical attestation for a birth registrant who has undergone gender transition. This bill recognizes that APRNs are primary care providers who maintain bona fide provider-patient relationships and are fully qualified to evaluate a registrant’s medical history and clinical treatment.

By including APRNs in our law, this bill:

- **Increases Access:** Many members of the sexual and gender minority (SGM) community, especially in rural areas, rely on APRNs as their primary medical providers.
- **Reduces Barriers:** It removes the unnecessary administrative burden of requiring a patient to see a physician solely for an affidavit when their APRN has managed their transition care.
- **Ensures Consistency:** It aligns birth certificate procedures with modern healthcare practices where APRNs operate with full practice authority.

Please pass this bill to remove unnecessary barriers for the SGM community and ensure our state’s vital statistics processes reflect how healthcare is actually delivered in Hawaii today

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Lisa Lee

**HB-1452-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/27/2026 4:45:26 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/3/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Grandinetti, Members of the CPC Committee,

As a public health professional and concerned citizen, I write in **unequivocal support of HB1452 HD1**, which expands the types of authorized healthcare providers who can submit an affidavit for a new birth certificate to include Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs).

Currently, Hawaii law allows physicians and physician assistants to provide the necessary medical attestation for a birth registrant who has undergone gender transition. This bill recognizes that APRNs are primary care providers who maintain bona fide provider-patient relationships and are fully qualified to evaluate a registrant's medical history and clinical treatment.

Please pass this bill to ensure access to essential health and legal documents for all people in Hawai'i.

Mahalo,

Thaddeus Pham

**HB-1452-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/28/2026 1:44:46 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/3/2026 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Teresa Parsons      | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Representatives,

In some rural parts of our state, the APRN may be the only provider for a community. Including APRNs with the authority to attest to changes on birth certificates will provide more comprehensive access to care for transgender individuals.

I have been licensed as an APRN since 1987 and the goal of NPs is to practice at the fullest scope possible. The people of Hawai'i deserve this expansion of healthcare access. It is critical for all people in Hawai'i to have access to needed health care services, and APRNs are licensed independent providers, and possess the competencies to identify and treat patients with gender dysphoria.

not only fully capable of providing care but also may be the only source of care. These are the reasons I support HB1452 and ask for you to do the same.

Respectfully,

Teresa A Parsons, Ph.D., APRN-Rx

**HB-1452-HD-1**

Submitted on: 2/28/2026 1:59:40 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/3/2026 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Allen Novak         | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

Aloha Representative Scot Matayoshi, Chair and members of the Consumer Protection and Commerce Committee.

As an APRN in solo private practice serving chronic and severely mentally ill individuals in East Hawai'i Island for over 30 years I wish to testify in support of HB1452.

This bill will improve access to helathcare services. APRNs are well qualified within their scope of practice to allow transgender people to change their gender marker on their birth certificate.

Please pass HB1452

Aloha Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Nakada Grandinetti, and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB1452 HD1.

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

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

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

**HB-1452-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/1/2026 8:29:53 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/3/2026 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>    |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Shanda Brack        | Individual          | Support                   | Remotely Via Zoom |

Comments:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions or if I can be helpful.

Mahalo nui loa,

Shanda Brack, APRN

**HB-1452-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/1/2026 9:45:29 PM

Testimony for CPC on 3/3/2026 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>         |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Kay Lee             | Individual          | Support                   | Written Testimony Only |

Comments:

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

I am testifying in strong support of HB1452 HD1 as an individual with a number of trans loved ones currently going through the process of transitioning. Outdated birth certificates can create major obstacles that can affect trans people's abilities to access essential services safely and with dignity. Including APRNs amongst the healthcare providers permitted to submit affidavits is a commonsense way of making the process of updating birth certificates more accessible.

Please pass HB1452 HD1. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

**HB-1452-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 8:30:47 AM

Testimony for CPC on 3/3/2026 2:00:00 PM

| <b>Submitted By</b> | <b>Organization</b> | <b>Testifier Position</b> | <b>Testify</b>    |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Rick Ramirez        | Individual          | Support                   | Remotely Via Zoom |

Comments:

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

I am writing in strong support of HB1452 HD1, which expands the types of authorized healthcare providers who can submit an affidavit for a new birth certificate to include Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs).

Currently, Hawaii law allows physicians and physician assistants to provide the necessary medical attestation for a birth registrant who has undergone gender transition. This bill recognizes that APRNs are primary care providers who maintain bona fide provider-patient relationships and are fully qualified to evaluate a registrant’s medical history and clinical treatment. APRNS have had full practice authority in Hawaii since 1995.

By including APRNs in our law, this bill:

- **Increases Access:** Many members of the sexual and gender minority (SGM) community, especially in rural areas, rely on APRNs as their primary medical providers.
- **Reduces Barriers:** It removes the unnecessary administrative burden of requiring a patient to see a physician solely for an affidavit when their APRN has managed their transition care.
- **Ensures Consistency:** It aligns birth certificate procedures with modern healthcare practices where APRNs operate with full practice authority.

Please pass this bill to remove unnecessary barriers for the SGM community and ensure our state’s vital statistics processes reflect how healthcare is actually delivered in Hawaii today

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Rick Ramirez, DNP, APRN, AGAACNP-BC, FNP-BC, ENP-C

Aloha Chair Matayoshi, Vice Chair Grandinetti, and Committee Members,

I am writing in strong support of HB1452 HD 1, a bill to expand the types of providers who can submit an affidavit for a new birth certificate.

Thirty years ago, the state of Hawai'i granted full practice authority to APRNs, advanced practice nurse practitioners. Unfortunately, under current law their patients need to have a physician or physician assistant complete the affidavit to amend the gender marker on the patient's birth certificate.

This bill, HB1452 HD 1, would address that oversight and allow APRNs to submit the affidavit themselves, no longer requiring someone else (often outside of the practice) to involve themselves in their patient's care. This would make the process easier and quicker for those trying to amend their birth certificates that are under the care of an APRN.

-Mahalo for your time,

Michael Paul

Resident of House District 27