



OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

‘Ōlelo Hō‘ike ‘Aha Kau Kānāwai

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 1667 HD1 SD1

RELATING TO CIVIL IDENTIFICATION

Ke Kōmike ‘Aha Kenekoa o ka Ho‘okolokolo

(Senate Committee on Judiciary)

Ke Kapitala ‘o Hawai‘i

(Hawai‘i State Capitol)

‘Apelila 7, 2026

10:15 AM

Lumi 016

Aloha e Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS HB1667 HD1 SD1** which lowers the age at which a person may obtain a state civil identification card without the signature of a parent or guardian from eighteen to sixteen years old.

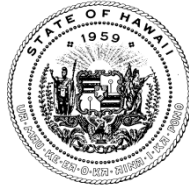
OHA supports practical measures that remove unnecessary barriers to basic identification and improve access to essential services for youth. A state identification card is often necessary to secure employment, obtain housing, access health care, open a bank account, enroll in programs, and meet other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

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

Reducing barriers to identification also supports broader well-being goals. Youth who can access lawful identification are better positioned to engage with education, work, services, and other stabilizing support. This measure promotes fairness by recognizing that some young people must navigate adult systems before they reach eighteen, and that access to identification should not depend entirely on the availability of a parent or guardian.

For these reasons, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs respectfully urges this Committee to **PASS HB1667 HD1 SD1**. Mahalo nui for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



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

EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DIRECTOR
KA LUNA HO'OKELE

Deputy Directors
Nā Hope Luna Ho'okele
DREANALEE K. KALILI
TAMMY L. LEE
CURT T. OTAGURO
ROBIN K. SHISHIDO

Tuesday, April 7, 2026
10:15 AM
State Capitol, 016

**HB1667, HD1, SD1
RELATING TO CIVIL IDENTIFICATION**

Senate Committee on Judiciary

The Department of Transportation (DOT) supports HB1667, HD1, SD1.

This bill amends Hawaii Revised Statutes §286-303 to lower the age requirement for obtaining a state civil identification card without a parental or guardian signature from eighteen years old to sixteen years old.

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

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

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

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

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

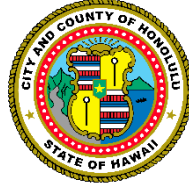
ADMINISTRATION

925 DILLINGHAM BOULEVARD, SUITE 257 • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96817
PHONE: (808) 768-3392 • FAX: (808) 768-3750 • WEBSITE: honolulu.gov

RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR
MEIA

KIMBERLY M. HASHIRO
DIRECTOR
PO'O

MEGAN JOHNSON
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
HOPE PO'O



April 6, 2026

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary
State Capitol, Conference Room 016
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary:

SUBJECT: H.B. No. 1667, H.D. 1, S.D. 1 - Relating To Civil Identification
HEARING: Tuesday, April 7, 2026, 10:15 a.m.

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

CSD appreciates the amendment providing **one year from the date of enactment** to fully implement the operational and system changes required by this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in **support** of H.B. No. 1667, H.D. 1, S.D. 1.

Sincerely,

Kimberly M. Hashiro
Director

HB-1667-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 4:57:50 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/7/2026 10:15:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Testifying for Rainbow Family 808	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Rainbow Family 808 supports HB1667. This bill is needed to help all youth, but especially the houseless youth. Please pass this bill.

677 Ala Moana Blvd
Suite 904
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone 808.489.9549
Email info@hysn.org

Board of Directors
President
Cyd Hoffeld

Vice President
Jefferson Gourley

Treasurer
Paul Tonnessen

Secretary
Andre Fraticelli

Executive Director
Sonia Blackiston

Directors
Vonn Ramos
Chelene Arnold
Roxanne Costa
Laura Brucia Hamm
Susana Helm
Sione Ford Neata

April 5, 2026

Testimony in strong support of HB1667 HD1 SD1

Aloha e Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary:

Hawai'i Youth Services Network (HYSN) strongly supports HB 1667, HD1, SD1, which lowers the minimum age for obtaining a State of Hawai'i civil identification card without a parent or guardian signature from eighteen to sixteen years old.

This measure is a critical step toward reducing barriers faced by youth, particularly those experiencing homelessness or family instability. A state-issued identification card is often a basic requirement to access essential services such as housing assistance, healthcare, education enrollment, employment, and public benefits. For many young people, especially those who are unaccompanied or estranged from their families, the current age requirement creates an unnecessary and inequitable obstacle.

HYSN partner agencies work directly with vulnerable youth across the state. Over the past three years alone, our partners have assisted 89 youth in obtaining legal identification. Lowering the age to sixteen would significantly streamline this process and allow young people to more quickly access the services they need to be safe, healthy, and productive.

We respectfully urge your support of HB 1667, HD1, SD1, to help ensure that 16–17-year-old young people in Hawai'i have equitable access to identification and the opportunities that come with it.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Sonia Blackiston

Sonia Blackiston
Executive Director
Hawai'i Youth Services Network

Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i

KAWAIILOA

April 7, 2026

Senate Committee on Judiciary

Hearing Time: 10:15 AM

Location: Conference Room 016

Re: HB1667 HD1 SD1, Relating to Civil Identification

Aloha e Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i hui, we are writing in **strong support of HB1667 HD1 SD1 relating to civil identification, with amendment**. This bill lowers the age at which individuals can obtain a state civil identification card without a parent or guardian's signature from 18 to 16.

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

Therefore, a state civil identification card could be extremely valuable for sixteen-year-olds (and seventeen-year-olds) in accessing resources and materials that require identity verification. It would allow them access to daily necessities and enable them to perform tasks essential to survival, such as obtaining employment, applying for public benefits like SNAP, opening a bank account, enrolling in higher education, or participating in workforce programs and civic and social activities. It also offers a sense of belonging to a place and symbolizes almost a rite of passage into "adulthood." However, particularly for homeless youth, youth who are estranged from or have unhealthy familial relationships, or who are victims of abuse, obtaining an identification card to gain access to such necessities can be difficult and create an unnecessary barrier because they are unable to easily retrieve a parent's or guardian's signature.

Therefore, this bill helps address the issues faced by sixteen-year-olds (and seventeen-year-olds) who experience homelessness or have familial relationships that make it difficult to obtain the requisite signatures to obtain an identification card. By lowering the age to obtain a state civil identification card from eighteen to sixteen without a parent or guardian's signature, HB1667 HD1 SD1 acknowledges that sixteen is an important age for an individual to access resources essential to their health and future, and gives youth experiencing homelessness or difficult family circumstances the chance to still succeed and care for themselves. Additionally, a state civil identification card differs from a driver's license in that it does not authorize an individual to drive. Nothing in this bill would alter the age requirements for obtaining a driver's license. HB1667 HD1 SD1 is strictly about allowing youth with difficult family circumstances to obtain a state civil identification card without a parent or guardian signature.

Opportunity for Youth Action Hawai'i is a collaboration of organizations and individuals committed to reducing the harmful effects of a punitive incarceration system for youth; promoting equity in the justice system; and improving and increasing resources to address adolescent and young adult mental health needs. We seek to improve the continuity of programs and services for youth and young adults transitioning from minor to adult status; eliminate youth homelessness and housing market discrimination against young

adults; and promote and fund more holistic and culturally informed approaches among public/private agencies serving youth.

1099 Alakea Street, Suite 2530 | Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 | (808) 447-1840

1099 Alakea Street, Suite 2530 | Honolulu | Hawai'i | 96813 | (808) 447-1840 | www.oyahpolicy.com

Judith F. Clark
48-218 Kamehameha Highway
808-499-9966
Judithforceclark@gmail.com
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

April 1, 2026

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair,
And members of the Committee on Judiciary

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

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

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

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

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Judith F. Clark, MPH

HB-1667-SD-1

Submitted on: 4/3/2026 10:45:30 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/7/2026 10:15:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support this legislation.

David Ball

Waiialae-Kahala