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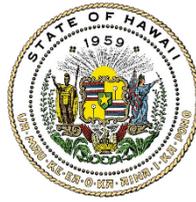
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February 9, 2026

SB 2057: RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

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

The Office of the Public Defender (OPD) **supports SB 2057** 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. 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 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.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.



OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2057
RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

Ke Kōmike ‘Aha Kenekoa o ka Palekana Lehulehu, a
me ke Kuleana Pū‘ali Koa
Ke Kōmike ‘Aha Kenekoa o ke Ikehu, a me ka Pilina
O Nā Aupuni
Hawai‘i State Capitol

Pepeluali 10, 2026

3:07 PM

Lumi 224

Aloha e Chair Fukunaga, Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Lee, Vice Chair Chang, Members of Ke Kōmike ‘Aha Kenekoa o ka Palekana Lehulehu, a me ke Kuleana Pū‘ali Koa and Members of Ke Kōmike ‘Aha Kenekoa o ke Ikehu, a me ka Pilina O Nā Aupuni:

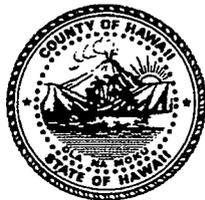
The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS SB2057** which limits the use of state and county law enforcement resources to assist in operations that suppress First Amendment protected activity or conduct immigration enforcement at or near schools, health facilities, places of worship, and courthouses.

OHA supports measures that preserve free expression, protect public access to essential services, and maintain community trust in public institutions. SB2057 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 enforcement activity. Hawai‘i has a long and proud history of civic engagement, peaceful protest, and free expression across diverse communities, and protecting First Amendment activity from undue enforcement entanglement is consistent with these values and with a healthy democratic society.

For Kānaka Maoli, enforcement actions in civic and community spaces must also be viewed in historical context, as Hawai‘i’s past shows that government power exercised without clear limits can profoundly affect civil liberties and community well-being, underscoring the importance of placing human dignity and constitutional protections first. SB2057 does not prohibit cooperation where required by federal or state law; rather, it clarifies that discretionary use of local resources should not undermine protected expression or deter people from accessing essential community institutions. For these reasons, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs respectfully urges this Committee to **PASS SB2057**.

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

C. Kimo Alameda, Ph.D.
Mayor



Reed K. Mahuna
Interim Police Chief

William V. Brilhante Jr.
Managing Director

County of Hawai`i

POLICE DEPARTMENT

349 Kapi`olani Street • Hilo, Hawai`i 96720-3998
(808) 935-3311 • Fax (808) 961-2389

February 9, 2026

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

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair
Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair
And Members
Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senators Wakai, Chang, Fukunaga and Lee and Members,

RE: SENATE BILL 2057 RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT
DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2026
TIME: 3:07 P.M.
PLACE: CONFERENCE ROOM 224 AND VIDEOCONFERENCE

The Hawaii Police Department (HPD) respectfully offers comments on Senate Bill 2057, which seeks to prohibit state and county law enforcement agencies from using personnel or resources to assist federal agents in certain operations, including immigration enforcement and activities implicating First Amendment rights. While HPD supports the Legislature's intent to protect constitutional freedoms and ensure appropriate limits on law enforcement authority, we have significant concerns about the operational impact and practical implementation of this measure.

First, the bill introduces broad restrictions on collaboration with federal agencies, stating that law enforcement may not assist in operations that "exceed statutory authority" or involve immigration enforcement near sensitive locations. These terms are not clearly defined, creating ambiguity for officers in the field. Without precise guidance, officers risk inadvertently violating the law when participating in joint task forces or responding to federal requests for assistance. This uncertainty could lead to hesitation in critical situations, undermining public safety and interagency cooperation.

SENATE BILL 2057 RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT
DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2026
TIME: 3:07 P.M.
PLACE: CONFERENCE ROOM 224 AND VIDEOCONFERENCE
Page 2

Second, the bill would require substantial changes to existing policies and procedures. HPD currently participates in multi-agency operations with federal partners for narcotics enforcement, violent crime investigations, and other public safety priorities. These operations often involve shared resources, facilities, and personnel. The proposed restrictions could disrupt these partnerships, reduce operational efficiency, and limit our ability to address serious criminal activity that spans jurisdictions.

Third, compliance will require extensive training and administrative oversight. Officers must understand when cooperation is permissible under federal or state law and when it is prohibited. Developing and implementing these training programs will require time and resources that are not currently appropriated. Additionally, the bill does not specify enforcement mechanisms or penalties, leaving agencies uncertain about liability and accountability.

Finally, HPD believes that statewide standards for interagency cooperation should be developed through a comprehensive policy process rather than through statutory mandates alone. The Law Enforcement Standards Board is the appropriate body to establish uniform guidelines that balance constitutional protections with operational realities. This approach would ensure consistency across jurisdictions and provide clear, practical direction for officers in the field.

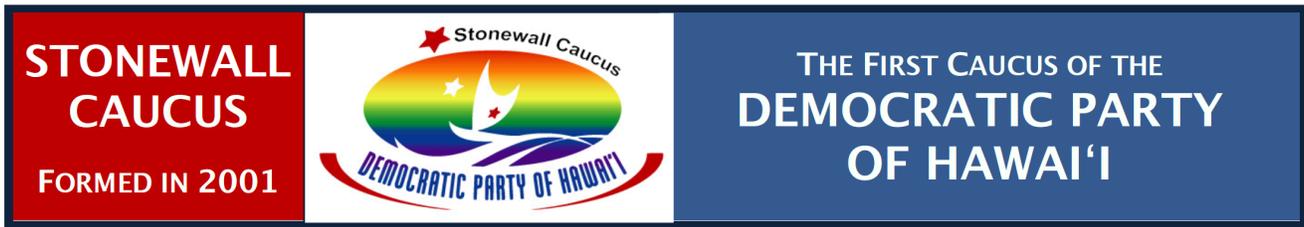
For these reasons, HPD respectfully urges the Committee to consider the operational challenges posed by this measure and to delegate authority to the Law Enforcement Standards Board to develop statewide policies governing collaboration with federal agencies. This policy-driven approach promotes accountability while safeguarding public safety and ensuring clarity for law enforcement personnel.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully,



REED K. MAHUNA
INTERIM POLICE CHIEF



STONEWALL CAUCUS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB2057 Relating to Law Enforcement and Federal Collaboration

To the Honorable Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committees:

On behalf of the Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii, I, Abby Simmons as Chair, submit this testimony in **strong support** of SB2057.

SB2057 prohibits state and county law enforcement agencies from using Hawaii personnel or resources to assist federal agents in actions that exceed their lawful authority, target immigrants, or suppress activities protected by the First Amendment. This bill also prevents cooperation in federal operations that interfere with lawful speech, assembly, and civic participation.

This legislation is critically important because it reaffirms Hawaii's commitment to constitutional protections and democratic values. Our state agencies should never be used to support unlawful, discriminatory, or politically motivated actions that undermine civil liberties. SB2057 ensures that Hawaii's public safety institutions remain grounded in the rule of law and accountable to our communities.

Freedom of speech, peaceful assembly, and civic engagement are core pillars of our democracy. Residents must be able to organize, protest, worship, seek services, and participate in public life without fear of intimidation or retaliation. When state or local agencies assist federal overreach, it erodes public trust and chills lawful expression.

SB2057 creates a clear and principled boundary: Hawaii should not assist actions that exceed lawful authority. It prevents discriminatory targeting and protects the civil rights of all residents, regardless of immigration status. Constitutional protections apply to everyone who lives in our communities, and this bill reflects that fundamental truth.

This measure also protects the integrity of our public safety institutions. Law enforcement agencies function best when they are trusted by the communities they serve. Cooperation in questionable or harmful operations undermines that trust and damages long-term public safety outcomes. SB2057 helps ensure that Hawaii's law enforcement officers remain focused on lawful, community-centered policing.

By prohibiting the use of state resources to facilitate suppression of protected speech or improper immigration enforcement, SB2057 reinforces First Amendment protections and strengthens democratic legitimacy. Suppression of lawful speech weakens public confidence in government and threatens the foundation of representative democracy.

Testimony in Strong Support of SB2057

Importantly, SB2057 does not interfere with legitimate law enforcement activities conducted within the bounds of the law. Rather, it ensures that cooperation occurs only when it is lawful, appropriate, and consistent with Hawai'i's values of fairness, dignity, and justice.

At a time when many communities—particularly immigrants, LGBTQ+ individuals, and people of color—face heightened fear and uncertainty, SB2057 provides an essential safeguard. It affirms that Hawai'i will not participate in actions that harm vulnerable populations or undermine civil rights.

For these reasons, the Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly supports SB2057 and respectfully urges the Committees to pass this important measure. Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony and for your continued dedication to protecting democracy, civil liberties, and community trust in Hawai'i.

Respectfully submitted,

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

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 10:10:50 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan B Roberts Emery	Testifying for Green Party of Hawai'i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Chang, Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Lee, and honorable members of committee,

My name is Susan RobertsEmery, as Co Chair of the Green Party of Hawai'i , we stand in VERY STRONG Support of SB2057. We are in Orwellian times and as individuals we are insecure, but as a collective we are mighty. We are all connected.

Hawai'i agencies should not be used to facilitate unlawful or discriminatory actions. This bill reinforces core constitutional values: lawful authority, equal protection, and the right to free speech and peaceful assembly. Our freedom of speech is one of the cornerstones of our empire. I wish to say democracy, but we have been co-opted by corporations and until we the people, have more power than corporations we are not a democracy.

Green Party of Hawai'i stands in Very Strong Support of SB2057.

Aloha Always,

Susan RobertsEmery

Green Party of Hawai'i

Paauilo



TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB2057, RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

SENATE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC SAFETY & MILITARY AFFAIRS AND ENERGY & INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

February 10, 2026

To the Honorable Chairs and Members of the Committees:

The Democratic Party of Hawai'i **strongly supports SB2057**. This bill aligns squarely with the Democratic Party of Hawai'i Platform's core commitments to civil liberties, accountable government, and public safety that is just, equitable, and free from discrimination. The Platform affirms that government must be transparent, restrained by checks and balances, and accountable to the people. This measure reflects those principles by ensuring that state resources are not used to facilitate federal actions that exceed lawful authority or undermine constitutional protections.

The Platform further recognizes that true public safety cannot be achieved through policing alone and that laws must be enforced fairly, without discrimination or disproportionate harm to communities of color. By limiting state participation in civil immigration enforcement—particularly at sensitive locations such as schools, health facilities, places of worship, and courthouses—this bill protects access to essential services and promotes community trust, which is foundational to public safety.

Additionally, the Platform strongly supports the protection of First Amendment rights, religious freedom, and freedom from oppression or retaliatory government action. This bill is consistent with those values by prohibiting the use of state personnel or resources to assist in operations that target constitutionally protected activity.

Importantly, this measure does not prevent federal authorities from carrying out their duties, nor does it interfere with lawful criminal enforcement. It simply affirms Hawai'i's right—and responsibility—to decide how its own resources are used, in a manner consistent with constitutional values and ethical governance.

For these reasons, this bill is fully consistent with the Democratic Party of Hawai'i Platform, and we respectfully urge the Committee to pass this measure.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB2057. Should you have any questions or require further information, please contact the Democratic Party of Hawai'i at legislation@hawaiidemocrats.org.

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

P.O. Box 37158, Honolulu, HI 96837-0158

Phone/E-Mail: [\(808\) 927-1214](tel:(808)927-1214) / kat.caphi@gmail.com

Today's Inmate; Tomorrow's Neighbor



COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair

Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair

Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 10, 2026

3:07 PM

Room 325 and VIDEOCONFERENCE

SUPPORT FOR SB 2057 - PROHIBITS HI NATIONAL GUARD FROM ASSISTING FEDERAL TROOPS

Aloha Chairs Fukunaga and Wakai, Vice Chairs Lee and Chang and Members of both Committees!

My name is Kat Brady and I am the Coordinator of Community Alliance on Prisons, a community initiative promoting smart justice policies in Hawai'i for almost three decades. This testimony is respectfully offered on behalf of the 3,667 Hawai'i individuals living behind bars¹ and under the "care and custody" of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation on February 2, 2026. We are always mindful that 799 of Hawai'i's imprisoned male population are serving their sentences abroad -- thousands of miles away from their loved ones, their homes and, for the disproportionate number of incarcerated Kanaka Maoli, far, far from their ancestral lands.

Community Alliance on Prisons appreciates this opportunity to express our **STRONG SUPPORT for SB 2057** that prohibits state resources from facilitating federal overreach, including our First Amendment rights by targeting certain

immigration enforcement operations. We thank the committees for hearing this bill.

This bill is so important, especially now to:

PROTECT CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS as it prevents misuse of Hawai'i resources to facilitate unlawful or retaliatory operations.

STRENGTHEN PUBLIC SAFETY AND COMMUNITY TRUST OF LOCAL INSTITUTIONS so that people are not afraid to report crime and cooperate as witnesses.

REDUCE FEAR AMONG IMMIGRANT AND MIXED-STATUS FAMILIES so they can confidently seek help and access services without fear.

PROVIDE CLEAR BOUNDARIES AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOR INTERAGENCY COOPERATION.

We urge the Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs and Public Safety and Military Affairs committees to pass this bill and to recommend that JDC pass it to protect all the people of Hawai'i Nei.

Mahalo for this opportunity to share our passion to protect the Constitution and our civil rights!

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 10:20:03 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Honolulu Hawaii NAACP	Testifying for NAACP	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair Stanley Chang, and members of the Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs; Chair Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair Chris Lee, and members of Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs.

The NAACP submits this testimony in support of SB 2057, which prohibits state and county law enforcement from helping federal agents exceed their authority, target immigrants, or suppress First Amendment activity.

The NAACP believes Hawai'i agencies should not be used to facilitate unlawful immigration practices because everyone in our state is entitled to due process and equal protections, including free speech and peaceful assembly.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Alphonso Braggs

President



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

February 10, 2026 3:07 pm, CR 224 and Videoconference
SB2057 RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

TESTIMONY

Judith Mills Wong, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Lee, and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports BILL NUMBER SB2057

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. For these reasons the League supports SB2057.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



www.hicir.org | Instagram @hicir
hicoalitionforimmigrantrights@gmail.com

Testimony of the Hawai‘i Coalition for Immigrant Rights

In SUPPORT of SB2057

Relating to Law Enforcement

Hearing: Tuesday, February 10, 2026, 3:07PM (EIG/PSM), Room 224 & Videoconference

Aloha Chairs Wakai and Fukunaga, Vice Chairs Chang and Lee, and Members of the Committees,

My name is **Liza Ryan Gill**, and I submit this testimony **on behalf of the Hawai‘i Coalition for Immigrant Rights (HCIR) in strong support of SB2057.**

HCIR is a statewide coalition of immigrant-serving and immigrant-led organizations working to advance policies that protect immigrant and migrant communities and strengthen Hawai‘i’s shared future. SB2057 is a critical public safety and governance measure that reaffirms constitutional protections, promotes accountability, and safeguards community trust in law enforcement.

SB2057 would prohibit state and county law enforcement agencies from assisting federal agents in conducting federal immigration enforcement, involve discriminatory targeting of immigrants, or suppress activity protected by the First Amendment. This bill makes clear that Hawai‘i’s public safety institutions should not be used to facilitate unlawful or unconstitutional conduct, and should be used to protect and serve Hawai‘i’s residents, first and foremost.

This measure is important because constitutional rights apply to all people, regardless of immigration status. Freedom of speech, assembly, and participation in civic life are foundational to a functioning democracy. When residents fear intimidation, retaliation, or surveillance for exercising these rights, democratic legitimacy is undermined and community trust erodes.

SB2057 draws a necessary boundary. It ensures Hawai‘i’s resources are not used to do the job of the federal government to conduct immigration enforcement, ensures that Hawai‘i does not engage in actions that exceed lawful authority, prevents discriminatory targeting, and protects civil rights while preserving the integrity of state and county law enforcement agencies. By clearly limiting cooperation in these circumstances, the bill provides guidance to agencies and reassures communities that public safety resources will not be used to suppress lawful expression or civic participation.

Importantly, SB2057 does not interfere with legitimate law enforcement duties. Rather, it reinforces constitutional norms and ensures that public safety institutions operate in a manner consistent with Hawai‘i’s values of fairness, accountability, and respect for civil liberties.



www.hicir.org | Instagram @hicir
hicoalitionforimmigrantrights@gmail.com

For these reasons, the **Hawai‘i Coalition for Immigrant Rights respectfully urges the Committees to PASS SB2057.**

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Liza Ryan Gill
Hawai‘i Coalition for Immigrant Rights (HCIR)

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 2:31:23 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tasman Kekai Mattox	Testifying for 50501 Hawaii and General Strike Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We are writing in support of SB2057 to prohibit 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. Our local law enforcement officers should be focused on local issues and the safety of our community, rather than eroding public trust by working with ICE and violating first amendment rights to free speech. Our local law enforcement should be protecting our first amendment rights rather than targeting us, and should not be involved in immigration enforcement. Mahalo in advance for ensure that our local law enforcement has clear guidelines when interacting with federal agents.



Cade Watanabe, Financial Secretary-Treasurer

Gemma G. Weinstein, President

Eric W. Gill, Senior Vice-President

February 9, 2026

Senate Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs
Sen. Glenn Wakai, Chair
Sen. Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

And

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

Testimony in Strong Support of SB 2054, SB 2057, and SB 3322

Chairs Wakai and Fukunaga, Vice Chairs Chang and Lee, 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 2054, SB 2057 and SB 3322. These measures are important steps toward greater accountability and safeguarding the most vulnerable people in our community.

Thank you.



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

Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs Sen. Glenn Wakai, Chair Sen. Stanley Chang, Vice Chair	Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs Sen. Carol Fukunaga, Chair Sen. Chris Lee, Vice Chair
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February 9, 2026

Dear Chair Wakai, Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Committees:

The Legal Clinic (TLC) supports SB2057, 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 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. This 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 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 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 Dr. Amefil Agbayani,

Christina Sablan
Community & Policy Advocate



Fujiwara & Rosenbaum, L.L.L.C.

*Alahea Corporate Tower
1100 Alahea St., Fl. 20, Suite B
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813*

LATE

Senate Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs

Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

Tuesday, February 10, 2026, TIME: 3:07 PM, Conference Room 224

Re: Testimony of Elizabeth Jubin Fujiwara in **Strong Support** of **S.B. 2057**, Relating to **LAW ENFORCEMENT**

Chair Wakai, Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Chang, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committees:

As a civil rights attorney I submit this testimony in strong support of S.B. 2057.

This bill would add a new section to Chapter 139 of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes to accomplish three things. First, it would prohibit state and county law enforcement 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. Second, it would prohibit law enforcement officers from assisting federal operations that target individuals or entities for activities protected by the First Amendment. Third, it would prohibit that same assistance for immigration enforcement purposes, including enforcement that occurs at or near a school, health facility, place of worship, or courthouse.

S.B. 2057 is constitutionally sound, grounded in well-established federal law, and deeply aligned with the values of the Hawai'i State Constitution. It deserves this body's full support.

I. THE HAWAII CONSTITUTION COMPELS THIS LEGISLATION

The Hawai'i State Constitution is among the most protective charters of individual rights in the nation. S.B. 2057 does not create new rights. It prevents state complicity in their violation.

A. Popular Sovereignty and Self-Governance

The **Preamble to our Constitution** declares: "We reserve the right to control our destiny, to nurture the integrity of our people and culture, and to preserve the quality of life that we desire." **Article I, Section 1** establishes that "[a]ll political power of this State is inherent in the people and the responsibility for the exercise thereof rests with the people. All government is founded on this authority."

These are not ceremonial words. They vest in this Legislature the sovereign authority to determine how Hawai'i's law enforcement resources are deployed and to set the boundaries of cooperation with other governments. S.B. 2057 is a direct exercise of that authority.

Article XVI, Section 5 entitled Intergovernmental Relations of our Constitution confirms this. It provides: "The legislature **may provide for cooperation** on the part of this State and its political subdivisions with the **United States**, or other states and territories, or their political subdivisions, in matters affecting the public health, safety and general welfare." The operative word is "may." Cooperation with the federal government is discretionary, not compulsory. The Legislature has plenary authority to define the terms, scope, and

limits of any such cooperation, and to withdraw that cooperation when federal conduct threatens the health, safety, and general welfare of Hawai'i's people.

B. Freedom of Speech, Assembly, and Petition

Article I, Section 4 provides: "No law shall be enacted respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

S.B. 2057 gives this guarantee operational force. Section (b)(1) of the bill prohibits state assistance with any federal operation that seeks to identify, arrest, or penalize a person for activities protected by the First Amendment. **When residents fear that attending a rally, signing a petition, or speaking at a community meeting could *trigger federal targeting with the assistance of their own local police***, the chilling effect is immediate and corrosive. The suppression of lawful speech does not merely harm individual speakers. **It undermines the democratic legitimacy of government itself by silencing the feedback loop between the people and their elected representatives.** This bill ensures that Hawai'i's law enforcement will ***never be a tool*** for punishing the exercise of freedoms our Constitution guarantees.

C. Due Process, Equal Protection, and the Protection of All Persons

Article I, Section 5 is one of the *broadest equal protection* provisions in the country. It provides: "No person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law, nor be denied the equal protection of the laws, nor be denied the enjoyment of the person's civil rights or be discriminated against in the exercise thereof because of race, religion, sex or ancestry."

Two features of this provision bear directly on S.B. 2057. First, it **protects every person, not only citizens**. Constitutional rights in Hawai'i attach to human beings *by virtue of their presence, not their immigration status*. The framers of our Constitution chose this word deliberately. Second, this provision goes **beyond the federal Fourteenth Amendment** by expressly prohibiting discrimination based on **race, religion, sex, or ancestry** in the exercise of civil rights. **Immigration enforcement operations that rely on appearance, surname, language, or ancestry as proxies for immigration status are incompatible with this guarantee.** S.B. 2057 prevents Hawai'i from lending its personnel and resources to enforcement activities that, as carried out, risk violating the equal protection and due process rights our Constitution affords to all persons within our borders.

Article I, Section 2 reinforces this principle: "All persons are free by nature and are equal in their inherent and inalienable rights." This is the *moral and legal foundation* on which S.B. 2057 rests.

D. The Right to Privacy

Hawai'i is one of a small number of states with an *explicit, freestanding constitutional right to privacy*. **Article I, Section 6** declares: "The right of the people to privacy is recognized and shall not be infringed without the showing of a compelling state interest. The legislature shall take affirmative steps to implement this right."

This provision contains a **legislative mandate**. The Constitution does not merely recognize the right to privacy; it **commands the Legislature** to take affirmative steps to implement it. The right is far broader than any federal constitutional analog, protecting both informational privacy and personal autonomy. S.B. 2057 answers this mandate directly by prohibiting state resources from being used to basically surveil, identify, or compile information on individuals in connection with federal operations that exceed lawful authority. **When state officers participate in federal enforcement sweeps at schools, hospitals, and churches, the invasion of privacy is not incidental. It is systematic and severe.**

Here I would suggest an amendment to add to the word identify by adding the words: "surveil or compile information on individuals in connection with federal operations that exceed lawful authority."

Article I, Section 7 further provides: "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers and effects against unreasonable searches, seizures and invasions of privacy shall not be violated." Unlike the federal Fourth Amendment, Hawai'i's provision **explicitly protects against (1)"invasions of privacy"** and (2) the **interception of "communications."** S.B. 2057 prevents Hawai'i law enforcement from facilitating federal conduct that could expose residents to exactly the unreasonable intrusions this section prohibits.

II. THE ANTI-COMMANDEERING DOCTRINE CONFIRMS HAWAI'I'S AUTHORITY TO ACT

S.B. 2057 rests on bedrock federal constitutional law. The Tenth Amendment's anti-commandeering doctrine prohibits the federal government from compelling states to administer or enforce federal regulatory programs. For example, in ***Printz v. United States***, 521 U.S. 898 (1997), the Court extended this principle to state and local law enforcement officers specifically. The Court struck down provisions of the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act that required local officers to conduct federal background checks, holding that Congress may not "circumvent" the anti-commandeering rule "by conscripting the State's officers directly." If the federal government could not compel local sheriffs to run background checks, it cannot compel Hawai'i police officers to participate in federal immigration operations or monitor First Amendment activity.

III. S.B. 2057 FILLS A GAP CREATED BY TRUMP FEDERAL POLICY CHANGES

Under the current Trump administration, the Department of Homeland Security rescinded the longstanding "Protected Areas" policy that had shielded schools, hospitals, churches, and courthouses from immigration enforcement operations. For decades, the federal government recognized that enforcement actions at sensitive locations impose unacceptable costs on public health, education, religious liberty, and access to justice. That federal protection no longer exists.

S.B. 2057 fills this gap at the state level. By prohibiting state law enforcement from assisting federal immigration operations at or near schools, health facilities, places of worship, and courthouses, the bill ensures that Hawai'i's residents can continue to educate their children, seek medical care, practice their faith, and access the courts

without fear that doing so will expose them or their families to enforcement action assisted by their own local government.

Several other states have taken similar action. Hawai'i should not wait.

IV. THIS BILL PROTECTS PUBLIC SAFETY BY PRESERVING COMMUNITY TRUST

Effective policing depends on community trust. When immigrant communities, or communities perceived as immigrant, fear that any encounter with local law enforcement could trigger federal immigration consequences, they stop calling the police. They stop reporting crimes. They stop cooperating as witnesses. Victims of domestic violence stay silent. Victims of wage theft and trafficking remain invisible.

The result is a less safe Hawai'i for everyone. S.B. 2057 protects the integrity of public safety institutions by drawing a clear line between local policing and federal enforcement, allowing Hawai'i's officers to maintain the community relationships on which effective law enforcement depends.

V. THE BILL IS CAREFULLY TAILORED AND PRESERVES LAWFUL COOPERATION

S.B. 2057 does not obstruct federal enforcement. Federal agents retain full authority to carry out their **lawful** duties using federal resources. The bill simply ensures that Hawai'i does not lend its *own personnel*, funds, *facilities*, property, equipment, or other resources to federal operations that ***exceed lawful authority or target protected conduct***.

VI. CONCLUSION

S.B. 2057 is a faithful exercise of the constitutional authority vested in this Legislature by the people of Hawai'i. It advances the rights guaranteed by Article I, Sections 2, 4, 5, 6, and 7 of the Hawai'i State Constitution. It exercises the discretionary cooperation authority granted by Article XVI, Section 5. It protects public safety, preserves community trust, and ensures that Hawai'i's resources serve Hawai'i's people.

I respectfully urge the Committees to **PASS S.B. 2057** with the suggested amendment.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Jubin Fujiwara

Fujiwara & Rosenbaum



LATE

Committee: Senate Committee Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs
Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs
Hearing Date/Time: Tuesday, February 9, 2026, at 3:07 PM
Place: Conference Room 224 & Videoconference
Re: **Testimony of the ACLU of Hawai'i in SUPPORT of SB 2057, Relating to Law Enforcement**

Dear Chair Wakai, Chair Fukunaga, and Committee Members:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i (ACLU-HI) writes in **support of SB 2057**, 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

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).

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 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 SB 2057.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Mandy Fernandes
Policy Director
ACLU of Hawai'i

The mission of the ACLU of Hawai'i is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawai'i fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. 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 Hawai'i for over 50 years.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/6/2026 8:32:43 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Glen Kagamida	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSE!!!

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 1:54:07 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support SB2057.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 6:56:06 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelle Bonk	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).

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.

Pass this bill to keep Hawaii law enforcement from becoming involved in these activities for which they would later be held accountable.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 7:56:24 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

Please support this bill to prohibit our law enforcement personnel and funds to assist ICE

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 8:26:53 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Kamida	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I STRONGLY SUPPORT SB2057. I am submitting this as a very concerned citizen and as a member of Indivisible Hawaii. Mahalo.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 11:33:01 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Martha Nakajima	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill. Thank you. Martha Nakajima, Honolulu, member of Indivisible

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 12:03:52 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Thomas Brandt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 12:09:02 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support this Bill.

Mahalo.

Kanani Kai

Member Hawaii Indivisible.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 12:19:03 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

Thank you for this opportunity.

Younghee Overly, a member of Indivisible Hawaii

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 12:51:33 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alyssa Los	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Alyssa Los. I am a citizen and provider located in Makiki , and I strongly support SB2057, which prevents the use of Hawai‘i state resources, personnel, and funds to facilitate federal actions that exceed statutory authority, violate constitutional protections, or target First Amendment–protected activities and immigration enforcement operations.

SB2057 is an important and necessary safeguard. It protects the constitutional rights of people living in Hawai‘i and ensures that state and local resources are not misused to support unlawful, retaliatory, or politically motivated federal conduct. No resident should fear surveillance, enforcement, or punishment for exercising their First Amendment rights, nor should state agencies be compelled to assist in actions that fall outside the bounds of the law.

This bill also strengthens public safety. When communities trust local institutions, they are far more likely to report crimes, cooperate as witnesses, and seek help during emergencies. When trust is eroded—particularly through cooperation with overreaching or punitive federal operations—people withdraw, and everyone is less safe.

SB2057 is especially critical for immigrant and mixed-status families. Fear of immigration enforcement can prevent individuals from calling 911, accessing healthcare, seeking social services, or reporting abuse and exploitation. By drawing clear boundaries around state involvement, this bill reduces fear and ensures that all residents can engage with public institutions without avoidance or hesitation.

Importantly, SB2057 does not prevent lawful cooperation with federal agencies. Instead, it provides clarity, accountability, and guardrails for interagency collaboration, ensuring that Hawai‘i’s resources are used responsibly and in alignment with state law, constitutional protections, and community well-being.

As a state, Hawai‘i must stand together to prevent federal overreach that causes harm to civilians and immigrants alike. SB2057 affirms Hawai‘i’s commitment to civil liberties, ethical governance, and public safety rooted in trust—not fear.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to **pass SB2057**.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to submit testimony and for your dedication to the people of Hawai'i.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 2:12:48 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

SB2057 PROHIBITS ASSISTING FEDS AGAINST FIRST AMENDMENT

I am writing in strong support of SB2057 both personally and as a member of the Indivisible Hawai'i 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 Hawai'i'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 Hawai'i 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.

Robert Pollock

Kula

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 2:51:44 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

Thank you

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 3:49:48 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chuck Taylor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

If our country did not have a lawless administration, this bill would never have been considered as being needed. Since that is not the case, this bill will protect us from Federal overreach.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 3:53:46 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

Please support,

Judith White,

Member Kauai Indivisible

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 4:02:50 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Fukuzawa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Honorable Senators:

I respectfully oppose this bill as it goes against the federal government. Please use the congressional delegation to change the roles that federal officers and agents do while in the state of Hawaii.

Please note that this will not preclude people from practicing their 1st amendment of the constitution.

Sincerely,

David Fukuzawa

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 4:08:34 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support SB2057, which prohibits state resources from facilitating federal overreach (incl. First Amendment targeting + certain immigration enforcement operations)

This bill:

- 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.

Mahalo.

--Shay Chan Hodges

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 4:41:11 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keoni Shizuma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I stand in strong support.

We've all seen the lawlessness that has been occurring around this country. The US Constitution is no longer being followed and ICE has been the fist to do the damage. Ensuring that Hawaii's law enforcement is not assisting in that operation is needed, as we shouldn't be.

We should be actively preventing ICE operations in Hawaii. Maybe the bill should be amended to prevent ICE operations over the next 2 years.

Mahalo for your consideration,
Keoni Shizuma

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 6:14:00 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

Thank you for counting me as a supporter of this important bill.

Eileen Cain
720 Mahi'ai St., Apt. E
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96826-5635
eileencaïn808@gmail.com
February 7, 2026

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

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

Aloha, Senators,

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

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**.

Mahalo and Aloha,

Eileen Cain,
Mō'ili'ili, Honolulu

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 7:16:16 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justin Hughey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

TO: Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs (PSM) TO: Committee on Economic Development and Hawaii Around the World (EIG) CHAIRS: Senator Glenn Wakai and Senator Carol Fukunaga DATE: Tuesday, February 10, 2026 TIME: 3:07 PM PLACE: Conference Room 224 & Videoconference

RE: TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB2057 – RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

Honorable Chairs Wakai and Fukunaga, and Members of the Committees,

My name is Justin Hughey, and I am writing to express my heartfelt and unwavering support for SB2057. As a resident of our minority-majority state, I am deeply concerned by the escalating use of unaccountable federal tactics that threaten the safety and constitutional rights of our neighbors.

SB2057 is a necessary shield for Hawaii. It ensures that our local law enforcement resources—our tax dollars, our officers, and our facilities—are used to protect us, not to facilitate federal overreach or the intimidation of our communities.

Why SB2057 is Critical for Hawaii:

- **Defending Constitutional Rights:** This bill explicitly prohibits the use of State resources to assist federal agents in operations that target individuals for activities protected by the First Amendment. In an era where dissent and identity are increasingly scrutinized, Hawaii must stand firm in protecting free speech and assembly.
- **Preventing Exploitation of Local Resources:** SB2057 prevents state and county funds or personnel from assisting federal agents who exceed their statutory authority. Our local resources should never be a "force multiplier" for unlawful or retaliatory federal operations.
- **Protecting Sensitive Spaces:** By prohibiting cooperation in immigration enforcement at schools, health facilities, places of worship, and courthouses, this bill ensures that these remain safe havens. No family should be afraid to take their child to school or seek life-saving medical care because of the presence of federal agents.
- **Strengthening Public Safety Through Trust:** Public safety relies on the trust between the community and local police. When our local officers are viewed as extensions of federal

immigration enforcement, that trust vanishes. People stop reporting crimes and cooperating as witnesses, making us all less safe. SB2057 restores this boundary.

Upholding Hawaii's Values

Hawaii has a long history of standing for civil liberties and the dignity of every individual, regardless of their status. This bill aligns with the Democratic Party of Hawai'i's 2025 resolution urging "No Secret Police" protections to ensure that law enforcement operates with transparency and respect for the public trust.

I urge you to pass SB2057 to ensure that Hawaii remains a place where everyone can live without fear of unaccountable policing. Let us choose compassion and constitutional integrity over fear and intimidation.

Mahalo,
Justin Hughey
Maui

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 7:48:53 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

Please accept this testimony in support.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 10:44:28 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Francis Nakamoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Francis M. Nakamoto and I support SB 2057 which prohibits the use of State personnel to assist or cooperate with or allow 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.

In light of the horrendous history of unlawful, abusive, violent and unconstitutional behavior of ICE, CBP and other federal immigration enforcement agencies, the State of Hawaii can never be allowed to aid, abet or be accomplices with those agents in the violation of the persons, property and constitutional rights of Hawai'i residents.

Any appearance, if not actual commission, of State personnel assisting federal agent in depriving Hawai'i residents, whether citizen or not, of their constitutional and civil rights will irreparably undermine the relationship of trust between State personnel and law enforcement and the People they serve and protect.

On the contrary, State personnel and resources must be marshaled in anticipation of the impending surge of ICE/CBP agents to protect against the deplorable, unlawful tactics that they exhibited when they invaded Minnesota and elsewhere on the continent. Our 258,800 immigrants residing in Hawaii, including the undocumented, who have peacefully contributed to the social, cultural and economic value of Hawai'i, deserve all the protection we can provide, not be abused by overzealous federal agents with the help of State personnel and resources.

Please support SB2057.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 10:58:23 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynn Otaguro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair Stanley Chang, and members of the Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs; Chair Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair Chris Lee, and members of Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs.

My name is Lynn Otaguro, and I submit this testimony in support of SB2057, which prohibits state and county law enforcement from helping federal agents exceed their authority, target immigrants, or suppress First Amendment activity.

Hawai'i agencies should not be used to facilitate unlawful or discriminatory actions. This bill reinforces core constitutional values: lawful authority, equal protection, and the right to free speech and peaceful assembly.

SB2057 also protects the integrity of Hawai'i institutions by ensuring local agencies are not drawn into activities that undermine public trust or chill civic participation.

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Lynn Otaguro

O'ahu, Hawaii

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/7/2026 11:50:42 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vanessa K Zepeda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear members of the PSM/EIG committee,

I am submitting testimony in support of SB2057 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 as well as 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.

It has never been more important in American history to ensure that our federal government is in check. Over the last year, ICE has created chaos and fear in local communities. ICE has evolved into targeting individuals exercising their first Amendment rights to free speech and assembly. We are living in unprecedented times. It has never been more imperative for our State legislation to protect us from the federal government. We cannot allow our local police or national guard to be used against us.

I urge you to support the passing of SB2057.

Thank you for reading my testimony,

With aloha,

Dr. Vanessa K. Zepeda

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 5:09:02 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Balutski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill. It stops Hawaii resources from being used in unlawful federal operations-- protecting constitutional rights, limiting immigration enforcement overreach, and strengthening community trust in public safety.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 7:09:23 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

Thank you

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

February 10, 2026, 3:07 pm CR 224 & Videoconference
SB2057 State Agencies, Federal agents, First Amendment

TESTIMONY

Stephen Munkelt, Legislative Committee, Indivisible Hawaii State Network (IHSN)
Support for SB2057

Chair Fukunaga], Vice Chair Lee, and Committee Members:

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 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. 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.

Stephen Munkelt

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 10:19:24 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

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

I am 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

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 10:22:09 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ron Brown	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). The statement below drafted by Indivisible says quite enough! We must stop the authoritarian rule that the Trump administration is trying to create.

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.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 10:45:40 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathryn Peterson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

God Damn ICE

**Testimony of Jeremiah Brown
In SUPPORT of SB2057**

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

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

Hearing Date: Feb 10, 2026

Dear Chair Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair Stanley Chang, and members of the Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs; Chair Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair Chris Lee, and members of Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs.

My name is Jeremiah Brown, and I submit this testimony in support of SB2057, which prohibits state and county law enforcement from helping federal agents exceed their authority, target immigrants, or suppress First Amendment activity.

I am teacher who works with immigrant and migrant students and I am testifying as an individual. We have seen the aggressive tactics used by ICE and Border Patrol during immigration enforcement operations in several cities on the continent. Agents have acted with impunity, excessive force, and with no regard for the Constitution. Hawai'i law enforcement agencies should not be used to facilitate unlawful or discriminatory actions. This bill reinforces core constitutional values: lawful authority, equal protection, and the right to free speech and peaceful assembly.

SB2057 also protects the integrity of Hawai'i institutions by ensuring local agencies are not drawn into activities that undermine public trust or chill civic participation.

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,
Jeremiah Brown
Waialua, Oahu

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 11:11:35 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

I urge the passage of SB2057. This important Bill puts a tool in Hawaii's toolbox to protect 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.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 11:24:40 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

I have been an immigration activist for 8 years and ICE is currently a rogue and lawless agency basing arrests and deportations on a racist quota system. None of our law enforcement should collude with them.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 11:26:46 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

Thanks for supporting this bill. No state law enforcement personnel or funds should be utilized in supporting unconstitutional activities against citizens of our country or against persons who have done nothing wrong according to the Constitution. I am a member of Indivisible.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 11:38:37 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christopher Davis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 11:49:02 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support SB 2057 because it will prohibit Hawaii law enforcement personnel and Hawaii funds to assist with the federal immigration and activities.

i am a member of the Hilo Indvisible group

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 12:06:28 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

Testimony of Rev. Amy Wake

In SUPPORT of SB2057

Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair

Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair

Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: Feb 10, 2026

Dear Chair Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair Stanley Chang, and members of the Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs; Chair Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair Chris Lee, and members of Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs.

My name is Amy Wake, pastor of Wesley United Methodist Church in Kahala. I submit this testimony in support of SB2057, which prohibits state and county law enforcement from helping federal agents exceed their authority, target immigrants, or suppress First Amendment activity.

Hawai'i agencies should not be used to facilitate unlawful or discriminatory actions. This bill reinforces core constitutional values: lawful authority, equal protection, and the right to free speech and peaceful assembly.

SB2057 also protects the integrity of Hawai'i institutions by ensuring local agencies are not drawn into activities that undermine public trust or chill civic participation.

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Rev. Amy Wake

Wesley United Methodist Church

pastoramywake@gmail.com

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 12:10:20 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Roberta Baker	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for supporting this bill.

I am a member of Indivisible Hawaii.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 12:40:59 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rev. Dr. Robert W. Nelson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly urge you to pass SB2057. The constitutional rights apply to all persons in the United States regardless of their citizenship or immigration status and must be applied fairly in Hawai'i. Hawai'i must not take part in or assist any actions that exceed the lawful authority. Discriminatory targeting by federal agents have been observed here in the islands and must be prevented from taking place.

Rev. Dr. Robert W. Nelson

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

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

HEARING:

Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 3:07 pm
Conference Room 224 and Videoconference
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

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

Aloha Chair Wakai, Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Chang, Vice Chair Lee, members of the Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs and the Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs,

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**, relating to law enforcement, 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.

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, 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, First Amendment–protected documentation of federal agents 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 they 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 simply due to racial profiling.

People are afraid to go to school and work because of 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, 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, 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 peaceable protest have escalated to the use of chemical deterrents on children and families and the murder of two people.

I support SB 2057 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. Senate Bill 2057 also preservse the historical separation between local and federal law 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.

As a lawyer with an understanding of the Constitution and who has taken an oath to uphold it and the rule of law, witnessing federal agents attack people lawfully engaged in First Amendment-protected activities such as documenting federal agents in public and protesting federal activity. Seeing videos of the murder of people engaged in lawful, constitutionally-protected activity has impacted my mental health. As a woman and mother, I am afraid of being targeted by unmasked, unbadged government agents or imposters while engaged in volunteer work to document, record, or protest the activity of federal agents. I am afraid that federal agents will take my picture and find out who I am, where I live, and come to my house and harm not just myself but my loved ones. Just yesterday during a training I was conducting, an audience member asked what constitutional observers like me can do to protect 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 are so important.

Federal agents take photos of people and use name-recognition software to identify them. They take photos of license plates to learn the identity of and track constitutional observers as well as noncitizens. I would ask that this bill be amended to ensure that federal agents do not use license-plate identifying or tracking technology or use surveillance techniques to identify people engaged in protected First Amendment activity, and that local and state law enforcement agencies do not share data with federal agencies. 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. The goal of the 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 an educated, privileged, white person. I, like millions of others, have chosen to use my privilege to stand up for and protect my neighbors and community members. 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** 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

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 12:53:23 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support SB 2057 because it is urgent that you as legislators do everything in your power to protect people from the violent, politically-motivated actions of the federal government, including the targeting of people exercising their First Amendment rights and the targeting of non-White people by racists and white nationalists who think that the U.S. is for them and them alone.

We cannot stand by at this historical turning point. You will be remembered either for standing with people or siding with tyrants. Please do the right thing and oppose tyrants with the power vested in you.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 12:54:26 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

I support prohibiting our law enforcement personnel and funds to assist ICE. ICE operations can be illegal and cruel.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 1:17:37 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kathryn Shawhan	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 are often incarcerated 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. Recently, 4 Haitian women were found decapitated after deportation from Puerto Rico thru Dominican Republic. Blood on the deporters.

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.

Kathryn Shawhan

Kaneohe

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 1:26:38 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Estrella S Marin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My namer is Estrella Marin and as resident of Hawaii I do support SB2057. By prohibiting 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. 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. I feel safer as an individual that lives in my community if this does pass. I am also a volunterr of Indivisible of Hawaii.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 2:05:01 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mona Eisa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

Mahalo,

Mona Eisa, Honolulu, HI

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 2:25:38 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jon Wayan	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

I write in strong opposition to Hawai‘i Senate Bill 2057.

While the bill is framed as a measure to protect civil liberties, in practice it does the opposite. SB2057 would intentionally obstruct lawful cooperation between the State of Hawai‘i and federal authorities, undermining public safety, weakening intergovernmental trust, and inviting constitutional conflict.

The First Amendment does not require states to disengage from federal law enforcement. On the contrary, constitutional protections already exist and are enforced through courts, due process, and established oversight mechanisms. SB2057 presumes bad faith by federal authorities and replaces legal safeguards with a blanket prohibition that is both unnecessary and dangerous.

By restricting state and local agencies from assisting federal partners—except under narrowly defined circumstances—this bill:

Creates confusion and hesitation among law enforcement officers in time-sensitive situations;

Encourages jurisdictional paralysis, where agencies hesitate to act out of fear of violating state law;

Politicizes public safety by turning cooperation itself into a suspect act.

The bill’s language concerning “First Amendment-protected activity” is especially troubling. It is vague, subjective, and ripe for misuse. Law enforcement officers are not constitutional scholars making abstract determinations in the field—they rely on clear authority, cooperation, and chain-of-command clarity. SB2057 injects ambiguity where certainty is required.

Additionally, the prohibition on cooperation in immigration enforcement—particularly around schools, healthcare facilities, and places of worship—goes far beyond humanitarian concern and into active obstruction of federal law. Hawai‘i should not position itself as a state that selectively decides which federal laws it will tolerate.

If there are concerns about abuse, overreach, or civil rights violations, the appropriate response is oversight, transparency, and accountability, not legislative isolationism.

SB2057 sends the wrong message:

That Hawai'i distrusts its federal partners;

That cooperation is optional when politically inconvenient;

And that symbolism is more important than operational reality.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to reject SB2057 and instead pursue policies that strengthen constitutional protections without undermining lawful cooperation, public safety, or the rule of law.

Sincerely

Jon Wayan Big Island

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 3:02:53 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

Please accept this as testimony in overwhelming support of SB2057.

The federal government, led by a mad man crazy with his legacy, full of revenge, who lies, repeatedly, is using troops to take away liberties enshrined in the U.S. Constitution. This is an important bill which will push back on actions when suddenly ICE appears in high numbers in the islands. Unfortunately it has come to this.

And, he is now thinking of having ICE acting in our elections.

Please move this bill forward.

Lynne Matusow

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 4:23:48 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Priscilla Stuckey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, Chair Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair Stanley Chang, and members of the Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs; Chair Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair Chris Lee, and members of Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs.

I strongly support of SB2057, which prohibits state and county law enforcement from helping federal agents exceed their authority, target immigrants, or suppress First Amendment activity.

Hawai'i agencies should not be used to facilitate unlawful or discriminatory actions. This bill reinforces core constitutional values: lawful authority, equal protection, and the right to free speech and peaceful assembly.

SB2057 also protects the integrity of Hawai'i institutions by ensuring local agencies are not drawn into activities that undermine public trust or chill civic participation.

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

Mahalo,

Priscilla Stuckey, Kihei

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 4:50:37 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mary Kathryn Afable	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for supporting SB2057.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 5:47:21 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alicia Hedlesky	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

02/08/2026

Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair

Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair

Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB2057

Dear Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Chang, Chair Fukunaga, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the Committees,

My name is Alicia Hedlesky, a resident of Moloa'a, Kauai and a member of Indivisible Hawaii. I am writing to strongly support SB2057 as one step to help protect the residents of Hawaii from federal overreach. Although I sincerely hope the same violence we've seen in LA, Chicago and Minneapolis doesn't occur here, we should be prepared and do everything in our power to protect the rights of everyone in Hawaii should it become necessary. Our local law enforcement should never be put in a position to deprive people of their constitutional rights.

Thank you for your consideration and the opportunity to testify on this important issue,

Alicia Hedlesky

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 6:06:53 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kristen Kelly	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please keep Hawaii safe by not allowing Federal overreach

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 8:37:29 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cynthia Verschuur	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To the Chair and members of the PSM/EIG committee,

I am in **STRONG** support of SB2057. **NO** state funding should go towards ICE activities in **ANY** manner, and **NO** Hawaii Law Enforcement personnel should aid or cooperate with ICE in any way.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Lahilahi Verschuur

12-7002 Kaiheenalua St. # 4587

Pahoa, HI 96778

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 8:49:13 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Greg Puppione	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawai'i agencies should not be used to facilitate unlawful or discriminatory actions. This bill reinforces core constitutional values: lawful authority, equal protection, and the right to free speech and peaceful assembly.

SB2057 also protects the integrity of Hawai'i institutions by ensuring local agencies are not drawn into activities that undermine public trust or chill civic participation.

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 8:49:23 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jasmine Balangitao	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hi chair and committee members I writing to you in strong support of this bill. Our state needs to be protected from the federal government in case they overreach.

Thank you , Jasmine Balangitao, of Kaimuki

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 9:38:46 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dina Shek	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I write in strong SUPPORT of SB 2057. This important bill would prohibit state and county law enforcement from helping federal agents exceed their authority, target immigrants, or suppress First Amendment activity. This bill reinforces and affirms core constitutional values, and it also protects the integrity of Hawai'i institutions by ensuring local agencies are not drawn into activities that undermine public trust or chill civic participation.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony in strong support of SB 2057.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/8/2026 11:50:26 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarah Barbour	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB2057 because it protects constitutional rights and prevents misuse of Hawai'i resources to facilitate unlawful or retaliatory operations. It also makes our society safer; we should be able to trust our neighbors and local officers to protect our rights.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 3:41:47 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kristy Gund	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 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.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 6:04:48 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

we don't want our police to be taken over for unconstitutional acts

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 7:28:15 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

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, Gail Morrison

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 8:02:23 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kahala	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

I write in strong support of SB2057.

SB2057 draws clear and critical boundaries around the use of Hawai‘i’s personnel and resources, ensuring they are not used to facilitate federal actions that exceed statutory authority, target First Amendment-protected activity, or engage in certain immigration enforcement operations. This bill protects constitutional rights while providing much-needed clarity and accountability for interagency cooperation.

Public safety depends on trust. When local institutions are perceived as extensions of unlawful or retaliatory federal actions, communities—especially immigrant and mixed-status families—are less likely to report crimes, seek help, or cooperate as witnesses. SB2057 helps reduce fear and avoidance, strengthening safety and access to services for everyone in Hawai‘i.

By establishing firm limits and accountability, SB2057 affirms that Hawai‘i will not be complicit in federal overreach. I strongly urge your support.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 8:17:59 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

Thank you -- I am a member of Indivisible Windward.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 8:20:59 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Taylor McKenzie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair Stanley Chang, and members of the Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs; Chair Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair Chris Lee, and members of Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs.

My name is TK McKenzie and I submit this testimony in **support of SB2057**, which prohibits state and county law enforcement from helping federal agents exceed their authority, target immigrants, or suppress First Amendment activity.

I work with agricultural producers and I am terrified that I'll go to work and someone I work with has been disappeared.

Hawai'i agencies should not be used to facilitate unlawful or discriminatory actions. This bill reinforces core constitutional values: lawful authority, equal protection, and the right to free speech and peaceful assembly.

SB2057 also protects the integrity of Hawai'i institutions by ensuring local agencies are not drawn into activities that undermine public trust or chill civic participation.

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Taylor Ka'ili McKenzie

Honolulu, O'ahu

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 8:24:39 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

Keep Hawaii safe from ICE and federal over reach!

DSM in Waimea, Hawaii Island

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 8:56:37 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ellen Carson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill, as it will prohibit state and county law enforcement agencies from assisting federal operations that exceed federal statutory authority or target individuals for protected First Amendment activities or civil immigration enforcement.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 9:13:43 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joie Yonamine	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 immigrants and citizens off the streets and disappearing them into facilities, sometimes across state lines or out of the country. They are incarcerated in substandard facilities with inadequate sanitation, food, and access to medical care, and deprived of their due process rights.

SB2057 puts a tool in Hawaii's toolbox which protects our local law enforcement personnel and funds from being used in service of the unconstitutional violations of civil and human rights.

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

Joie Yonamine, Manoa

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 9:41:43 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SB2054 both personally and as a member of the Indivisible Hawaii State Network (IHSN). That this Bill would amends §121-30 HRS to prohibit Hawaii National Guard from assisting or cooperating with either the National Guard of another state or federal troops or law enforcement deployed to Hawaii if the Governor has objected to the deployment, except as required by law seems all important so that we, the people of Hawai'i, have a say in these matters through the Governor we elected.

Thank you for taking my testimony under consideration.

David Cuthbert

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 10:25:54 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cynthia J. Goto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 10:53:20 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bo Breda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Bo Breda and I live in Pahoa on the Big Island and I support SB20547. I do not want any assistance give to the Department of Homeland Security or Immgration and Customs Enforcements of Border Patrol or any federal officers attempting to enforce the immigration efforts of the Trump administration. They are manifestly unconstitutional and have not been legally designed to conform to the Constitution of the United States of America. People have been killed beaten and unjustly detained and removed from their state with no Due Process or right of Habeus Corpus. If this governor did not invite them in then they have no right for any assistance in this states citizens lives. 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. 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. I thank you for listening to my opinion. Please support SB2057.

Bo Breda

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 10:54:48 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Peter Wilson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Peter Wilson and I live in Pahoia on the Big Island and I support SB20547. I do not want any assistance given to the Department of Homeland Security or Immigration and Customs Enforcements of Border Patrol or any federal officers attempting to enforce the immigration efforts of the Trump administration. They are manifestly unconstitutional and have not been legally designed to conform to the Constitution of the United States of America. People have been killed, beaten, and unjustly detained and removed from their state with no Due Process or right of Habeus Corpus. If this governor did not invite them in then they have no right for any assistance in this state's citizens' lives. 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. 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. I thank you for listening to my opinion. Please support SB2057.

Peter Wilson

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 11:01:38 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Collat	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 have been 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 very unfortunate that we require a law to limit cooperation while federal law enforcement, but these are the times we now live in. Recent events have highlighted that it's not enough to rely on our elected officials acting in the best interests of the country and of the people. We need legal provisions to counter abuses of power at the federal level. 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, Michael

To: Hawaii State Senate Committees on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs
And Public Safety and Military Affairs

Hearing Date/Time: Monday February 10, 2026, 3:07 PM

Place: Hawaii State Capitol, CR 224 & Videoconference

Re: Judith Ann Armstrong supports SB2057 RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

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

I, Judith Ann Armstrong, 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 and world. 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 un-American, 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. 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.

Sincerely,

Judith Ann Armstrong

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 1:12:38 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynda Suesue	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am appalled by the deadly and unconstitutional use of force by ICE in the United States under this criminal, federal administration. Hawaii MUST resist by passing legislation to protect our residents and Law Enforcement. I am a mother, grandmother, Clinical Social Worker and member of Indivisible Hawaii. Thank you for supporting this bill.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 1:44:12 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SB2057 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

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 1:54:04 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
DIANNE WINTER BROOKINS	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair Stanley Chang, and members of the Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs; Chair Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair Chris Lee, and members of the Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs.

My name is Dianne Winter Brookins, and I submit this testimony in support of SB2057, which prohibits state and county law enforcement from helping federal agents exceed their authority, target immigrants, or suppress First Amendment activity.

I am a recently retired attorney and a member of the Hawaii Coalition for Civil Rights (HCCR). I am testifying as an individual.

Hawai'i agencies should not be used to facilitate unlawful or discriminatory actions. This bill reinforces core constitutional values: lawful authority, equal protection, and the right to free speech and peaceful assembly.

SB2057 also protects the integrity of Hawai'i institutions by ensuring local agencies are not drawn into activities that undermine public trust or chill civic participation.

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Dianne Winter Brookins

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 1:59:50 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Karen A Valasek	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.

Karen Valasek

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 2:51:38 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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.

**Testimony of Wendy Naomi Sodetani
In SUPPORT of SB2057**

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

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

Hearing Date: Feb 10, 2026

Dear Chair Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair Stanley Chang, and members of the Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs; Chair Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair Chris Lee, and members of Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs.

My name is Wendy Naomi Sodetani, and I submit this testimony in support of SB2057, which prohibits state and county law enforcement from helping federal agents exceed their authority, target immigrants, or suppress First Amendment activity.

I am testifying as a Hawai'i resident, a writer, and U.S. citizen of Japanese ancestry. My grandparents came here from Hiroshima seeking opportunity and better lives for their children and future generations. I recently retired from a community health center in Kalihi serving primarily low-income, new immigrant and Pacific island migrant populations. The latter are legally entitled to live and work in Hawai'i and U.S. under the Compact of Free Association (COFA). I am heartbroken to hear that our patients and their families now live in fear of deportation and being torn from their families here, and stay home from work, from school and even their medical appointments. They hide from federal agencies like ICE and Customs and Border Protection who do not seek to protect, but terrorize our community, immigrants and citizens alike.

Hawai'i agencies should NOT be used to facilitate unlawful or discriminatory actions. This bill reinforces core constitutional values: lawful authority, equal protection, and the right to free speech and peaceful assembly.

SB2057 also protects the integrity of Hawai'i institutions by ensuring local agencies are not drawn into activities that undermine public trust or chill civic participation.

For these reasons and many more, I respectfully request that the Committee PASS SB2057. I implore you to protect our precious island community and all who call it home. In Hawai'i, we are more than neighbors, we are 'ohana.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,
Wendy Naomi Sodetani
Kaimuki resident
naomisodetani@gmail.com
(808) 741-0555

LATE

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 4:05:40 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mark Van Horne	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this important bill.

LATE

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 4:54:31 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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 oppportunity to testify on this important matter. Jane Aquino

LATE

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 5:58:41 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amanda Christie	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony of Amanda Christie

In SUPPORT of SB2057

Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs

Senator Glenn Wakai, Chair

Senator Stanley Chang, Vice Chair

Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

Senator Carol Fukunaga, Chair

Senator Chris Lee, Vice Chair

Dear Chair Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair Stanley Chang, and members of the Committee on Energy and Intergovernmental Affairs; Chair Carol Fukunaga, Vice Chair Chris Lee, and members of Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs.

My name is Dr. Amanda Christie. Today, I am writing to submit testimony in support of SB2057, which prohibits state and county law enforcement from helping federal agents exceed their authority, target immigrants, or suppress First Amendment activity.

I am a current resident of Makiki. I am also a long-time ELA and social studies educator. My classrooms are often full of students who are either immigrants themselves or children of immigrants. In my work as an educator, I also frequently partner with community organizations like the Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights.

As a high school teacher, teaching a population made up of many first and second generation immigrants, I have spent the past year facing a growing sense of fear. I wake up with the fear that at any point in my day, armed agents may descend upon my classroom and detain any number of my students – innocent children, excited to learn and live in safety and care. I watch in concern as violent ICE encounters increasingly unfold on

streets, in stores, in churches, and in schools across the United States, and recently, close to home across coffee farms on the Big Island.

I support SB2057 because Hawai‘i agencies should not be used to facilitate unlawful or discriminatory actions, including partnerships with ICE that can lead to frightening over-reach – i.e. moving into schools, churches, and peaceful gatherings and approaching and detaining community members. This bill reinforces core constitutional values: lawful authority, equal protection, and the right to free speech and peaceful assembly. SB2057 also protects the integrity of Hawai‘i institutions by ensuring local agencies are not drawn into activities that undermine public trust or civic participation.

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Amanda Christie

LATE

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 8:26:08 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Krystal N Barnett	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you! I'm a member of Indivisible Hawai'i.

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 8:38:29 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

LATE

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

Comments:

I am in strong support of prohibiting assisting Feds against the first amendment rights of Hawaii residents. Our democracy is under seige by this autocratic/fascist regime. I ask the Hawaii Senate to continue to stand with your neighbors and family.

Mahalo for your consideration.

LATE

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 9:50:34 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tanya Dean	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 oppportunity to testify on this important matter.

Tanya Dean

LATE

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 10:24:30 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this important issue. SB2057 protects Hawaii's law enforcement personnel and funds from being marshaled into Trump's cruel and lawless sweep of citizens and non-citizens alike. Federal agents are brutalizing and even killing regular people without due process.

Additionally, HPD 'collaboration' with DHS makes us all less safe because it would make us all reluctant to report criminality, in fear of being swept up just by being racially profiled.

LATE

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/9/2026 10:48:08 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dwight T. Martin	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). I am a registered voter in Hawaii living in Honolulu. 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 need to keep Hawaii law enforcement personnel and funds from being dragooned into service of illegal, federal enforcements which disregard people's rights under the First Amendment. Pass this bill to keep Hawaii law enforcement from becoming involved in these activities for which they would later be held accountable.

LATE

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:54:34 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jody Weidemann	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Our First Amendment Rights must be protected at all costs!

LATE

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 6:52:38 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terry McDonald	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Fully support. This is clear cut. Our state police can not be a part of any action NOT consistent with the 1st Amendment, the Law of the Land.

LATE

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 6:54:12 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

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

Comments:

As we see the illegal activities of ICE violating first amendment rights and the federal government trying to gain access to voter roll data in other states, all agencies of the state of Hawai'i including law enforcement, MUST prohibit assisting Feds against first amendment rights.

LATE

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:53:52 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Helen Shirts	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

LATE

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 9:42:58 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aliza Gebin	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.

With aloha,

Aliza Gebin

LATE

SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 11:48:18 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lois Crozer	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill 100% not allowing personnel or funds to be used for Federal agents that exceeds their authority. A no brainer but we have to preemptively protect our communities.

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SB-2057

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 12:48:25 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/10/2026 3:07:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Joell Edwards	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

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

My name is Joell Edwards. I am a resident of Wainiha, Kaua‘i, a small business owner, community outreach for HCA, and a community advocate. I currently serve as Chair of the Kaua‘i County Democrats, but I am submitting this testimony in my personal capacity.

I strongly support SB2057, which would prohibit state law enforcement agencies from using personnel, funds, or other resources to assist federal agents in actions that exceed their legal authority or target individuals for exercising their constitutional rights or for immigration enforcement. This bill affirms that our state resources should not be used to facilitate actions that risk civil liberties or go beyond established statutory duties.

In communities like mine on rural Kaua‘i, trust in law enforcement and government institutions is essential. Ensuring clear lines between state and federal authority — especially when it comes to fundamental rights like free speech and due process — strengthens that trust and protects all residents. SB2057 clarifies that Hawai‘i law enforcement should assist only in roles that are lawful, transparent, and consistent with Hawai‘i values.

I respectfully urge your support of SB2057.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.