

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



KEITH A. REGAN  
COMPTROLLER  
KA LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ  
  
MEOH-LENG SILLIMAN  
DEPUTY COMPTROLLER  
KA HOPE LUNA HO'OMALU HANA LAULĀ

**STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES | KA 'OIHANA LOIHELU A LAWELAWE LAULĀ**  
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY  
OF  
KEITH A. REGAN, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE

**COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**  
**COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

FEBRUARY 17, 2026, 3:05 P.M.  
CONFERENCE ROOM 225 AND VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE, STATE CAPITOL

S.B. 2268

RELATING TO EQUITY.

Chairs McKelvey and San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Gabbard and McKelvey, and members of the Committees, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on S.B. 2268.

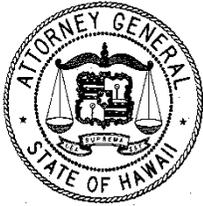
The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) offers **comments** on S.B. 2268, which requires all places of public accommodation and public entity construction projects constructed after 7/31/2027 to provide universal changing accommodations that are equally accessible regardless of gender.

The department would recommend that the committee make a modification that would change the word “constructed” to the words “planned and designed” after 7/31/2027. This would address the department’s concerns that funding for construction

of facilities that may occur on or around the 7/31/2027 date may have already been set legislatively which may cause delays if the additional costs of redesigning are not readily available. The department also notes that securing of permits for construction of some affected private and public projects may have commenced before enactment of this measure and that the widely lamented duration of such permit processing and approval may result in those projects not being constructed until after 7/31/2027, meaning that those projects will have to be re-designed and re-permitted to comply with the measure's requirements. The delays associated with re-design and re-permitting may unreasonably increase the costs of those affected projects.

Therefore, as mentioned previously, the department suggests that the measure be revised to apply to projects for which design has commenced on or after 7/31/2027, with the intention that affected private and public projects will thereby be afforded the time necessary to budget and secure adequate funds to support design for such accommodation prior to submittal for required construction permits.

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



**TESTIMONY OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA  
THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2026**

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**ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:**  
S.B. NO. 2268, RELATING TO EQUITY.

**BEFORE THE:**  
SENATE COMMITTEES ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND ON HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 17, 2026      **TIME:** 3:05 p.m.

**LOCATION:** State Capitol, Room 225

**TESTIFIER(S):** Anne E. Lopez, Attorney General, or  
Jung Min (Charles) Lee, Deputy Attorney General

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Chairs McKelvey and San Buenaventura and Members of the Committees:

The Department of the Attorney General (Department) provides the following comments on this bill.

This bill would amend chapter 489, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), by adding a new part that requires certain newly constructed places of public accommodation and certain publicly funded construction projects, after July 31, 2027, to provide "universal changing accommodations" in restrooms for public use, and to post signage identifying their location. The bill defines "universal changing accommodation" as a powered, height-adjustable adult changing station that is either floor- or wall-mounted and installed within an enclosed restroom facility in a restroom for public use. The bill also includes an "undue burden" exemption, declares that a violation constitutes an "unlawful discriminatory practice pursuant to this chapter," creates a private cause of action, and excludes this new part from chapter 368, HRS, and the jurisdiction of the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission.

The Department's primary concern is that it is unclear how the provisions of the new part relating to a private cause of action (section 489-F) and exclusion of jurisdiction under chapter 368, HRS, and of the Civil Rights Commission (section 489-G) will interact with the existing provisions of part I, chapter 489, HRS, which separately provide for a private cause of action for violation of the chapter (section 489-7.5, HRS)

and for jurisdiction under chapter 368 and the civil rights commission (sections 489-6 and 489-8, HRS).

It appears that the new part created by this bill is intended to mirror the existing part II of chapter 368, HRS, which defines the denial of goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, and accommodations to a woman who is breastfeeding as a discriminatory practice (section 489-21, HRS), provides for a private right of action under part II (section 489-22, HRS), and exempts part II from chapter 368, HRS, and the jurisdiction of the Civil Rights Commission (section 489-23, HRS). However, to clarify that the provisions in part II do not conflict with the provisions in part I (General Provisions for chapter 489), sections 489-6, 489-7.5(a), and 489-8(c), HRS, specifically contain carve outs for complaints and actions brought pursuant to part II.

If the intention of the legislature is to create a new part in chapter 489, that will **not** be subject to potentially conflicting provisions in the existing part I of chapter 489, then the following existing sections of part I, chapter 489, should be revised, as shown in bold:

**Section 489-6, HRS**, should be revised to read:

The civil rights commission shall receive complaints of unfair discriminatory treatment in public accommodations in accordance with the procedures established under chapter 368; provided that this section shall not apply to complaints under part II **or part III** of this chapter.

**Section 489-7.5(a), HRS**, should be revised to read:

Any person who is injured by an unlawful discriminatory practice, other than an unlawful discriminatory practice under part II **or part III** of this chapter, may . . . .

**Section 487-8(c), HRS**, should be revised to read:

(c) This section shall not apply to violations of part II **or part III** of this chapter.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.



# DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

Ka 'Oihana Ho'oka'a'ike no ka Po'e Kīnānā

1010 Richards Street, Rm. 118 • Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813  
Ph. (808) 586-8121 (V) • Fax (808) 586-8129 • (808) 204-2466 (VP)

February 17, 2026

## TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

### Senate Bill 2268 – Relating to Equity

The Disability and Communication Access Board (DCAB) supports the intent of Senate Bill 2268 – Relating to Equity. This bill requires all places of public accommodation and public entity construction projects constructed after 7/31/2027 to provide universal changing accommodations that are equally accessible regardless of gender.

A fundamental goal of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is to ensure people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to participate in basic civic activities and everyday events, such as going to a restaurant or movie, shopping at a mall, or simply attending a high school sports event with friends and family.

People with disabilities who cannot use a standard toilet should have access to universal changing accommodations that provide a safe, sanitary, and private space to be changed and cleaned by a caregiver when participating in civic activities and everyday events.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully submitted,

KRISTINE PAGANO  
Acting Executive Director



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



*Advocating for the Hawai'i LGBTQIA+ Community*

Mailing Address: LGBTQ+ Commission, c/o The Department of Human Services,  
P.O. Box 339, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96809-0339

Email: [hawaiistatelgbtqpluscommission@gmail.com](mailto:hawaiistatelgbtqpluscommission@gmail.com)  
Web: <https://humanservices.hawaii.gov/lgbtq-commission/>

February 11, 2026

Senates' Committee on Government Operations & Health and Human Services  
Hawai'i State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Hearing: Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at 3:05 PM

**RE: Strong Support for Senate Bill 2268**

Aloha Chairs McKelvey & San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs, and fellow committee members,

I am writing in strong support of Senate Bill 2268 on behalf of the Hawai'i State Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer Plus (LGBTQ+) Commission, which was established by the 2022 Hawai'i State Legislature to

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

The Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission submits this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 2268, which requires that all places of public accommodation and public entity construction projects constructed after July 31, 2027, provide universal changing accommodations that are equally accessible regardless of gender.

SB 2268 is a practical, forward-looking measure that ensures dignity, safety, and equal access for all people in Hawai'i. Universal changing accommodations benefit not only transgender, nonbinary, and gender nonconforming individuals, but also parents with children of a different gender, caregivers assisting elderly or disabled family members, and people with disabilities who require assistance. The need for a changing table or private changing space is not dependent on someone's gender. Babies, young children, kūpuna, and individuals with disabilities require care regardless of who is assisting them. Access to appropriate facilities should reflect that simple reality.

For many transgender and gender diverse individuals, gender-segregated changing facilities can be sites of harassment, exclusion, or humiliation. No one should have to choose between accessing a public facility and risking confrontation or discrimination.

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

## HI State LGBTQ+ Commission Testimony in Support of SB 2268

By requiring universal changing spaces in new construction, this bill proactively addresses inequities while providing clarity and consistency for designers, developers, and public agencies.

Designing inclusive infrastructure from the outset is fiscally responsible and avoids the higher costs associated with retrofitting facilities later. Just as accessibility standards have evolved to better serve people with disabilities, our public spaces must continue to evolve to reflect the needs of all who call Hawai'i home.

At a time when transgender and gender diverse communities are facing increasing attacks and erasure at the national level, Hawai'i has the opportunity to lead with values rooted in aloha, respect, and equity. SB 2268 affirms that public spaces belong to everyone.

The Hawai'i State LGBTQ+ Commission respectfully urges the Committee to pass Senate Bill 2268.

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

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration,

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



**STATE OF HAWAII  
KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII  
STATE COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
'A'UNIKE MOKU'ĀPUNI NO KA NĀ KĀWAI KULA**

PRINCESS VICTORIA KAMĀMALU BUILDING  
1010 RICHARDS STREET, Room 122  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE: (808) 586-8100 FAX: (808) 586-7543

February 17, 2026

The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Senate Committee on Government Operations  
The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services  
The Thirty-Third Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawai'i  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chairs McKelvey and San Buenaventura, and Committee Members:

**SUBJECT:** Testimony in Support of SB2268, Relating to Equity

The Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities is in **SUPPORT of SB2268**, which requires all places of public accommodation and public entity construction projects constructed after 7/31/2027 to provide universal changing accommodations that are equally accessible regardless of gender.

Adults with significant mobility disabilities, which includes people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, often lack access to safe and dignified toileting facilities when in public spaces. The absence of powered, height-adjustable adult changing stations forces individuals and caregivers into unsafe, unsanitary, or undignified alternatives. SB2268 recognizes that adult changing access is an equity issue and a matter of full community inclusion.

The Council supports the statewide scope of this measure. A broader requirement ensures that people with disabilities can participate in community life without being effectively excluded due to the lack of appropriate facilities.

At the same time, the Council respectfully offers amendments to improve feasibility and support implementation. As drafted, the bill requires universal changing accommodations on each floor containing public restrooms. While well-intended, this per-floor requirement may create unnecessary cost and construction barriers that could hinder passage or long-term compliance. Adult changing stations are destination facilities that individuals plan around; meaningful access can be achieved through a per-building standard rather than a per-floor mandate.

To balance equity with feasibility, the Council respectfully requests the following amendments:

1. On page 2, line 15, **delete**: “On each floor containing restrooms for public use,”
2. On page 2, line 16, **delete**: “each new establishment shall provide, at a minimum:”
  1. **Replace** with:  
“Each new establishment shall provide, at a minimum, at least one universal changing accommodation within the building in a restroom for public use, as follows:”
3. On page 3, lines 18-19, **delete**: “No reasonable physical option exists for providing universal changing accommodations.”
  1. **Replace** with: “is technically infeasible as defined under the ADA”

These amendments preserve the core equity principle of the bill while narrowing the placement requirement to one installation per building, improving cost predictability and political viability without undermining access.

For these reasons, the Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities **supports SB2268**.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Sincerely,



Daintry Bartoldus  
Executive Administrator

JAN 21 2026

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EQUITY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 489, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and  
3 to read as follows:

4 "PART UNIVERSAL CHANGING ACCOMMODATIONS

5 §489-A Definitions. As used in this part:

6 "New establishment" means a place of public accommodation  
7 or public entity construction that is constructed after  
8 July 31, 2027.

9 "Public entity" has the same meaning as defined in title 42  
10 United States Code section 12131.

11 "Public entity construction" means any building  
12 construction project or program initiated by a public entity or  
13 that utilizes public entity funds.

14 "Restroom for public use" means a restroom for a place of  
15 public accommodation or public entity construction that is  
16 accessible to persons other than employees.



1 "Universal changing accommodation" means a powered,  
2 height-adjustable adult changing station that is either floor-or  
3 wall-mounted and installed within an enclosed restroom facility  
4 in a restroom for public use.

5 **§489-B New establishments; criteria and application.** A  
6 place of public accommodation or public entity construction  
7 shall be deemed to be constructed on either the:

- 8 (1) Date that a certificate of occupancy was issued; or  
9 (2) First date of occupancy for public use;

10 whichever is earlier, regardless of whether the place of public  
11 accommodation or public entity construction has obtained a  
12 certificate of occupancy in compliance with applicable state law  
13 and county ordinances.

14 **§489-C Universal changing accommodations; required.** (a)

~~15 On each floor containing restrooms for public use, each new~~  
~~16 establishment shall provide, at a minimum: Each new establishment~~  
~~shall provide, at a minimum, at least one universal changing~~  
~~accommodation within the building in a restroom for public use, as~~  
~~follows:~~

- 17 (1) Two universal changing accommodations for  
18 establishments utilizing gender-designated restrooms;  
19 provided that at least one is designated for or  
20 accessible by women and at least one is designated for  
21 or accessible by men; or



1           constructing, purchasing, or substantially modifying  
2           the new establishment.

3           **§489-F Violations; unlawful discriminatory practice;**  
4 **private cause of action.** (a) Any person who is injured by an  
5 unlawful discriminatory practice pursuant to this part may bring  
6 proceedings to enjoin the unlawful discriminatory practice. If  
7 the judgment is for the plaintiff, the plaintiff shall be  
8 awarded:

- 9           (1) Reasonable attorneys' fees;
- 10          (2) The cost of the suit; and
- 11          (3) The sum of \$100.

12          (b) Any action under this part shall be subject to the  
13 jurisdiction of the district courts pursuant to chapter 604 and  
14 may be commenced and conducted in the small claims division of  
15 the district court.

16          **§489-G Exclusion from civil rights commission.**  
17 Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, this part shall  
18 not be subject to chapter 368 or the jurisdiction of the civil  
19 rights commission."

# S.B. NO. 2268

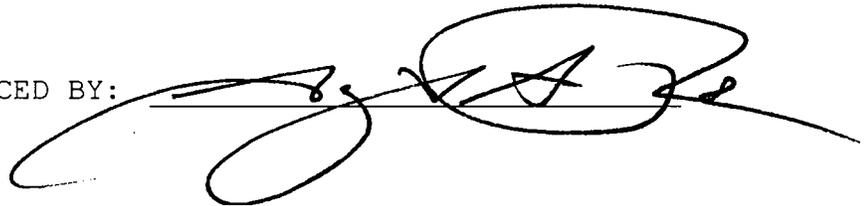
1 SECTION 2. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
2 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
3 begun before its effective date.

4 SECTION 3. If any provision of this Act, or the  
5 application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held  
6 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or  
7 applications of the Act that can be given effect without the  
8 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions  
9 of this Act are severable.

10 SECTION 4. In codifying the new sections added by  
11 section 1 of this Act, the revisor of statutes shall substitute  
12 appropriate section numbers for the letters used in designating  
13 the new sections in this Act.

14 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.  
15

INTRODUCED BY:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, written over a horizontal line. The signature is highly cursive and appears to be the name of the legislator who introduced the bill.

# S.B. NO. 22,s

**Report Title:**

Equity; Universal Changing Accommodations; Public Accommodations; Public Entity Construction

**Description:**

Requires all places of public accommodation and public entity construction projects constructed after 7/31/2027 to provide universal changing accommodations that are equally accessible regardless of gender.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*





# HAWAI‘I CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION

## KOMIKINA PONO KIWILA O HAWAI‘I

830 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 411, HONOLULU, HI 96813 · PHONE: (808) 586-8636 · FAX: (808) 586-8655 · TDD: (808) 586-8692

Tuesday, February 17, 2026 3:05 p.m.  
Conference Room 225 & Videoconference  
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

To:

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair

Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice Chair

From: Alphonso Braggs, Chair

and Commissioners of the Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission

**Re: S.B. 2268 – Relating to Equity, Universal Changing Accommodations**  
**Testimony in SUPPORT**

**The Hawai‘i Civil Rights Commission (HCRC)** carries out the Hawai‘i constitutional mandate that no person shall be discriminated against in the exercise of their civil rights. Art. I, Sec. 5. HCRC has enforcement jurisdiction over Hawai‘i’s laws prohibiting discrimination in employment (Chapter 378, Part I, HRS), housing (Chapter 515, HRS), public accommodations (Chapter 489, HRS), and access to state and state-funded services (HRS § 368-1.5).

This bill recognizes that inclusion in our communities for individuals with disabilities includes the freedom to move about in public spaces without the additional worry and concern about accessing private, safe, and hygienic toileting facilities that are equipped with universal

changing tables. The reality for many individuals who need help with activities of daily living is that they oftentimes have to adjust their schedules and only frequent areas known to have accessible toileting facilities, or run the risk and the indignity of going for prolonged periods of time in soiled incontinence garments.

S.B 2268 would require that new establishments that are built after 7/31/2027, provide universal changing accommodations in restrooms that are open for public use. S.B. 2268 defines “universal changing accommodation” to mean powered, height-adjustable adult changing stations. This bill would require that in a new establishment, every floor containing public restrooms to have two universal changing accommodations at minimum if the establishment utilizes gender-designated restrooms, or one universal changing accommodation if the establishment utilizes restrooms that are accessible to people of any gender identity or expression. This ensures that individuals who need assistance toileting and their caretakers, regardless of gender and gender identity, have access to this basic human right.

A growing number of states, including Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Missouri, New Hampshire, Ohio, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Wisconsin,<sup>1</sup> have passed adult changing table legislation with various levels of applicability to public spaces.<sup>2</sup> This measure would require universal changing accommodations in a wide range of public establishments in the State of Hawai‘i, allowing a wide range of freedom for individuals who need assistance with self-

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<sup>1</sup> Building Safety Journal, *An Inside Look at How Adult Height Adjustable Changing Table Advocates are Driving Change and Improving Accessibility, Part 2*, accessed on 2.13.26 at <https://www.iccsafe.org/building-safety-journal/bsj-technical/an-inside-look-at-how-adult-height-adjustable-changing-table-advocates-are-driving-change-and-improving-accessibility-part-2/> see also SOVA, *Adult Changing Table Legislation in the United States: What you need to Know*, accessed on 2.13.26 at <https://choosesova.com/blogs/news/adult-changing-table-legislation-by-state?srsId=AfmBOoovmXI-tNmEW4U89QWyn7pPTyp56E0rREgd3Sar0kbUvkgBN6UP>.

<sup>2</sup> For instance, Ohio’s Department of Transportation, started in 2024 will add adult changing tables to 28 renovated rest stops over the next few years. *Id.* California’s statute is limited to places of public amusement such as sports arenas or theaters. [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201520160AB662](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201520160AB662) Arizona’s statute is only applicable to buildings built with public monies. New Hampshire’s law applies to all public buildings.

care. The lack of access to changing facilities can limit those with disabilities from leaving home, which ultimately leads to less engagement with our communities. By ensuring access to safe universal changing accommodations, individuals who need help with self-care can more freely partake in social interaction, connection, and sense of belonging in our communities.

The measure proposes a new part to the statutes within Chapter 489, HRS. Noting that the HCRC has jurisdiction over discrimination in public accommodations under Chapter 489, Part I, the HCRC appreciates the placement of this new adult changing station requirement in a separate part, expressly excluded from HCRC jurisdiction. In this respect, the new statutory requirement would be similar to Chapter 489, Part II, relating to Breastfeeding in Public Accommodations, which is also expressly placed outside of HCRC jurisdiction.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony in support.

**SB-2268**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 3:13:43 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/17/2026 3:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Louis Erteschik	Testifying for Hawaii Disability Rights Center	Support	In Person

Comments:

We have been advocating for this issue for the past several years .This would really help more people with disabilities have greater access to the community as it would give them a sanitary, dignified place to change their incontinent supplies.It would improve their life and is an excellent idea.

**SB-2268**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 8:03:35 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/17/2026 3:05:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

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

Pride at Work – Hawai‘i fully supports Senate Bill 2268.

We ask that you support this needed piece of legislation.

Mahalo,

Michael Golojuch, Jr. (he/him)

President

[Pride at Work – Hawai‘i](#)

**SB-2268**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 6:46:47 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/17/2026 3:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
HOKU PAC	Testifying for HOKU PAC	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

HOKU PAC supports Senate Bill 2268 because it is the right thing to do.

Mahalo,

[HOKU PAC](#)



February 17, 2026

Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair  
Committee on Government Operations

Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice Chair  
Committee on Health and Human Services

**Re: S.B. 2268, Relating to Equity**

**Hearing: Tuesday, February 17, 2026, 3:05 PM, Conference Room 415 & Videoconference**

Dear Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Gabbard, Chair San Buenaventura and the Members of the Committees on Government Operations and Health and Human Services:

Hawaii Women Lawyers is a lawyer's trade organization that aims to improve the lives and careers of women in all aspects of the legal profession, influence the future of the legal profession, and enhance the status of women and promote equal opportunities for all.

**Hawaii Women Lawyers supports the intent of S.B. 2268.**

S.B. 2268 would require newly constructed public-facing buildings to install powered, height-adjustable adult changing stations in public restrooms. For individuals with significant disabilities and for their caregivers, access to appropriate changing facilities is not a convenience, but a prerequisite to participating in community life. Without these accommodations, many families are effectively excluded from public spaces and civic institutions.

Women disproportionately serve as primary caregivers for children and adults with disabilities. The absence of universal changing accommodations places a particular burden on mothers, daughters, and women professionals who balance caregiving responsibilities with work and other commitments. By requiring accessible adult changing stations in new public establishments, this bill helps remove structural barriers that affect caregivers and families, advancing dignity, inclusion, and equity in Hawaii.

**For the above reasons, we support the intent of S.B. 2268 and respectfully request that the Committees pass this measure.**

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

**SB-2268**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 2:06:10 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/17/2026 3:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alec Marentic	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Members of the Committee,

I am a resident of the big island. I support this measure and the equity issue it aims to address.

Mahalo for your time,

Alec Marentic

**SB-2268**

Submitted on: 2/10/2026 3:06:05 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/17/2026 3:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
ANNETTE TASHIRO	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

There should be no question regarding public accommodations and public entity construction projects to provide universal changing accommodations that are equally accessible regardless of gender.

**Judith F. Clark**  
48-218 Kamehameha Highway  
808-499-9966  
[Judithforceclark@gmail.com](mailto:Judithforceclark@gmail.com)  
Kaneohe, Hawaii 96744

February 11, 2026

To: Senator Angus McKelvey, Chair,  
And members of the Committee on Government Operations

Senator Joy San Buenaventura, Chair,  
And members of the Committee on Health and Human Services

**Testimony in Support of SB 2268 Relating to Equity**

As a community advocate and former Chair of the Hawaii Children and Youth Summit, I support SB 2268, which mandates universal changing accommodations in public accommodations and new construction projects.

In 2017, two women brought their babies to the Hawaii Children and Youth Summit at the State Capitol. A young parent who was a speaker at the Summit came to me and asked where she could change the baby, because there was no baby changing station in any of the women's restrooms. The adult volunteer provided a photo of herself kneeling on the floor of the bathroom to change her child's diaper. Sharing this photo and information with legislators led to the installation of changing tables in men's and women's restrooms at the Capitol.



Parents and babies need and deserve appropriate and accessible facilities in public buildings. Parents should not have to kneel on restroom floors to provide essential infant care – and some parents and caregivers have disabilities that make it impossible.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Judith F. Clark".

Judith F. Clark, MPH

**SB-2268**

Submitted on: 2/11/2026 9:30:33 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/17/2026 3:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ute K Finch	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is an industry that is viable and has proven to boost the economy. Thank you for voting for it.

**SB-2268**

Submitted on: 2/12/2026 9:16:26 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/17/2026 3:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jari S.K. Sugano	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Chairs McKelvey and San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Gabbard and McKelvey, and members of the Senate Committee on Government Operations and the Committee on Health and Human Services,

My name is Jari Sugano, and I am writing in strong support of SB2268, relating to equity and universal changing accommodations in places of public accommodation and public entity construction projects.

My 17 year-old daughter has severe developmental delays, autism, and epilepsy, and is incontinent. Her ability to participate in everyday community life is restricted because most public buildings do not have a safe and appropriate place for her to be changed. Without an adult-sized changing station, routine activities like attending events, appointments, or family outings become stressful, limited, or impossible for our family.

SB2268 would require new places of public accommodation and public entity construction projects to include universal changing accommodations that are accessible regardless of gender. This is a critical step toward ensuring that individuals with significant disabilities, and the families who care for them, can access public spaces with dignity.

Currently, infant changing tables cannot support the size or weight of many older children and adults with disabilities. Families like mine are often forced to change our loved ones on restroom floors or in the back of our vehicles. This is unsafe, unsanitary, and profoundly undignified for the person being cared for, and it sends a painful message that our family members are not fully considered in public planning and design.

This measure also clarifies that caregivers may assist a person with a disability in using a restroom designated for the opposite sex when necessary for toileting or changing, so families are not forced to choose between safety, privacy, and meeting basic care needs by sitting in soiled clothing for extended periods of time.

For families like ours, who care for a child with autism, epilepsy, and severe developmental delays, this flexibility is essential to keep our child safe and regulated in an already stressful environment.

It helps ensure that those who may need extra support in a restroom—whether due to seizures, sensory needs, mobility challenges, or communication delays—can receive assistance from the

caregiver who knows them best, in a space that has appropriate and dignified changing accommodations.

By advancing SB2268, Hawai‘i can help ensure that true accessibility extends across one’s lifespan. These accommodations will not only support people with disabilities, but also benefit caregivers, seniors, and kūpuna who may need similar assistance in the future.

I respectfully urge you to pass SB2268 to promote equity, inclusion, safety, and dignity for individuals with disabilities and their families in Hawai‘i.

Aloha, Jari Sugano, Mililani, Hawaii

The Honorable Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair  
Committee on Government Operations  
The Thirty Third Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawai'i  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Senator McKelvey and Committee Members:

**SUBJECT:** S.B. 2268 relating to accessible restroom facilities

I am in strong support of S.B. 2268. My name is Deziree Tacub, I am a self-advocate from Kauai. Having accessible bathrooms with universal changing tables would allow more people with disabilities to be in the community. It will provide a clean/hygienic space for them to be changed with dignity. Instead of in the back of cars or being forced to stay home and being excluded.

SB 2268 will create a more inclusive community for everyone.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in support of SB 2268.

2.13.2026

To Committee on Government Operations

Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair, Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair, and Committee Members.

To Committee on Health and Human Services

Senator, Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair, Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice Chair and committee members.

Aloha:

My name is Katarina Avdienko.

Thank you for this chance to speak in (Support) of SB 2932 and SB 2268

I am from Waimea Easterseals.

Bill SB 2932 and SB 2268 will help me plan for my future.

I would like to talk about the county swimming pool and park changing rooms. It would be helpful if benches were placed in each stall and adult changing tables were provided in the changing rooms. This would allow us to sit down and prevent falling when changing clothes. Adult changing tables would help those in need of assistance.

Mahalo

Katarina Avdienko  
478 Puolo Rd. #1  
Hanapepe, HI 96716

To: Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair  
Committee on Government Operations

Senator Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senator Angus L.K. McKelvey, Vice Chair  
Committee on Health and Human Services

From: Veronica Moore, Individual Citizen

Date: February 16, 2026

RE: Senate Bill 2268  
Measure Title: RELATING TO EQUITY.  
Report Title: Equity; Universal Changing Accommodations; Public  
Accommodations; Public Entity Construction

To All Concerned,

My name is Veronica Moore and I support Senate Bill 2268. Thank you for introducing this bill.

Sincerely,

Veronica M. Moore

**SB-2268**

Submitted on: 2/16/2026 7:44:28 AM

Testimony for GVO on 2/17/2026 3:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Leilani Kailiawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, Chairs McKelvey and San Bueanventura and Committee Members,

My name is Leilani Kailiawa. I am a parent of child with multiple disabilities and community leader.

I am in strong support of this bill.

With gratitude

Leilani Kailiawa

February 17, 2026

**LATE**

The Honorable Angus L.K. McKelvey, Chair  
Senate Committee on Government Operations

The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura, Chair  
Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

The Thirty-Third Legislature  
State Capitol  
State of Hawai'i  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chairs McKelvey and San Buenaventura, and Committee Members:

**SUBJECT:** Testimony in Support of SB2268, Relating to Equity

Goodwill Hawai'i is in **SUPPORT of SB2268**, which requires all places of public accommodation and public entity construction projects constructed after 7/31/2027 to provide universal changing accommodations that are equally accessible regardless of gender.

Adults with significant mobility disabilities, including many people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, often lack access to safe and dignified toileting facilities when in public spaces. The absence of powered, height-adjustable adult changing stations forces individuals and caregivers into unsafe, unsanitary, or undignified alternatives. SB2268 recognizes that adult changing access is an equity issue and a matter of full community inclusion.

Goodwill Hawai'i supports the statewide scope of this measure. A broader requirement ensures that people with disabilities can participate in community life without being effectively excluded due to the lack of appropriate facilities.

At the same time, as also suggested by the Hawai'i State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Goodwill respectfully offers amendments to improve feasibility and support implementation. As drafted, the bill requires universal changing accommodations on each floor containing public restrooms. While well-intended, this per-floor requirement may create unnecessary cost and construction barriers that could hinder passage or long-term compliance. Adult changing stations are destination facilities that individuals plan around; meaningful access can be achieved through a per-building standard rather than a per-floor mandate.

To balance equity with feasibility, we respectfully request the following amendments:

1. On page 2, line 15, **delete:** "On each floor containing restrooms for public use,"
2. On page 2, line 16, **delete:** "each new establishment shall provide, at a minimum:"

1. **Replace** with:  
“Each new establishment shall provide, at a minimum, at least one universal changing accommodation within the building in a restroom for public use, as follows:”
3. On page 3, lines 18-19, **delete**: “No reasonable physical option exists for providing universal changing accommodations.
  1. **Replace** with: “is technically infeasible as defined under the ADA”

These amendments preserve the core equity principle of the bill while narrowing the placement requirement to one installation per building, improving cost predictability and political viability without undermining access.

For these reasons, Goodwill Hawai'i **supports SB2268**.

Thank you for allowing us to submit testimony. We look forward to continued efforts to support the disability community of Hawai'i.

Sincerely,

Riley Dettman, Director of Intellectual Disabilities Services

**LATE**

**SB-2268**

Submitted on: 2/16/2026 8:28:17 PM

Testimony for GVO on 2/17/2026 3:05:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Austen Kaneshiro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello Chairs, Vice Chairs, & Members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of Bill SB2932 and SB2268.

These accommodations would be helpful to people like my sister and my grandma who have to go out into the community for various medical appointments and state related business.

Putting these adult size changing areas in a gender neutral bathroom would be better because I could go and help them if they needed help. I wish I could be there to testify in strong support but I still thank you for the opportunity to testify once again.

Austen Kaneshiro