



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## ‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

### Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs  
April 1, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

By

Jan Gouveia

Vice President for Administration

and

Carrie K.S. Okinaga

Vice President for Legal Affairs and University General Counsel

University of Hawai'i System

SB 3322 SD2 HD1 – RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT.

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee:

SB 3322 SD2 HD1 would, in part, prohibit state and county involvement in civil immigration enforcement activity in certain locations. UH is in support of this measure with suggested amendments to enable UH to comply with the letter and spirit behind this bill should it be enacted.

Suggested amendments for your consideration are highlighted in red:

- Page 11 lines 13-17  
(1) Identify, **arrest**, or **otherwise** impose **civil** or criminal **penalty liability** upon a person or entity based on their participation in activities protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution or Hawaii State Constitution; or
- Page 12 lines 1-3  
(d) The policy under this section shall not prevent compliance with a valid judicial warrant **or other documented, reviewable legal process** authorizing entry or entry under exigent circumstances.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

PUBLIC DEFENDER

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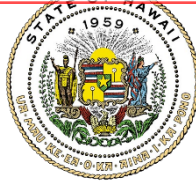
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**March 31, 2026**

**SB 3322, SD2, HD1: RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT**

**Chair Tarnas, Vice-Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee on  
Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs:**

The Office of the Public Defender (OPD) **supports** SB 3322 SD2 HD1. The OPD represents indigent individuals accused of crimes throughout Hawai'i, many of whom are members of immigrant communities. From that vantage point, we see firsthand how public trust, transparency, and clear legal boundaries in law enforcement practices are essential not only to public safety, but to the legitimacy of the criminal legal system itself.

**Visible Identification:**

The measure's requirement that law enforcement officers be clearly identifiable while performing official duties directly advances transparency and accountability. For community members, the ability to identify an officer by visible insignia and badge information is foundational to lawful engagement and public confidence.

From the defense perspective, unclear or obscured officer identity can create confusion, escalate fear, and complicate later fact-finding, accountability, and due process. The bill appropriately balances these concerns by requiring visible identification while also allowing narrowly tailored exemptions for legitimate safety needs, such as undercover operations or tactical responses

**Clear Limits on Facial Coverings:**

The OPD supports the bill's careful restrictions on facial coverings that conceal officer identity during routine law enforcement activities. For many community members, particularly youth, immigrants, and individuals with trauma histories,

encounters with masked officers can feel coercive or threatening, even absent any wrongdoing.

This measure recognizes that generalized safety concerns should not override the fundamental principles of openness and accountability in policing. By requiring documentation and supervision when facial coverings are used, the bill creates meaningful guardrails without undermining officer safety.

**Boundaries on Civil Immigration Enforcement:**

The OPD strongly supports this measure's provisions establishing clear state and county policies on civil immigration enforcement. The bill reinforces that civil immigration enforcement must be grounded in documented legal authority, judicial oversight, and constitutional protections, and must not intrude into sensitive places such as schools, courthouses, health care facilities, and places of worship.

Our office frequently represents clients for whom fear of immigration consequences deters cooperation with law enforcement, access to courts, or even seeking medical care. By drawing firm lines between state law enforcement and federal civil immigration functions, this measure strengthens community trust and public safety for everyone regardless of immigration status.

**Preventing Prolonged Stops and Improper Status Inquiries:**

This measure appropriately prohibits the prolonging of stops, detentions, or arrests for the purpose of determining a person's civil immigration status without reasonable suspicion based on specific, articulable facts. The bill explicitly rejects reliance on race, language, accent, or national origin as a basis for suspicion, reinforcing long-standing constitutional principles and protecting against discriminatory practices. These provisions align squarely with due process and equal protection values that are central to a fair justice system.

For these reasons, the OPD supports SB 3322 SD2 HD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

C. Kimo Alameda, Ph.D.  
*Mayor*



Reed K. Mahuna  
*Police Chief*

William V. Brilhante Jr.  
*Managing Director*

Sherry D. Bird  
*Deputy Police Chief*

## County of Hawai`i

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

349 Kapi`olani Street • Hilo, Hawai`i 96720-3998  
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**LATE**

April 1, 2026

Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair  
Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair  
And Members  
Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs  
State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Representatives Tarnas and Poepoe and Members:

RE: SENATE BILL 3322 SD2 HD1 RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT  
DATE: APRIL 1, 2026  
TIME: 2:00 P.M.  
PLACE: VIDEOCONFERENCE  
CONFERENCE ROOM 325

The Hawai`i Police Department (HPD) appreciates the opportunity to offer comments on SB3322 SD2 HD1. HPD supports the Legislature's goals of transparency, accountability, and public trust; however, we continue to believe these objectives are best achieved through statewide professional standards developed by the Law Enforcement Standards Board (LESB), rather than through detailed statutory mandates and criminal penalties.

#### **Facial-Covering Requirements and Criminal Penalties**

SB3322 SD2 HD1 establishes a misdemeanor offense for a law enforcement officer who wears a mask or facial covering that conceals their identity while interacting with the public, with limited exemptions. While HPD recognizes the importance of clear identification in most public interactions, criminalizing mask-use decisions raises concerns about exposing officers acting in good faith to inadvertent criminal liability. This is particularly relevant for personnel who support sensitive operations—such as narcotics, vice, gambling, or covert surveillance—who may not be formally designated as undercover but still require anonymity for safety and operational integrity. These circumstances vary case-by-case and are better addressed through LESB-developed policy and training rather than statute.

#### **Expanded Civil Immigration Provisions**

The HD1 version significantly expands civil immigration policy requirements, including prohibitions on enforcement in sensitive locations, limits on collection and sharing of

SENATE BILL 3322 SD2 HD1 RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

DATE: APRIL 1, 2026

TIME: 2:00 P.M.

PLACE: VIDEOCONFERENCE  
CONFERENCE ROOM 325

immigration-related data, reporting mandates, and body-camera requirements during ICE activity. HPD supports lawful and consistent handling of civil immigration matters, but we believe these areas should be guided by LESB standards rather than statute. Immigration-related interactions often arise indirectly or incidentally during otherwise lawful police activity, and embedding detailed rules in statute risks confusion or inconsistent application as federal guidance evolves.

### **Criminal Offense for Unauthorized Civil Immigration Interrogation, Arrest, or Detention**

SB3322 SD2 HD1 also establishes a misdemeanor offense for unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention, without the affirmative defense that existed in earlier versions of the bill. This remains a significant concern for HPD. In dynamic field situations, officers may inadvertently encounter immigration-related information while investigating unrelated criminal conduct, and the removal of the affirmative defense increases the risk that officers acting within their lawful duties may face unnecessary criminal exposure. These complex scenarios are best managed through statewide LESB-issued guidance supported by training, supervision, and administrative accountability rather than criminal sanctions.

### **LESB Should Establish Statewide Standards**

Across the major components of SB3322 SD2 HD1—facial coverings, identification standards, immigration-related procedures, and criminal penalties—HPD's central recommendation remains consistent: these subjects are more appropriately addressed through the Law Enforcement Standards Board. LESB is designed to consult with practitioners, assess operational implications, update best practices, and issue uniform statewide policies. Embedding highly detailed operational rules into statute reduces flexibility, may lead to unintended consequences, and complicates rapid adaptation to changing legal or tactical circumstances.

### **Conclusion**

For these reasons, HPD respectfully offers comments on SB3322 SD2 HD1 and recommends that the Legislature delegate development of statewide policies on facial coverings, identification standards, and civil immigration-related procedures to the Law Enforcement Standards Board. This approach maintains transparency and public trust while preserving officer safety, operational effectiveness, and consistent implementation across Hawai'i's law enforcement agencies.

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

Na'u Me Ke Ha'aha'a,



REED K. MAHUNA  
POLICE CHIEF

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 5:51:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Matthew B. Johnson	Pacific Gateway Center	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Testimony of Pacific Gateway Center**

In SUPPORT of SB3322 SD2 HD1

Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair

Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: April 1, 2026

Dear Chair David A. Tarnas, Vice Chair Mahina Poepoe, and members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

My name is Matthew Johnson from Pacific Gateway Center, and I submit this testimony in support of SB3322 SD2 HD1, which requires each law enforcement agency in the State to establish and publicly post written policies on facial coverings, badge visibility, vehicle markings, and civil immigration enforcement by July 1, 2027; prohibits officers from prolonging stops to determine civil immigration status (with reasonable suspicion exemptions); establishes the Department of Law Enforcement’s civil immigration policy role; and establishes criminal offenses for improper facial coverings, lack of visible identification, and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention.

I am the Executive Director for Pacific Gateway Center. Pacific Gateway Center is committed to transparency, the protection of civil and human rights, and advancing the safety, dignity, and economic empowerment of immigrant and refugee communities.

SB3322 SD2 HD1 creates the most comprehensive statewide law enforcement transparency and civil immigration enforcement framework of any bill in the Campaign for Immigrant Justice package. The HD1 amendment's most significant addition is the written policy mandate: by July 1, 2027, every law enforcement agency in Hawai'i must establish and publicly post policies covering facial coverings, badge visibility, vehicle markings, and civil immigration enforcement. This transforms aspirational standards into legally required, publicly verifiable commitments. Communities will have something to point to; agencies will have something they are accountable to.

The prohibition on prolonging stops to determine civil immigration status directly addresses one of the most common fears in immigrant and mixed-status communities — that a routine encounter could become an immigration interrogation. Combined with criminal offenses for violations and a DLE compliance role ensuring statewide consistency, this bill has real teeth. Having passed House ECD, SB3322 SD2 HD1 now comes to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs — the committee that has championed civil rights and immigration protections throughout this session. I urge the Committee to advance it to Finance and toward final passage.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee PASS SB3322 SD2 HD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Matthew B. Johnson

Pacific Gateway Center



*Cade Watanabe, Financial Secretary-Treasurer*

*Gemma G. Weinstein, President*

*Eric W. Gill, Senior Vice-President*

March 31, 2026

House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs  
Rep. David Tarnas, Chair  
Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

### **Testimony in Strong Support of SB 3322**

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, 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 3322. This measure is an important step toward greater accountability and safeguarding the most vulnerable people in our community.

Thank you.



[www.hicir.org](http://www.hicir.org) | Instagram @hicir  
[hicoalitionforimmigrantrights@gmail.com](mailto:hicoalitionforimmigrantrights@gmail.com)

Testimony of the Hawai‘i Coalition for Immigrant Rights

In **SUPPORT** of SB3322 SD2 HD1

Hearing Date: April 1, 2026

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs,

My name is Liza Ryan Gill, and I submit this testimony on behalf of the Hawai‘i Coalition for Immigrant Rights (HCIR), a coalition of immigrant-serving and immigrant-led organizations working statewide to advance policies that protect immigrant and migrant communities and strengthen our shared future. We respectfully submit testimony in strong support of SB3322 SD2 HD1.

SB3322 SD2 HD1 strengthens accountability, public safety, and trust by ensuring that law enforcement officers are clearly identified during public-facing enforcement. When individuals cannot identify who is exercising law enforcement authority, fear and confusion proliferate — along with the risk of false impersonation, escalation, violence and abuse. This concern is especially acute for immigrant and mixed-status families, who may be unable to distinguish between local law enforcement and federal civil immigration agents during encounters. Clear identification standards protect residents while also supporting responsible officers by reducing misunderstandings and facilitating de-escalation.

ICE enforcement activity in Hawai‘i has surged dramatically. Between January 8 and October 15, 2025, ICE conducted 194 arrests in Hawai‘i — nearly four times the 52 arrests recorded the previous year. Arrests averaged 20 per month in 2025, compared to just four per month in 2024, with the surge beginning immediately after January 20. Detentions rose just as sharply: the average daily number of ICE detainees at FDC Honolulu climbed from 15 in January 2025 to 81 by November. As of October 15, 218 individuals had been booked into FDC Honolulu — already surpassing the 130 booked during all of 2024. Removals are also up, with a projected 35% increase over the prior year, and voluntary departures rose from just 2 in 2024 to 30 in 2025 — a sign of the fear that has taken hold in our communities.

Critically, the methods driving these numbers are ones this bill directly addresses. Most 2025 arrests were "at-large" — occurring in public spaces such as streets, workplaces, and state courthouses, rather than in custodial settings. Of the average daily detained population at FDC Honolulu, 77% had no criminal convictions. These are community members going about their daily lives who encountered enforcement they could not identify, could not question, and had no clear recourse against. Residents should never have to guess whether the person detaining



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someone is a legitimate officer or a vigilante impersonator. By requiring visible identification — including name, agency, and badge number — and limiting the use of improper facial coverings, SB3322 SD2 HD1 establishes clear, common-sense accountability standards that are urgently needed right now.

SB3322 SD2 HD1 also strengthens safeguards around state and county collaboration with federal civil immigration enforcement. By requiring written agency policies and training, the bill ensures that any cooperation is governed by clear, transparent rules that prioritize due process and judicial oversight. These guardrails help maintain the proper role of local agencies and prevent the erosion of trust that occurs when local institutions are perceived as extensions of federal immigration enforcement. Research bears this out: arrest rates were higher in states that fully cooperated with federal enforcement, while Hawai‘i’s refusal to enter 287(g) agreements has been a meaningful check on escalation. This bill codifies and strengthens that posture.

Importantly, the measure prohibits officers from initiating or prolonging a stop solely to inquire into a person’s civil immigration status. This is a critical protection against pretextual, unconstitutional stops and discriminatory enforcement — particularly given that people appearing at state courthouses have been among those targeted. It helps ensure that individuals are not subjected to prolonged detention based on vague or improper grounds, and reinforces that factors such as race, ethnicity, language, or national origin cannot be used as a basis for suspicion. More than 40 nationalities are represented among those detained in Hawai‘i, reflecting the breadth of communities that need and deserve these protections.

The SD2 amendment appropriately strengthens this framework by establishing criminal penalties for violations, ensuring that these protections are enforceable and meaningful. The data is clear: enforcement in Hawai‘i is accelerating, it is happening in public spaces, and it is falling disproportionately on people with no criminal record. SB3322 SD2 HD1 gives our communities, our officers, and our institutions the clarity and accountability they need to navigate this moment.

For these reasons, the Hawai‘i Coalition for Immigrant Rights respectfully urges the Committee to PASS SB3322 SD2 HD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Liza Ryan Gill

Hawai‘i Coalition for Immigrant Rights (HCIR)

# COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

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*Today's Inmate; Tomorrow's Neighbor*



## COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Representative David Tarnas, Chair

Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

2:00 PM

Room 325 and VIDEOCONFERENCE

## SUPPORT FOR SB3322 SD2, HD1 - LAW ENFORCEMENT

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe and Members of the Committee!

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 3,626 Hawai'i individuals living behind bars<sup>1</sup> and under the "care and custody" of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation on March 23, 2026. We are always mindful that 795 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 **SUPPORTS SB 3322 SD2, HD1** that promotes transparency, accountability and protection of the public by establishing a policy for the Department of Law Enforcement regarding immigration activity involving state and county participation. It also established criminal offenses for improper facial coverings and lack of visible identification - in other words - it prohibits secret police.

This measure has wide support since it does not align with the protections in Hawai'i's Constitution and with Governor Green's assertion of the civil rights of all Hawai'i residents.

We urge the committee to pass sb 3322 SD2, HD1. Mahalo for this opportunity to share our support!

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<sup>1</sup> DCR Weekly Population Report, March 23, 2026

[Pop-Reports-Weekly-2026-03-23.pdf](#)



APRIL 1, 2026

## SENATE BILL 3322 SD2 HD1

CURRENT REFERRAL: JHA

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David Negaard,  
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Mireille Ellsworth,  
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Eileen Roco,  
*Director*

Beatrice DeRego,  
*Director*

Corey Rosenlee,  
*Director*

Amy Zhao,  
*Policy and Partnerships  
Strategist*

### POSITION: SUPPORT

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Imua Alliance supports SB 3322 SD2 HD1, relating to law enforcement, which by 7/1/2027, requires each law enforcement agency operating in the state to establish and publicly post a written policy regarding the use of facial coverings, visibility of badges, and conspicuous marking of law enforcement vehicles and civil immigration enforcement, including procedures governing a law enforcement officer's authority to make an inquiry into a person's civil immigration status; prohibits law enforcement officers from initiating or prolonging a stop, detention, or arrest to determine a person's civil immigration status, with certain exemptions for reasonable suspicion. Establishes as a policy of the Department of Law Enforcement that civil immigration activity involving state or county participation or facilities shall only proceed under certain conditions; and establishes criminal offenses for improper facial coverings and lack of visible identification and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention.

Imua Alliance is a Hawai'i-based organization dedicated to ending sexual exploitation and gender violence, and combating all forms of systemic exploitation in our society. We have encountered numerous migrant survivors of sexual exploitation in our work, which is why we strongly support measures that advance community safety and survivor protections by reducing the harmful spillover of immigration enforcement into local institutions people rely on for protection, care, and due process.

An important protection for survivors and immigrant communities is banning the use of masking, face coverings that conceal identity, and other practices that prevent clear identification of immigration agents during enforcement actions. **When federal agents operate in camouflage or without visible identification, it creates an atmosphere of fear and confusion that compounds trauma for trafficking survivors, discourages victims from**

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**seeking help, and undermines trust in institutions that are meant to offer safety and support.**

The sense that agents could be “secret police” operating in neighborhoods, schools, or community spaces deters survivors from accessing critical services, reporting abuse by traffickers, seeking medical care, or engaging with law enforcement on serious crimes, a documented chilling effect that contributes to further exploitation and isolation.

Some states and localities have already moved to increase transparency and accountability in immigration enforcement by limiting masking practices for federal agents. In California’s 2025 “No Secret Police Act,” the legislature adopted laws that prohibit certain federal and local law enforcement officers from wearing masks that hide their identities during enforcement operations, requiring clear identification by name or badge number except in narrowly defined safety situations. Additionally, proposals in cities like Denver have considered face-mask prohibitions for ICE agents as part of efforts to ensure that immigration enforcement does not resemble clandestine operations in community spaces.

At the federal level, bills like the No Anonymity in Immigration Enforcement Act of 2025 (H.R. 4004) would similarly require ICE agents to be identifiable during enforcement activities absent exigent circumstances, underscoring a growing bipartisan concern about transparency and accountability in immigration enforcement.

A ban of masking by law enforcement must be considered as part of our state’s overall movement to defend against aggressive ICE enforcement operations, which endanger our community and are especially concerning for victims of exploitation, many of whom are trafficked migrants.

**Trafficking survivors are uniquely harmed by escalating ICE raids and related abuses.** For survivors of labor and sex trafficking, contact with law enforcement, courts, schools, hospitals, and service providers is already difficult due to trauma, language barriers, isolation, threats from traffickers, and fear of retaliation. When aggressive immigration enforcement expands—especially raids and “at large” arrests—survivors are less likely to report trafficking, cooperate with investigations, seek protective orders, access emergency shelter, or obtain medical care because they fear that asking for help could expose them or their family members to detention or removal. This directly benefits traffickers, who commonly use immigration status as a tool of coercion (“If you go to the police, you’ll be deported”). In short: when ICE presence and surveillance intensify, traffickers gain leverage, and survivor safety declines.

Recent reporting underscores how quickly enforcement tactics can scale and how that creates broader community fear. For example, national coverage in early 2026 described heightened enforcement operations and

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resulting backlash after fatal incidents involving federal agents in Minnesota—events that have amplified fear and mistrust, especially among immigrants and mixed-status families. Separately, investigative reporting described a nationwide “skip tracing” surveillance initiative launched in late 2025 to locate large numbers of immigrants using contractors and technology, raising civil liberties concerns that matter deeply for trafficking survivors trying to stay safe from both exploiters and abusers.

**2025–2026 data show a growing share of ICE targets have no criminal history.** This measure is also necessary because current enforcement patterns increasingly sweep in people without criminal convictions.

- TRAC (Syracuse University) reports that 73.6% of people held in ICE detention had no criminal conviction as of November 30, 2025.
- A January 2026 analysis reported the number of detained individuals with no convictions or pending charges rose sharply— from 3,165 in February 2025 to 25,193 in January 2026, based on ICE data summarized by an independent fact-checking review.
- Reuters reported that since January 20, 2025, 27% of ICE arrests involved individuals without other criminal charges or convictions (as of March 2025), contradicting claims that enforcement is narrowly focused on serious offenders.

When enforcement expands beyond serious public safety threats, the predictable result is broader community fear, precisely the environment in which trafficking thrives.

**Constitutional and legal foundations support state and local limits on immigration enforcement entanglement.** This measure is consistent with well-established constitutional principles and case law recognizing that states and localities cannot be compelled to administer or enforce federal regulatory programs.

- Under the anti-commandeering doctrine, the federal government generally may not require state/local officials to carry out federal enforcement. This principle is grounded in Supreme Court precedent including *Printz v. United States* (1997) and later reaffirmations of anti-commandeering limits.
- Courts have also reinforced that immigration enforcement is a federal domain and that state action must be carefully cabined, often cited in debates about state/federal boundaries in immigration enforcement (e.g., *Arizona v. United States* (2012)).

Put simply: Hawai‘i can protect public safety while maintaining clear boundaries that prevent immigration enforcement from chilling access to services and justice for survivors.

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Similar approaches exist across the U.S. Many jurisdictions have adopted policies to limit state/local participation in federal civil immigration enforcement—often described as “sanctuary” policies—precisely because community safety depends on residents’ willingness to report crimes and seek help. The Congressional Research Service summarizes that such jurisdictions typically limit assistance with federal civil immigration enforcement.

Examples include statewide frameworks like the California Values Act, SB 54 (restricting use of state/local resources for immigration enforcement in many circumstances) and TRUST-style limits on detention and cooperation, which have been widely adopted in various forms across states and cities. More recently, proposals and ordinances in places like New York State and New York City have continued this trend, seeking to curtail deputization agreements and ICE footprint in local facilities.

For trafficking survivors, the ability to safely access shelters, clinics, schools, and the courts can be the difference between escape and continued exploitation. This measure helps ensure that survivors can seek help without fear that the act of reporting abuse will trigger detention, family separation, or deportation. That improves cooperation with law enforcement against traffickers, strengthens prosecutions, and supports safer communities statewide.

With aloha,

*Kris Coffield*

President, Imua Alliance



## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB3322, SD2, HD1 - RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

### House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Rep. David Tarnas, Chair

Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: April 1, 2026 | Letter Date: March 31, 2026

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee:

The Legal Clinic (TLC) supports SB3322, SD2, HD1 which promotes transparency and accountability in law enforcement interactions and sets guardrails on state and county involvement in federal civil immigration enforcement.

TLC is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing immigrant justice statewide through legal services, education, and advocacy. TLC also co-leads the steering committee of the Campaign for Immigrant Justice alongside Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights (HCIR) and American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Hawai'i. SB3322, SD2, HD1's provisions regulating the use of facial coverings by law enforcement, ensuring visible identification of officers, and limiting state and local participation in federal civil immigration enforcement are among the campaign's highest priorities.

These provisions help ensure individuals interacting with law enforcement can readily identify officers - a key element of responsible policing that promotes trust and reduces risk of impersonation or abuse. The bill also establishes sound policies governing state and county cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement. It prohibits officers from prolonging stops to inquire about a person's immigration status and establishes guardrails around data sharing and enforcement activities in sensitive locations.

TLC acknowledges the amendments made in this measure include extending the masking exemption to plainclothes officers if they are within sight of another unmasked officer from the same agency while performing their duties. We note that the amendment may present implementation challenges and require additional training and internal guidance to prevent confusion. However, even as amended, SB3322, SD2, HD1 continues to advance the key public safety goals of transparency and trust in law enforcement and ensuring that Hawai'i's policing resources remain focused on Hawai'i's public safety priorities. We urge the Committee to support this measure.

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

Christina Sablan

Community & Policy Advocate



COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. David A. Tarnas, Chair

Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

HEARING:

Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at 2:00 pm

Via Videoconference and Conference Room 325

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 3322, SD2, HD1 - RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT.

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

My name is Veronica Mendoza, Founding Executive Director of Roots Reborn and a founding coalition member of El Pueblo en Acción (EPA) Maui — *The People in Action Maui*. I am writing in **strong support of SB 3322, SD2, HD1**, which, by July 1, 2027, requires each law enforcement agency operating in the State to establish and publicly post a written policy regarding the use of facial coverings, visibility of badges, and conspicuous marking of law enforcement vehicles and civil immigration enforcement, including procedures governing a law enforcement officer's authority to make an inquiry into a person's civil immigration status; prohibits law enforcement officers from initiating or prolonging a stop, detention, or arrest to determine a person's civil immigration status, with certain exemptions for reasonable suspicion; establishes as a policy of the Department of Law Enforcement that civil immigration activity involving state or county participation or facilities shall only proceed under certain conditions; establishes criminal offenses for improper facial coverings and lack of visible identification and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention.

Roots Reborn is a grassroots, multicultural immigrant-justice and disaster-response organization serving migrant and immigrant communities on Maui and beyond. Born out of the August 2023 wildfires, we immediately stepped in to move aid, navigate systems alongside families, and build the trusted relationships that still anchor our work today. What began as wildfire response has grown into essential infrastructure for immigrant communities facing overlapping crises—from recovery and housing instability to shifting federal policies, increased enforcement, and rising fear.

The trust we have built has given us proximity to hear stories that rarely reach these chambers. Families who survived the fires, who lost homes, who are still piecing their lives together, now live with the additional terror of being separated from their children, their spouses, their neighbors. Many are afraid to go to work or school, or even to seek necessary medical care. For fire survivors already navigating grief, displacement, and rebuilding, this new crisis lands on top of everything else. Recovery becomes impossible when fear is constant.

Since December 2024, we have been meeting this new man-made disaster head-on. Roots Reborn is a founding coalition member of EPA Maui, a rapid response network and tipline made up of allied organizations and concerned community members. We exist because we believe an informed, calm community is a safer community.

Through this coalition, we have:

- Distributed over 3,500 flyers on constitutional rights
- Trained more than 700 community members through Know Your Rights workshops
- Delivered over 50 trainings to healthcare providers, social service organizations, business owners, faith communities, educators, and labor union leaders
- Processed more than 450 calls and texts through our tipline from community members concerned



about federal enforcement activity

- Trained over 60 volunteer observers in verification, de-escalation, and peaceful documentation

For months we have seen video evidence of aggressive, heavily armed, masked federal agents subjecting people to excessive force, with no identifying tag or badge, refusing to identify themselves while violating people's constitutional rights to peaceably observe and document their behavior. These tactics heighten fear in the public and interfere with accountability for misconduct by the officers.

On Maui, we are witnessing an erosion of trust and an increase in fear. Community members are afraid to go to work and children are unable to go to school. We have heard stories from healthcare providers of patients forgoing critical care, and from faith leaders that people feel unable to attend religious services due to fear of confrontation by masked and unidentified federal agents. Trust in law enforcement of all kinds, even our local police departments, has eroded as a result. Coalition member organizations have been called upon to address the potential harms to victims of violent crime, especially women and children subjected to domestic violence, who are now afraid to ask for help from the local law enforcement officers who have a duty to protect them.

**Senate Bill 3322, SD2, HD1** is a limited, focused means to achieve greater transparency and provide a means of accountability for any injury or harm which may be inflicted on the people of Hawai'i by federal law enforcement. It is a small step to returning law enforcement in Hawai'i to public scrutiny and legal accountability. We strongly support the amendment in HD1 that includes a written policy mandate that every agency must establish and publicly post. This provides a mechanism through which communities can verify compliance so that agencies are accountable. We also support the prohibition on prolonging stops and detentions for civil immigration status so that routine encounters do not become immigration interrogations. Finally, the provision for criminal offenses for noncompliance ensures that violations are prosecutable rather than dismissed as policy disagreements.

Our trained observers do this work daily. We know that transparency enables accountability, and accountability rebuilds trust. We **urge you to support SB 3322, SD2, HD1** and to vote to pass it out of this committee.

Sinceramente,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Veronica Mendoza'.

Veronica Mendoza

Maui Roots Reborn, *Founding Executive Director*

El Pueblo en Accion Maui, *Founding Coalition Member*

April 1, 2026

House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

**Support for SB 3322, SD2, HD1 – Relating to Law Enforcement**



Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee:

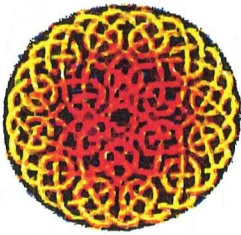
The **State of Hawai'i Organization of Police Officers (SHOPO)** respectfully offers comments on **SB 3322, SD2**, which requires development of policies which will prohibit with certain exceptions, the use of facial coverings and requires visible identification by law enforcement officers and their vehicles in the performance of their duties. It also establishes offenses for use of a mask or facial covering by a law enforcement officer, lack of visible identification, and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation.

This bill does not adequately address the use of law enforcement officers' unmarked vehicles through subsidized vehicle programs. In addition, masks are a critical tool for officers performing undercover operations, SWAT activities, or assignments in high-risk environments. Although this bill attempts to narrowly permit undercover activity, a ban would significantly limit officers' ability to maintain anonymity, directly compromising their safety and effectiveness. Requiring officers to be unmasked exposes their identities to the public, which increases the risk of doxing, harassment, retaliation, and threats against officers and their families, particularly from criminal elements or organized groups. Law enforcement officers frequently operate in conditions that require facial protection, including smoke, chemical exposure, or infectious disease environments. Mask use is a practical necessity to prevent injury. Masks may also be necessary should an officer become ill or at risk for airborne illness. While amendments to this bill provide for compliance with health and safety laws and reasonable accommodations, there remain times when an officer's health may be a significant concern.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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



**Fujiwara & Rosenbaum, L.L.L.C.**  
1100 Alahea Street, FL 20, STE B  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

**Hearing Date:** Tuesday, April 1, 2026, 2:00 PM, Conference Room 325

**Re: Testimony of Fujiwara & Rosenbaum, L.L.L.C. in STRONG SUPPORT of S.B. 3322, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, Relating to Law Enforcement**

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Members of the Committee:

Fujiwara & Rosenbaum, L.L.L.C., a civil rights law firm originally established in 1986, submits testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of S.B. 3322, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, Relating to Law Enforcement. For nearly forty years, our firm has represented workers and individuals whose civil rights have been violated, including victims of employment discrimination, workplace retaliation, and police brutality throughout Hawai'i. We have seen firsthand how fear of law enforcement chills the exercise of fundamental rights. S.B. 3322 addresses that fear with concrete, enforceable protections grounded in transparency, due process, and accountability.

**Protecting Workers from Immigration-Based Retaliation**

The bill's treatment of immigration enforcement speaks directly to what we see in our civil rights practice: employers and others who weaponize immigration status to silence workers who report discrimination, unsafe conditions, or wage theft. Proposed Section 139-B(b)(5) provides that "immigration-based threats or verification abuse shall be treated as prohibited retaliation in workplaces and public services pursuant to federal and state law." This provision, standing alone, justifies passage of this bill.

Hawai'i's workforce includes approximately 258,000 immigrants, comprising eighteen percent of the State's population. When any segment of that workforce is afraid to report violations, all workers suffer, because employers learn they can abuse without consequence.

Section 139-C strengthens these protections by prohibiting officers from initiating or prolonging "a stop, detention, or arrest of a person for the purpose of determining the person's civil immigration status" absent reasonable suspicion based on "specific and articulable facts." That reasonable suspicion "shall not be based solely on race, color, ethnicity, national origin, ancestry, language, accent, religion, manner of dress, presence in a particular location, or the exercise of rights protected by the United States Constitution or Hawaii State Constitution." This codifies protections consistent with equal protection principles and **Hawai'i's own constitutional prohibition against discrimination "because of race, religion, sex, or ancestry."** Article 1, Section 5.

The bill also requires state and county agencies to adopt "clear limits on the collection, retention, and sharing of immigration-related personal data" and mandates that interagency data exchanges "operate under auditable agreements." These data protections are a practical safeguard for workers who cooperate with state agencies and must not fear that their information will be turned over to federal immigration authorities.

**Officer Identification and the Right to Redress**

In our decades of civil rights litigation, including police brutality cases, we have encountered a

recurring problem: when officers conceal their identities, victims cannot seek accountability. S.B. 3322 directly addresses this. Proposed Section 139-A(b)(2) requires that every officer on duty "wear identification displayed in a manner that is clearly visible and readable during direct engagement with the public" and that such identification not be "obscured by tactical equipment, body armor, or accessories." The identification must include the employing agency's name or initials and the officer's last name or unique badge number.

The bill wisely provides that "generalized and undifferentiated fear and apprehension about law enforcement officer safety shall not be sufficient to justify the use of facial coverings or the concealment of badges." This language reflects a sound constitutional principle: *vague claims of officer safety cannot override the public's right to know who is exercising state power over them*. Under the **Hawai'i Constitution, Article I, Section 5**, all persons are entitled to due process, and **Article I, Section 6**, guarantees the right to privacy. **These constitutional commitments are hollow if the people of Hawai'i cannot identify the officers who violate them**. S.B. 3322 closes that gap, and Section 710-A makes it a criminal misdemeanor for a law enforcement officer to wear a mask or facial covering that "conceals or obscures the person's facial identity while interacting with the public in the performance of the law enforcement officer's duties."

Supervisors, too, are held accountable: a supervisor "shall not knowingly allow a law enforcement officer under their supervision to violate state law or agency policy regarding the use of a facial covering or display of identification."

### **Sensitive Location Protections and Accountability Mechanisms**

S.B. 3322 prohibits immigration enforcement at "schools or early-learning sites, health facilities, emergency or domestic violence shelters, courthouses, or places of worship." Workers who are victims of domestic violence, who need medical care, or who must appear in court to vindicate their rights will not do so if they fear arrest at the courthouse door. These protections ensure that the justice system remains accessible to all people in Hawai'i.

The bill further requires that when state or county law enforcement is notified of ICE activity, nearby personnel must "use body cameras to monitor the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents' interactions with the public." This body camera provision is a meaningful transparency measure that will create a contemporaneous record to protect both officers and community members.

Section 710-B establishes the criminal offense of unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention as a misdemeanor for any law enforcement officer who "intentionally or knowingly acts beyond the scope of the law enforcement officer's lawful authority" to interrogate, arrest, or detain a person for purposes of determining or enforcing civil immigration status.

### **Recommended Amendment**

While we strongly support S.B. 3322, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, we respectfully urge the Committee to consider adding an **explicit private right of action** for individuals subjected to unlawful civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention under Section 710-B. The bill classifies such conduct as a misdemeanor but does not provide a civil cause of action with statutory damages for victims. **A private right of action would give affected workers and community members a**

**direct path to compensation and would serve as a deterrent independent of the criminal process, which is subject to prosecutorial discretion. This approach is consistent with Hawai'i's tradition of providing civil remedies for civil rights violations and would give the bill's protections practical teeth.**

**Conclusion**

S.B. 3322, S.D. 2, H.D. 1 is a measured, well-crafted bill that advances Hawai'i's constitutional values of due process, equal protection, and individual dignity. It protects the people our firm represents every day: workers who face discrimination, who encounter police misconduct, and who fear that asserting their rights will expose them to immigration consequences. We urge this Committee to pass S.B. 3322, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, with the amendment described above.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Committee: House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs  
Hearing Date/Time: Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at 2:00 PM  
Place: Conference Room 325 & Videoconference  
Re: **Testimony of the ACLU of Hawai'i in SUPPORT of SB 3322, SD2, HD1 Relating to Law Enforcement**

Dear Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, and Committee Members:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i (ACLU-HI) writes in **support of SB 3322, SD2, HD1**, which would prohibit secret policing tactics by limiting state and federal collaboration in immigration enforcement and requiring law enforcement officers operating in the state to be clearly identifiable.

In Minnesota and throughout the continent, we have witnessed President Trump's growing police force employ secret tactics, including ordering masked law enforcement agencies and military troops into cities. Federal agents are taking our immigrant neighbors. In Hawai'i, we have seen this occur in Kaua'i, for example.<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup> We know that throughout the country, most people being held in detention have not been convicted of a crime.<sup>3</sup>

We are all less safe when masked agents are in our streets. Troops and secretive armed federal police in our streets create fear, making people afraid to show up to work, send their children to school, or go to the doctor. When people fear law enforcement, they are less likely to report crimes, seek help, or cooperate with law enforcement.<sup>4</sup> We need

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<sup>1</sup> 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/>

<sup>2</sup> Hausman, D. (2025). "U.S. immigration enforcement data." California Law Review Online, 16 (13).

<sup>3</sup> Hausman, D. (2025).

<sup>4</sup> Jácome, E. (2022). The effect of immigration enforcement on crime reporting: Evidence from Dallas. Journal of Urban Economics, 128, Article 103395, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jue.2021.103395>; Wong, T.K., Shklyan, K., Isorena, A., & Peng, S. (2019). The

to ensure that law enforcement agents are transparent, accountable, and trustworthy. We support that mask bans should apply to *all* law enforcement operating in the state—not just federal law enforcement.

The lack of identification makes it difficult for ordinary people, local law enforcement, and public officials to differentiate genuine law enforcement actions from impersonators exploiting the situation to harm our community members.<sup>5</sup> It also makes it difficult to identify who is behind operations that may employ aggressive tactics, result in constitutional violations, or cause community harm.

We must also prevent our local law enforcement 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 3322, SD2, HD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Mandy Fernandes  
Policy Director  
ACLU of Hawai'i

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

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impact of interior immigration enforcement on the day-to-day behaviors of undocumented immigrants. US Immigration Policy Center.

<sup>5</sup> Desjardin, L., & Corkery, A. (July 27, 2025). Rise of ICE agents wearing masks creates opportunity for imposters to conduct crimes. PBS News. <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/rise-of-ice-agents-wearing-masks-creates-opportunity-for-imposters-to-conduct-crimes>

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i  
P.O. Box 3410  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96801  
T: 808.522.5900  
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E: [office@acluhawaii.org](mailto:office@acluhawaii.org)  
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[www.acluhawaii.org](http://www.acluhawaii.org)



## STONEWALL CAUCUS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII

### TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB3322 SD2 HD1 Relating to Law Enforcement Accountability and Civil Immigration Enforcement

**To the Honorable Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe, 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 SB3322 SD2 HD1**.

SB3322 SD2 HD1 strengthens transparency, accountability, and civil rights protections by requiring law enforcement officers to be visibly identifiable in public spaces, mandating clear agency policies governing civil immigration enforcement, regulating data sharing, and establishing criminal penalties for improper facial coverings, lack of visible identification, and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation. This bill makes accountability enforceable, not merely aspirational.

This legislation is critically important because meaningful accountability requires more than written policies. It requires clear, consistent, and enforceable standards. Without enforceable safeguards, anonymous enforcement and informal immigration questioning can become normalized, creating conditions that enable intimidation, misinformation, and abuse.

SB3322 SD2 HD1 addresses these risks directly. By requiring visible identification and limiting facial coverings, the bill ensures that officers remain accountable to the public they serve. It protects residents from encounters with unidentified personnel and reinforces public confidence in legitimate law enforcement activity.

The bill also establishes strong safeguards around civil immigration enforcement. Immigration enforcement is a federal function. When state or county personnel engage in immigration questioning without clear legal authority, residents may face coercion, misunderstanding, and violations of due process. SB3322 SD2 HD1 prevents this by defining when and how immigration inquiries may occur and by creating criminal penalties for unauthorized interrogation, arrest, or detention.

This protects vulnerable residents - including immigrants, LGBTQ+ individuals, and communities of color, from coercive questioning and rights violations. It also affirms that constitutional protections apply to everyone, regardless of immigration status.

SB3322 SD2 HD1 further promotes consistency across agencies and counties. Policies alone often vary in quality and enforcement. By establishing statewide baselines and criminal consequences for violations, this bill reduces inconsistent practices and strengthens institutional integrity.

## Testimony in Strong Support of SB3322 SD2 HD1

The bill's "service-first" approach and protections for sensitive locations help ensure that schools, hospitals, shelters, and places of worship remain safe spaces where people can seek help without fear. Its data collection and reporting requirements promote transparency and public oversight. Its body camera provisions during ICE operations provide an additional layer of accountability.

Importantly, SB3322 SD2 HD1 also protects law enforcement agencies themselves. Clear rules reduce liability, prevent reputational harm, and support officers who act in good faith and within the law. Enforceable standards benefit both the public and the professionals who serve our communities.

We appreciate that the bill includes reasonable exceptions for legitimate protective gear and medical masks and provides detailed definitions of unauthorized civil immigration interrogation. These provisions ensure that safety needs are respected while maintaining accountability.

At a time when public trust in institutions is fragile, SB3322 SD2 HD1 offers a principled, balanced framework that strengthens civil liberties, supports ethical policing, and reinforces democratic values in Hawai'i.

For these reasons, the Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly supports SB3322 SD2 HD1 and respectfully urges the Committees to pass this important measure.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit this testimony and for your continued commitment to justice, transparency, and community trust.

**Respectfully submitted,**

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



**LATE**

## HIPHI Board

May Okihiro, MD, MS  
Chair

*John A. Burns School of Medicine,  
Department of Pediatrics*

Jennifer José Lo, MD  
Vice Chair

*Hawai'i Health Partners*

Titimaea Ta'ase, JD  
Secretary  
*Taase Law Office*

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*Kaiser Permanente*

Tammy Ho  
*The Queen's Medical Center*

Carissa Holley, MEd  
*Hale Makua Health Services*

Joyce Lee-Ibarra, MS  
*JLI Consulting*

Misty Pacheco, DrPH  
*University of Hawai'i at Hilo*

Dina Shek, JD  
*Medical-Legal Partnership  
For Children in Hawai'i*

JoAnn Tsark, MPH  
*John A. Burns School of Medicine, Native  
Hawaiian Research Office*

Danette Wong Tomiyasu, MBA  
*Retired, Hawai'i State Department of  
Health*

## HIPHI Initiatives

Coalition for a  
Tobacco-Free Hawai'i

Community-Based Research &  
Evaluation

Community Health  
Worker Initiatives

Environmental Health

Hawai'i Climate Change and Health  
Working Group

Hawai'i Drug & Alcohol-Free Coalitions

Hawai'i Immunization Coalition

Hawai'i Oral Health Coalition

Hawai'i Public Health Training Hui

Healthy Eating + Active Living

Kūpuna Collective/Healthy Aging &  
Community Living

Public Health Workforce Development

Date: March 31, 2026

To: Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair  
Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair  
Members of the House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Re: Support for SB 3322 SD2 HD1, Relating to Department of Education  
Procurement

Hrg: April 1, 2026 at 2:00 PM in Conference Room 325

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Hawai'i Public Health Institute<sup>1</sup> (HIPHI) **supports SB 3322 SD2 HD1**, which improves the safety of our residents through law enforcement reforms.

The methods and tactics used by immigration enforcement agents have led to serious injuries, deaths<sup>2</sup> and false imprisonment<sup>3</sup> for many citizens and immigrants around the nation. It's necessary we take steps to provide a more safe environment for all who live within our borders.

### Safety for All

The proposed reforms within this bill will help provide a more safe environment for interacting with immigration agents by ensuring they can be identified. Being able to identify these agents will ensure they can be held accountable for their actions, increasing the chances that the interaction will be conducted lawfully.

### Reducing Risk of Impersonation

As we saw recently here in Hawai'i, the opportunity to impersonate immigration agents exists if they are not clearly identifiable. Local residents should not have to guess as to whether the person they're interacting with is actually a law enforcement officer.

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<sup>1</sup> Hawai'i Public Health Institute's mission is to advance health and wellness for the people and islands of Hawai'i. We do this through expanding our understanding of what creates health of people and place, fostering partnerships, and cultivating programs to improve policies, systems, and the environments where people live, learn, work, age, and play.

<sup>2</sup> [Trump's DHS immigration enforcement officers have shot 14 people since September. Here's what to know.](#) NBC News. January 16, 2026.

<sup>3</sup> [Court Orders ICE To Stop Unlawful Arrest And Detention Of Refugees.](#) International Refugee Assistance Project. January 28, 2026.



This lack of identification instills fear in the local community, leading many to call local police to intervene as they believe a kidnapping by a private citizen might be occurring.<sup>4</sup>

### **Providing Trust**

Situations that can lead to arrest, injury, or death require the utmost belief in a just system by our residents. Ensuring that law enforcement agents can be identified helps to build trust rather than confusion. This is one of the many reasons why 21 Attorneys General around the nation, including Hawai'i Attorney General Anne Lopez, have asked for a ban on masked and unidentifiable agents.<sup>5</sup>

We can provide a safer environment for all of our residents by passing these highly recommended reforms. Thank you for standing with our community during these everchanging threats to our health and well being.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Nate Hix'.

Nate Hix  
Director of Policy and Advocacy

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<sup>4</sup> [Masked and Unidentifiable: The Risks of Federal Law Enforcement Operating Without Identification](#). Center for American Progress. August 28, 2025.

<sup>5</sup> [Letter to Congress on ICE Mask Legislation](#). July 15, 2025.

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 4/1/2026 2:08:15 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael Golojuch, Jr. (he/him)	Pride at Work – Hawai‘i	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Representatives,

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 SB 3322 SD 2 HD1.

We ask that you support this needed piece of legislation.

Mahalo,

Michael Golojuch, Jr. (he/him)

President

[Pride at Work – Hawai‘i](#)

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 3:22:06 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Diann Karin Lynn	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I most strongly support every facet of this bill, with the exception of its enactment date of 7/1/27, by which time the Republic may have been already lost. I exhort you to consider and pass this bill asap, with follow-on full vote by the legislature and submission to the Governor for his signature as soon as possible. if New Jersey (25 Mar2026) and others can do tbis, SO CAN WE. We are counting on you.

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 3:32:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill. What the Trump Administration is doing to our civil liberties is disgraceful. ICE and others have trampled on all of us, ignoring court orders, murdering citizens, kidnapping keiki, most of the time masked without any identification. Our police officers wear name identification. So should all the federal officers. Too bad we can't require them to pass a citizenship test showing their knowledge of the first amendment, among others. What Trump and his underlings are doing is making me ashamed of our country.

Please pass this bill expeditiously, before they appear in high numbers on our shores.

Lynne Matusow

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 4:12:35 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

"I most strongly support every facet of this bill, with the exception of its enactment date of 7/1/27, by which time the Republic may have been already lost. I exhort you to consider and pass this bill asap, with follow-on full vote by the legislature and submission to the Governor for his signature as soon as possible. If New Jersey (25 Mar2026) and others can do this, SO CAN WE. We are counting on you."

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 4:41:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Diane Ware	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chairs and Committee Members,

I strongly

recommend you pass this bill.

Sincerely Diane Ware Volcano 96785

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 4:45:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cynthia J. Goto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 4:50:04 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Tarnas, Vice-Chair Poepoe, and JHA Committee Members,

As a citizen concerned with safety in Hawai‘i, I write in **strong support of SB3322 SD2 HD1**, which requires each law enforcement agency in the State to establish and publicly post written policies on facial coverings, badge visibility, vehicle markings, and civil immigration enforcement by July 1, 2027; prohibits officers from prolonging stops to determine civil immigration status (with reasonable suspicion exemptions); establishes the Department of Law Enforcement’s civil immigration policy role; and establishes criminal offenses for improper facial coverings, lack of visible identification, and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention.

What can seem like an issue only on the mainland is affecting our local communities. In my work, I hear the stories about federal agents are taking our immigrant neighbors. In Hawai‘i, we have seen this occur in Kaua‘i, for example.

SB3322 SD2 HD1 creates the most comprehensive statewide law enforcement transparency and civil immigration enforcement framework of any bill in the Campaign for Immigrant Justice package. The HD1 amendment’s most significant addition is the written policy mandate: by July 1, 2027, every law enforcement agency in Hawai‘i must establish and publicly post policies covering facial coverings, badge visibility, vehicle markings, and civil immigration enforcement. This transforms aspirational standards into legally required, publicly verifiable commitments. Communities will have something to point to; agencies will have something they are accountable to.

The prohibition on prolonging stops to determine civil immigration status directly addresses one of the most common fears in immigrant and mixed-status communities — that a routine encounter could become an immigration interrogation. Combined with criminal offenses for violations and a DLE compliance role ensuring statewide consistency, this bill has real teeth. Having passed House ECD, SB3322 SD2 HD1 now comes to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs — the committee that has championed civil rights and immigration protections throughout this session.

I urge the Committee to advance it to Finance and toward final passage.

Mahalo,

Thaddeus Pham

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 5:45:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 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 SB3322, a common-sense and vital piece of legislation that advances transparency, accountability, and equal justice under the law. This bill addresses two interconnected pillars of public trust: the right of the people to know who is policing them, and the protection of individuals from being detained or interrogated based on discriminatory profiling rather than suspected criminal activity.

First, this bill ensures that every law enforcement officer engaged in public-facing enforcement is visibly identifiable. The simple requirement to display a nameplate and badge is a foundational element of democratic policing. It builds accountability, allowing the public to know who is acting under the color of state authority. It prevents confusion and the risk of impersonation, which enhances safety for both officers and the public.

Most importantly, it fosters transparency and aids in de-escalation; an officer who is identifiable is an officer who is accountable to the community they serve. There should be no “secret police” operating in our communities.

Second, SB3322 establishes crucial and consistent statewide standards to limit prolonged detention and questioning by law enforcement regarding a person’s civil immigration status. It prohibits officers from extending a stop, detention, or arrest solely to ask about immigration status unless such inquiry is directly relevant to the criminal investigation at hand.

This provision is a direct deterrent to racial and ethnic profiling. It ensures that local law enforcement resources are focused on public safety, not on enforcing federal civil immigration law in a manner that erodes community trust. When individuals fear that any interaction with police could lead to immigration interrogation, they cease reporting crimes, acting as witnesses, or seeking help, making all of us less safe.

By requiring law enforcement agencies to adopt clear, written policies on these standards, SB3322 provides essential guidance for officers and creates uniform expectations for the public across the state. It strikes the right balance, respecting the operational needs of law enforcement while firmly embedding the principles of transparency and equal protection into their daily practice.

This legislation is not anti-law enforcement; it is pro-community and pro-trust. It ensures that policing in Hawai'i is conducted openly, fairly, and with the primary goal of safeguarding the rights and safety of every resident. I urge you to pass SB3322 to affirm that in our state, accountability is visible, and justice is blind to immigration status.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 6:25:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
George "Bud" Antonelis. PhD	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support every facet of this bill, with the exception of its enactment date of 7/1/27, by which time the Republic may have been already lost. I exhort you to consider and pass this bill asap, with follow-on full vote by the legislature and submission to the Governor for his signature as soon as possible. if New Jersey (25 Mar2026) and others can do tbis, SO CAN WE. We are counting on you."

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 6:26:36 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Brodie Lockard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 6:29:19 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dwight T. Martin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a Hawaii resident, registered voter, tax payer, and member of IndivisibleHawaii.

I am writing in strong support of SB3322 SD2, which would require law enforcement agencies operating in the state to adopt policies restricting the use of facial coverings, requiring visible identification including the officer's name or badge number, limiting immigration enforcement and sharing of immigration-related information, and establishing criminal liability for violation of these policies.

SB3322 SD2 advances public safety by limiting immigration enforcement in sensitive locations like schools, courthouses, medical facilities and places of worship.

I respectfully urge you to PASS SB3322 SD2.

Mahalo.

=Dwight Martin =

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 6:34:57 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Younghee Overly	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for this opportunity to support SB3322 SD2 HD1 which establishes criminal offenses for improper facial coverings and lack of visible identification and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention.

Younghee Overly, a member of Indivisible Hawaii

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 6:56:27 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nancy D Moser	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 7:07:36 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tim Huycke	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Aloha,

As a retired police officer, I very strongly support SB3322.

It is reprehensible that a person cannot identify what agency a law enforcement officer is with or what an officers name (or at least identification number) is. Without being able to be identified by wearing a mask, a rogue police officer could get away with committing policy violations and crimes. Rogue police officers should be held accountable so that they can be removed from the law enforcement profession.

Good police officers should support this bill to rid the profession of bad officers and reinforce the good reputation law enforcement has among most people. Good police officers should realize they are accountable for their actions to the public and should be proud of what they do.

Only thugs try to conceal their identity. Being a police officer is risky, but police officers should not be so afraid of the public they protect and serve that they refuse to be able to be identified by that same public.

Police officers are only allowed to detain people they have reasonable suspicion to believe committed a specific offense and can only detain that person for a maximum of 20 minutes. State-certified police officers have no authority to enforce federal law.

I urge your support of this bill and thank you for your time.

Eileen Cain  
720 Mahi'ai St., Apt. E  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96826-5635  
eileencaïn808@gmail.com  
March 30, 2026

Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair, Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs  
Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair  
and Members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Aloha, Representatives,

**I am submitting this testimony in support of SB3322 SD2, HD1 "Relating to Law Enforcement."**

**Arrests and Due Process:** Arresting officers in Hawai'i (and elsewhere) need to be **legally required to identify themselves. Hiding their identity is un-American.** Wearing black masks that cover the face is no better than the wearing of white hoods by the Ku Klux Klan to hide their identities. **If arresting officers are legitimate, they need to be identified and identifiable.**

**Officers cannot be permitted to hide their identity when they make an arrest and then claim that they do so for "privacy."** (They only get to have privacy when they're not working.) The gestapo-like tactics that have been used during immigration raids are un-American. We in Hawai'i need to know who is making an arrest and what the charges are, and that the arrest is carried out with a warrant signed by a judge.

**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 are all at risk. Everyone has a right to legal counsel and a chance to plead their case, just as Donald Trump himself had when he was charged with crimes. He always had due process. Everyone needs due process.

It is praiseworthy that this bill "Establishes criminal offenses for improper facial coverings and lack of visible identification and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention." These protections are sorely needed here in the islands.

Please vote for **SB3322 SD2 HD1.**

Mahalo,

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

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 7:31:45 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Peter R Daspit	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I most strongly (really strongly) support every facet of this bill, with the exception of its enactment date of 7/1/27, by which time the Republic may have been already lost. I exhort you to consider and pass this bill As Soon As Possible, with follow-on full vote by the legislature and submission to the Governor for his signature as soon as possible. if New Jersey (25 Mar2026) and others can do tthis, SO CAN WE. We are counting on you."

Let's show strong Aloha spirit for our fellow citizens,

Mahalo,

Peter Daspit, Kailua

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 7:39:26 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jane Aquino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SB3322 SD2, as an individual and as a member of IHSN the Indivisible Hawaii Statewide Network. This bill will address problems which have emerged nationally during the Trump administration. This bill would require law enforcement agencies operating in the state to adopt policies restricting the use of facial coverings, requiring visible identification including the officer’s name or badge number, limiting immigration enforcement and sharing of immigration-related information, and establishing criminal liability for violation of these policies.

Unfortunately, the current federal administration is actively working against our Constitutional values, including actively pursuing racist policies in immigration enforcement and federal employment and both verbal and physical attacks on the exercise of First Amendment rights. Thousands of people have been incarcerated, many without any due process. Shockingly poor conditions of incarceration have resulted in physical and emotional harm, and many preventable deaths. Unidentified, masked federal agents have invaded cities, abducting people off the street, attacking peaceful demonstrators, and killing citizens without justification.

Senate Bill 3322 SD2 seeks to protect against potential misconduct by limiting agents of law enforcement from hiding their faces and identity, prohibiting detentions without reasonable suspicion of immigration violations and prohibiting violation of the U.S. and Hawaii Constitutions by prolonging detentions in order to secure immigration status information. Hawaii is not alone in this effort. California enacted the “No Secret Police Act” and the “No Vigilantes Act” in 2025 to address the masking and identification issues underlying this bill. A Federal court has invalidated the masking part of these laws, but only because they were worded so as to apply exclusively to federal agents, not state and county officers. There is a new bill to correct this problem in California, but SB3322 SD2 already applies to federal, state and county law enforcement agencies alike, avoiding this potential pitfall.

SB3322 SD2 advances public safety by limiting immigration enforcement in sensitive locations like schools, courthouses, medical facilities and places of worship. If immigrants are afraid to

report crimes more crime is likely. If immigrants with an infectious disease are afraid to see a doctor, public health is at risk. If witnesses and parties are afraid to go to court the rule of law is weakened and the reliability of court decisions is undermined.

The recent decision in federal court in California should allay fears that the bill violates the US constitution. Law enforcement agencies are already required to update policies and training on a regular basis, so there should not be significant additional costs.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to PASS SB3322 SD2. Hawai'i has the opportunity—and the responsibility—to affirm that secrecy and anonymity have no place in public-facing enforcement. Our communities thrive when families can live with dignity and without fear, and when government power is exercised with transparency and accountability.

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

Jane Aquino, Indivisible

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 7:44:58 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Cheryl Bellamy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SB3322 SD2, as an individual and as a member of IHSN the Indivisible Hawaii Statewide Network.

Senate Bill 3322 SD2 seeks to protect against potential misconduct by limiting agents of law enforcement from hiding their faces and identity, prohibiting detentions without reasonable suspicion of immigration violations and prohibiting violation of the U.S. and Hawaii Constitutions by prolonging detentions in order to secure immigration status information.

This bill advances public safety by limiting immigration enforcement in sensitive locations like schools, courthouses, medical facilities and places of worship.

I respectfully urge you to PASS SB3322 SD2. Hawai'i has the opportunity to affirm that secrecy and anonymity have no place in public-facing enforcement. Our communities thrive when families can live with dignity and without fear, and when government power is exercised with transparency and accountability.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 8:01:31 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

I Strongly SUPPORT SB3322!

I am writing in strong support of SB3322 SD2, as an individual and as a member of IHSN the Indivisible Hawaii Statewide Network. This bill will address problems which have emerged nationally during the Trump administration. This bill would require law enforcement agencies operating in the state to adopt policies restricting the use of facial coverings, requiring visible identification including the officer’s name or badge number, limiting immigration enforcement and sharing of immigration-related information, and establishing criminal liability for violation of these policies.

Unfortunately, the current federal administration is actively working against our Constitutional values, including actively pursuing racist policies in immigration enforcement and federal employment and both verbal and physical attacks on the exercise of First Amendment rights. Thousands of people have been incarcerated, many without any due process. Shockingly poor conditions of incarceration have resulted in physical and emotional harm, and many preventable deaths. Unidentified, masked federal agents have invaded cities, abducting people off the street, attacking peaceful demonstrators, and killing citizens without justification.

Senate Bill 3322 SD2 seeks to protect against potential misconduct by limiting agents of law enforcement from hiding their faces and identity, prohibiting detentions without reasonable suspicion of immigration violations and prohibiting violation of the U.S. and Hawaii Constitutions by prolonging detentions in order to secure immigration status information. Hawaii is not alone in this effort. California enacted the “No Secret Police Act” and the “No Vigilantes Act” in 2025 to address the masking and identification issues underlying this bill. A Federal court has invalidated the masking part of these laws, but only because they were worded so as to apply exclusively to federal agents, not state and county officers. There is a new bill to correct this problem in California, but SB3322 SD2 already applies to federal, state and county law enforcement agencies alike, avoiding this potential pitfall.

SB3322 SD2 advances public safety by limiting immigration enforcement in sensitive locations like schools, courthouses, medical facilities and places of worship. If immigrants are afraid to report crimes more crime is likely. If immigrants with an infectious disease are afraid to see a doctor, public health is at risk. If witnesses and parties are afraid to go to court the rule of law is weakened and the reliability of court decisions is undermined.

The recent decision in federal court in California should allay fears that the bill violates the US constitution. Law enforcement agencies are already required to update policies and training on a regular basis, so there should not be significant additional costs.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to PASS SB3322 SD2. Hawai'i has the opportunity—and the responsibility—to affirm that secrecy and anonymity have no place in

public-facing enforcement. Our communities thrive when families can live with dignity and without fear, and when government power is exercised with transparency and accountability.

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

Kanani Kai

Member Indivisible Hawaii

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 8:32:20 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Thomas Brandt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 9:37:01 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elisabeth Sherman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

All law enforcement should be unmasked & have ID badges. That has never been questioned in the US until now & has led to unaccountable violence. California has set a good example which we should follow.

Thank you,

Elisabeth Sherman

Kapa'au, HI

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 10:17:22 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

Aloha, I am testifying in **strong support** of SB3322 SD2 HD1.

The bill requires law enforcement agencies in the state to adopt clear policies restricting the use of facial coverings, requiring visible identification including the officer's name or badge number, limiting immigration enforcement and sharing of immigration-related information, and establishing criminal liability for violation of these policies.

The brutality and blatant disregard for Constitutional rights displayed by federal agents on the continent highlight the urgent need for SB3322. The federal government has demonstrated an unwillingness to hold their agents accountable, even for the killing of citizens and so it falls to us as a state to protect against potential misconduct and abuse.

Please **pass SB3322 SD2 HD1**.

Mahalo.

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2026 10:24:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Gaye Chan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

It is hard to believe we even need a Bill to require law enforcement officers to be identified as such, including preventing them from wearing masks and other facial coverings. Every day, we have seen aggressive, heavily armed masked persons snatching people off the street, subjecting them to excessive force, and even committing assassinations, without due process. People have no idea who these masked people are, and cannot distinguish them from kidnappers. It is completely unacceptable that masking is even allowed, much less becoming the norm.

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2026 6:23:07 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jesse Hutchison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm writing in strong support. Thank you!

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2026 6:54:43 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
James E Raymond	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you. I am a member of Indivisible Windward.

## Testimony In SUPPORT of SB3322 SD2 HD1

Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Representative David A. Tarnas, Chair  
Representative Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: April 1, 2026

My name is Jeremiah Brown, and I submit this testimony in **support of SB3322 SD2 HD1**, which requires each law enforcement agency in the State to establish and publicly post written policies on facial coverings, badge visibility, vehicle markings, and civil immigration enforcement by July 1, 2027; prohibits officers from prolonging stops to determine civil immigration status (with reasonable suspicion exemptions); establishes the Department of Law Enforcement's civil immigration policy role; and establishes criminal offenses for improper facial coverings, lack of visible identification, and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention.

I am teacher who works with immigrant and migrant students and I am testifying as an individual. In recent months, we have witnessed scenes of masked, anonymous law enforcement agents violently detaining people with no due process or regard for their Constitutional rights. If this were happening in another country, we would call it what it is- a secret police force for a totalitarian regime, something that goes against the founding principles of our nation.

SB3322 SD2 HD1 creates the most comprehensive statewide law enforcement transparency and civil immigration enforcement framework of any bill in the Campaign for Immigrant Justice package. The HD1 amendment's most significant addition is the written policy mandate: by July 1, 2027, every law enforcement agency in Hawai'i must establish and publicly post policies covering facial coverings, badge visibility, vehicle markings, and civil immigration enforcement. This transforms aspirational standards into legally required, publicly verifiable commitments. Communities will have something to point to; agencies will have something they are accountable to.

The prohibition on prolonging stops to determine civil immigration status directly addresses one of the most common fears in immigrant and mixed-status communities, that a routine encounter could become an immigration interrogation. Combined with criminal offenses for violations and a DLE compliance role ensuring statewide consistency, this bill has real teeth. Having passed House ECD, SB3322 SD2 HD1 now comes to the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, the committee that has championed civil rights and immigration protections throughout this session. I urge the Committee to advance it to Finance and toward final passage.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee **PASS SB3322 SD2 HD1**.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,  
Jeremiah Brown  
Waialua, Oahu

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2026 9:34:59 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michelle Bonk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SB3322 SD2, as an individual and as a member of IHSN the Indivisible Hawaii Statewide Network.

I respectfully urge you to PASS SB3322 SD2. Hawai'i has the opportunity—and the responsibility—to affirm that secrecy and anonymity have no place in public-facing law enforcement.

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2026 9:44:46 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
David Cuthbert	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SB3322 SD2 HD1 both personally and as a member of East Hawai'i Indivisible. This bill creates a new misdemeanor offense for the use of a mask or personal disguise by a law enforcement officer in the performance of their duties. We've all watched video evidence of aggressive, heavily armed federal agents snatching people off the street, subjecting them to excessive force, and committing unjustified killings all while being masked. Senate Bill 3322 SD2 HD1 is a limited, focused means to achieve greater transparency and provide a means of accountability for any injury or harm which may be inflicted on the people of Hawai'i by federal law enforcement. It is a critical piece of our State's preparations for dealing with an out of control federal government. It is a small step to returning law enforcement in Hawai'i to public scrutiny and legal accountability.

David Cuthbert, Pahoa

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2026 10:27:06 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mimi Beams	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in full support of SB3322 SD2. Please! This unlawful behavior of ICE must be faced and stopped. Lawful arrests can always be respected.

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2026 11:01:33 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Marie Elaine Lee	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is a "no-brainer." NO MASKS

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2026 11:20:21 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elizabeth Nelson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for holdings hearings on these very important bills. I believe any law enforcement officer should have their face visible and have visible identification.

Thank you.

Elizabeth Nelson

Kaneohe

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2026 11:50:22 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in strong favor of SB3322 with some reservations. I believe the provision for medical masks is too vague, and could lead to a loophole that can be easily exploited.

Besides that, I believe codifying that it is against state law for law enforcement to be masked is a good idea. I strongly disagree with what I have seen with certain federal law enforcement masked up to the point where they are unidentifiable except for a rough description of demographics. I have always wondered how people would be able to distinguish between them and random crfiminals intending to do them harm. I certainly believe we should have our own state law on our side to protect our local police officers and our populace at large to require these individuals to be easily identified.

I also believe that they should be carrying identification, just as police officers do, so concerned citizens can write down badge numbers and similar identifying information. There is no reason why when carrying on street operations that are observable by the public as we have seen, that ICE and other federal officers should not be held to the same standards as our local police officers.

I also believe codifying into state law that there is a prohibition on inquiring about immigration status during any stops, arrests, interrogations or witness interviews, as this is a concern for federal law and should not be the purview of state and local law enforcement.

Mahalo for taking the time to consider my views.

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2026 11:58:07 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Doris Segal Matsunaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB 3322 SD2 HD1

Doris Segal Matsunaga

Waimea, Hawaii Island

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2026 11:58:29 AM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael Olderr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2026 12:15:19 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Terri Yoshinaga	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. David A. Tarnas, Chair

Rep. Mahina Poepoe, Vice Chair

HEARING:

Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at 2:00 pm

Via Videoconference and Conference Room 325

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 3322, SD2, HD1 - RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT.

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

My name is Christine Andrews and I am a long-term resident of Wailuku, Maui. I am also an attorney licensed in the state of Hawaii for over 25 years and a founding coalition member of El Pueblo en Acción (EPA) Maui — The People in Action Maui. I am writing in **strong support of SB3322, SD2, HD1**, which, by July 1, 2027, requires each law enforcement agency operating in the State to establish and publicly post a written policy regarding the use of facial coverings, visibility of badges, and conspicuous marking of law enforcement vehicles and civil immigration enforcement, including procedures governing a law enforcement officer's authority to make an inquiry into a person's civil immigration status; prohibits law enforcement officers from initiating or prolonging a stop, detention, or arrest to determine a person's civil immigration status, with certain exemptions for reasonable suspicion; establishes as a policy of the Department of Law Enforcement that civil immigration activity involving state or county participation or facilities shall only proceed under certain conditions; establishes criminal offenses for improper facial coverings and lack of visible identification and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention.

I am in strong support of SB3322, SD2, HD1, especially the changes of HD1 that:

- Include a written policy mandate that every agency must establish and publicly post so communities can verify compliance and agencies are accountable.
- Prohibit prolonging stops for civil immigration status so that routine encounters cannot become immigration interrogations.
- Provide for criminal offenses that give the standards teeth since violations are prosecutable, not just policy disagreements.

I currently volunteer as a Know Your Rights and constitutional protector trainer and educator statewide. I have helped train teachers and students, business owners and union members, faith leaders and health care providers, parents and senior citizens on what their constitutional rights are, that these rights apply to all within the United States, regardless of citizenship status, and how to ensure these rights are not violated. I have also trained them how to prepare themselves, their staff, and their places of work and community service for interactions with federal agents.

The images we see on the news and in social media of aggressive, untrained, and violent unmasked, unbadged persons attacking citizens and noncitizens alike is eroding trust in law enforcement and our government. In my capacity as a volunteer educator, I have heard 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 now do not trust law enforcement. I have heard from health care providers that fear of lawless, violent, unmasked and unidentified persons is making people afraid to leave their homes to seek necessary medical care.

As a lawyer with an understanding of the Constitution and who has taken an oath to uphold it and the rule of law, what I am witnessing nationwide is chilling. Seeing images 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. I am afraid that they 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. Recently during a training I was conducting, an audience member asked what constitutional observers like me can do to protect themselves 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 this 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 law enforcement does not share license-plate identifying or tracking technology data with federal agents engaged in civil immigration enforcement. It would be one protective step that could help protect not just me, I have chosen to assume the risk, but my family members who live with me. I should not have to fear hostile and lawless agents tracking my activities and endangering 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 for basic, civil protections such as unmasked and properly-identified federal agents. Fortunately, I am not alone. Recently, over 200,000 people participated in the No Kings Coalition held an Eyes on ICE: Document and Record national training call and over 30,000 people have been trained as constitutional-observers in Minnesota since the federal "surge" there.

I have chosen to stand up for and protect my neighbors and community members. People like me are being killed for it. Yet I am undeterred by the deaths of Renne Goode and Alex Pretti. I am inspired, and millions are standing alongside me. The government agents who killed Alex Pretti felt empowered to engage in violence openly and with impunity because they felt protected from accountability because they were masked and unidentified. This bill provides important protection for volunteers like me and for community members who no longer trust their law enforcement agents of any kind.

**I request that you support SB 3322, SD2, HD1** to help restore rule of law, instill respect on the part of law enforcement, and rebuild trust in government.

Thank you for siding with your community on this issue.

Mahalo,

Christine L. Andrews, J.D.

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2026 1:48:16 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
JANE TOLLEFSRUD	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please continue to support efforts to protect our State of Hawaii from Federal overreach regarding law enforcement agencies. Please adopt policies restricting the use of face masks, and requiring visible IDs. Please limit immigration enforcement sharing information, and establish policies that enforce consequences for breaking the law. Also, please protect our sensitive areas, like schools, courthouses, medical facilities, and places of worship, so all people feel comfortable practicing their rights and freedoms at all times.

Thank you,

Respectfully submitted,

Jane Tollefsrud

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2026 1:52:02 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Francis Nakamoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Tarnas, Vice Chair Poepoe and Members of the Committees on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs.

My name is Francis M. Nakamoto and I support SB3322 SD2 HD1.

Among other things, SB3322 SD2 HD1 requires every law enforcement agency in the State to establish and publicly post written policies on facial coverings, badge visibility, vehicle markings, and civil immigration enforcement by July 1, 2027.

While it would have been preferable for a masking ban to be effective immediately in view of a likely surge or increase on ICE/CBP activity in the State of Hawaii, this bill at least recognizes the necessity of requiring law enforcement officers, especially immigration enforcement agents of the US Department of Homeland Security, to be prevented from hiding their identities when committing violations of constitutional rights and criminal law while detaining and arresting suspected undocumented immigrants. Those agents have demonstrated that they hide behind their masks and absence of identification to avoid accountability after committing illegal and inhumane actions against all people.

In the long history of our Nation, law enforcement officers did not wear masks. Sheriffs and constables didn't wear masks. FBI agents didn't wear masks. Military police, highway patrol officers, local and state police don't wear masks. The only people connected with the government who were allowed to wear masks for legitimate reasons then were..... executioners.

The three federal agents who shot Renee Good and Alex Pretti execution-style wore masks. Two of them were not identified immediately because they wore masks and had not identification. Otherwise, they certainly would have been immediately identified and held accountable, but more importantly they might have been discouraged from acting in the first place.

We must not allow this to happen in Hawai'i. Please support SB 3322 SD2 HD1.

Francis M. Nakamoto

1829 Ala Noe Place

Honolulu, HI 96819

808-721-4860

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2026 2:01:56 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
DeWaine Tollefsrud	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha All,

I am writing in support of SB3322 - no masking by law enforcement,

to protect our State of Hawaii from Federal overreach regarding law enforcement agencies.

Masked unidentified individuals are frightening as is intended.

All people feel should feel comfortable practicing their rights and freedoms at all times.

Especially in sensitive areas, like schools, courthouses, medical facilities, and places of worship.

There also needs to be enforce consequences for breaking the law.

Mahalo,

DeWaine Tollefsrud Kea'au, HI

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2026 2:12:34 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nandita Sharma	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SB 3322. All law enforcement - federal or local - agencies operating in Hawaii must be accountable to the public. This means, at minimum, no masking and having ID clearly visible, Currently, DHS agencies tasked with immigration enforcement are openly flouting such obvious practices. By doing so, they are sowing distrust in the community. Their practices must be barred by the state of Hawaii. To not do so is to condone such lawless actions.

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2026 4:50:56 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

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

Comments:

**Testimony of Amanda Christie**

**In SUPPORT of SB3322**

**Dear Chair Tarnas and the House Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs (JHA) Committee**

**My name is Dr. Amanda Christie, I am a current resident of Makiki, and I submit this testimony in support of SB3322, which establishes offenses related to improper facial coverings, lack of visible identification, and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, and requires clear policies on state/local cooperation with federal immigration enforcement.**

**As a concerned individual, I have watched in horror as individuals across the United States have been accosted by armed and unidentified armed men and women in the streets. Additionally, as a community partner with the Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights and as a volunteer at the Legal Clinic, I have spent time pouring over state and local detention data over the last year, and I have learned that since January of last year, ICE detentions in Hawai'i have been on the rise (doubling and tripling) across the months. Many of these detainees are held for "immigration related" rationales (rather than for criminal warrants or criminal activity). This trend has left many in Hawai'i fearful of potential masked stops, searches, and detentions with no clear sense of who is attacking them and what rights they are afforded. For example, just a few weeks ago a series of fake ICE posters threatening random searches were posted around my neighborhood, leading many residents in my community to respond with panic and concern. Although the threat turned out to be a hoax, the fear (and its underlying concerns over ICE's lack of transparency and the possibility of masked searches and seizures) are very real.**

**I am writing today to support SB3322. Accountability depends on enforceable standards. When identification rules are unclear—or when anonymous enforcement is tolerated—public fear grows and legitimate operations become harder. This bill sets clear expectations: in public-facing enforcement, individuals should be able to identify the officer and the agency responsible for the action. This measure also draws an important boundary around civil immigration interrogation. Immigration enforcement is a federal responsibility. When local actors conduct immigration questioning without clear authorization and safeguards, it increases the risk of coercion and misunderstanding—**

**especially for people with limited English proficiency—and it undermines public trust in local government.**

**For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee PASS SB3322.**

**Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.**

**Best,**

**Amanda Christie**

**SB-3322-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2026 9:52:41 PM

Testimony for JHA on 4/1/2026 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB3322 SD2 HD1 that establishes as a policy of the Department of Law Enforcement that civil immigration activity involving state or county participation or facilities shall only proceed under certain conditions, and establishes criminal offenses for improper facial coverings and lack of visible identification and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention.. When armed officers operate in public spaces while concealing their identities, community members cannot readily distinguish between legitimate law enforcement and impersonators. Requiring visible faces helps ensure that residents can assess credibility, comply appropriately with lawful orders, and seek help when needed, rather than retreating into fear or uncertainty, promoting accountability and de-escalation. I urge the committee to pass this important measure. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.