



POLICE DEPARTMENT COUNTY OF KAUA'I



DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR
REIKO MATSUYAMA, MANAGING DIRECTOR

ELLIOTT K. KE, CHIEF OF POLICE
MARK T. OZAKI, DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE

March 2, 2026

The Honorable Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
And Honorable Members of the Committee on Judiciary
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Testimony in Opposition to SB 3322 SD1, Relating to Law Enforcement

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Kaua'i Police Department, I am submitting testimony in **OPPOSITION** to SB 3322 SD 1, which prohibits most facial coverings by law enforcement officers, mandates visible identification and marked vehicles, requires state and county agencies to adopt and publicly post civil immigration enforcement policies and limits, and establishes criminal penalties—including a Class C felony—for certain violations.

KPD supports transparency, accountability, and public trust in law enforcement. However, this measure imposes severe criminal and civil liability on individual officers for conduct that is often complex, dynamic, and governed by evolving constitutional and federal law.

The bill establishes misdemeanor penalties for facial covering and identification violations and removes certain civil immunity protections, exposing officers to statutory damages of not less than \$10,000. Hawai'i's small, close-knit communities already limit officer anonymity. Prohibiting the use of masks or face coverings during most law enforcement interactions exposes officers to retaliation, harassment, and doxing – particularly those assigned to gangs, narcotics, drug trafficking, and organized crime investigations. The use of masks or protective coverings is not intended to avoid accountability, but rather to safeguard officers and their families from long-term harm resulting from lawful enforcement actions. Criminalizing mask-use in these contexts could jeopardize officer safety and compromise ongoing operations.

More significantly, SB 3322 SD1 creates a Class C felony for unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention. This level of criminal exposure is extraordinarily serious and may have a chilling effect on lawful enforcement decisions made in fluid situations. Immigration law is primarily federal, highly complex, and subject to rapid change, making felony liability particularly concerning.

Additionally, while an exemption exists for undercover officers, the bill fails to adequately account for support personnel who assist at scenes of law enforcement operations. These individuals may not be formally designated as undercover officers, yet they often perform duties that directly support undercover or sensitive investigative work. Requiring such personnel to remain unmasked may compromise operations and place them at unnecessary risk.

Chair Rhoads
March 2, 2026
Re: Opposition of SB 3322 SD1
Page 2 of 2

KPD believes that standards governing the use of masks or personal disguise by law enforcement officers are more appropriately developed through professional policy and oversight by the Hawai'i Law Enforcement Standards Board and individual agencies. The Standards Board is best positioned to establish consistent guidance that balances officer safety, operational needs, and public accountability, without resorting to criminal penalties for conduct better addressed through administrative regulation.

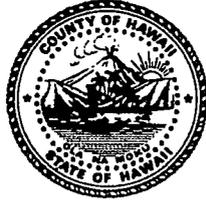
For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to **oppose SB 3322 SD1**. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,



Elliott K. Ke
Chief of Police
Kaua'i Police Department

C. Kimo Alameda, Ph.D.
Mayor



Reed K. Mahuna
Police Chief

William V. Brilhante Jr.
Managing Director

County of Hawai`i

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

February 27, 2026

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
And Members
Committee on Judiciary
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Senators Rhoads and Gabbard and Members,

RE: SENATE BILL 3322 SD1 RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT
DATE: MARCH 5, 2026
TIME: 10:01 A.M.
PLACE: CONFERENCE ROOM 016 & VIDEOCONFERENCE

The Hawai`i Police Department (HPD) appreciates the opportunity to offer comments on Senate Bill 3322 Relating to Law Enforcement. HPD supports the Legislature's goals of promoting transparency, accountability, and public trust; however, we believe these objectives are best achieved through statewide professional standards established by the Law Enforcement Standards Board (LESB), rather than through detailed statutory mandates.

Questions regarding when an officer may appropriately obscure their identity, how identification should be displayed, or how specialized equipment may be used are matters most effectively addressed through agency policy and administrative oversight. The LESB is the proper statewide authority to develop uniform standards of conduct for law enforcement. Delegating this responsibility to the LESB ensures consistent statewide policies, allows for necessary flexibility as operational needs evolve, and maintains a balance between transparency and officer safety. Codifying these matters in the criminal code risks penalizing officers who are acting in good faith and limits agencies' ability to adapt to changing operational environments.

Although the bill includes exemptions for undercover assignments, it does not account for the variety of field operations where protecting the identity of personnel is essential. Officers who support narcotics, gambling, and other sensitive investigations may not be formally designated as undercover but still require anonymity to preserve their safety and

SENATE BILL 3322 SD1 RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

DATE: MARCH 5, 2026

TIME: 10:01 A.M.

PLACE: CONFERENCE ROOM 016 & VIDEOCONFERENCE

Page 2

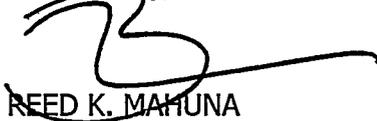
the integrity of ongoing operations. Addressing these practical realities through LESB-developed policy would allow for clear, consistent guidance without imposing criminal liability on officers performing necessary duties.

The bill also establishes statutory requirements related to civil immigration enforcement. HPD agrees that statewide guidance in this area is important, but again believes that the LESB is the appropriate entity to develop these standards. The LESB is positioned to ensure that such policies are legally sound, operationally realistic, and evenly applied across jurisdictions. Embedding detailed immigration-related requirements in statute may create confusion, hinder adaptability to changing federal guidance, and result in inconsistencies in implementation.

For these reasons, HPD respectfully offers comments on this measure and recommends that the Legislature direct the Law Enforcement Standards Board to develop comprehensive statewide policies governing facial coverings, identification requirements, and civil immigration enforcement. This approach supports public transparency, enhances statewide consistency, and safeguards officer safety and operational effectiveness.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on SB3322 SD1.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Reed K. Mahuna', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

REED K. MAHUNA
POLICE CHIEF



STONEWALL CAUCUS OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAII

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB3322 SD1 Relating to Law Enforcement Accountability and Civil Immigration Enforcement

To the Honorable Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

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 SD1**.

SB3322 SD1 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 SD1 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 SD1 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 SD1 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 SD1

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 SD1 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 SD1 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 SD1 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



SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

HEARING:
Thursday, March 5, 2026 at 10:01 am
Conference Room 016 & Videoconference

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT - SB 3322, SD1 RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT.

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, 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, SD1**, which prohibits 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, requires state and county law enforcement agencies to establish policies regarding state and county cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, prohibits law enforcement officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person's civil immigration status, and establishes criminal offenses for improper facial coverings, lack of visible identification, and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation.

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, SD1 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.

Our trained observers do this work daily. We know that transparency enables accountability, and accountability rebuilds trust. We **urge you to support SB 3322, SD1** and to vote to pass it out of this committee.

Sinceramente,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Veronica', written in a cursive style.

Veronica Mendoza

Maui Roots Reborn, *Founding Executive Director*

El Pueblo en Accion Maui, *Founding Coalition Member*

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 5:25:03 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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.



MARCH 5, 2026

SENATE BILL 3322 SD1

CURRENT REFERRAL: JDC

808-679-7454
kris@imuaalliance.org
www.imuaalliance.org
@imuaalliance

Kris Coffield,
President

David Negaard,
Director

Mireille Ellsworth,
Director

Justin Salisbury,
Director

Eileen Roco,
Director

Beatrice DeRego,
Director

Corey Rosenlee,
Director

Amy Zhao,
*Policy and Partnerships
Strategist*

POSITION: SUPPORT

Imua Alliance supports SB 3322 SD1, relating to law enforcement, which prohibits 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; requires state and county law enforcement agencies to establish policies regarding state and county cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement; prohibits law enforcement officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person's civil immigration status; and establishes criminal offenses for improper facial coverings, lack of visible identification, and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation.

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 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 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.

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 of Hawaii Filipino Lawyers Association
In SUPPORT of SB3322 SD1**

Committee on Judiciary

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 5, 2026

Dear Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard, and members of the Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Wilfredo Tungol, and I submit this testimony in **support of SB3322 SD1**, which requires visible identification by law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits improper facial coverings (with certain exceptions), requires state and county policies regarding cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, and prohibits officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person's civil immigration status.

I am a retired attorney and a member of the Hawaii Filipino Lawyers Association (HFLA). I am also the chair of HFLA's Advocacy Committee. I am testifying on behalf of Hawaii Filipino Lawyers Association with over 100 members statewide. HFLA has strong concern about protecting our immigrant community.

SB3322 SD1 strengthens accountability and public trust by ensuring officers are identifiable during public-facing enforcement. When people cannot identify who is exercising authority, fear and confusion increase, and the risk of abuse or impersonation grows. Clear identification standards protect residents and protect responsible officers by reducing misunderstandings and improving de-escalation.

The bill also helps prevent profiling and unnecessary detention by prohibiting officers from prolonging a stop solely to inquire into civil immigration status and by requiring clear agency policies governing cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement. These standards promote consistent, transparent practices statewide and strengthen community trust—an essential foundation for public safety.

For these reasons, we respectfully request that the Committee **PASS SB3322 SD1**.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,
Wilfredo Tungol
Chair, HFLA Advocacy Committee
tungolw@gmail.com 808-387-7412

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 4:31:00 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Matthew B. Johnson	Testifying for Pacific Gateway Center	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony of Pacific Gateway Center

In SUPPORT of SB3322 SD1

Committee on Judiciary

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 5, 2026

Dear Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard, and members of the Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Matthew Johnson, the Executive Director for Pacific Gateway Center, and I submit this testimony in support of SB3322 SD1, which requires visible identification by law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits improper facial coverings (with certain exceptions), requires state and county policies regarding cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, and prohibits officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person's civil immigration status.

Founded in 1973 in response to the arrival of Southeast Asian refugees, Pacific Gateway Center (PGC) is a Hawai‘i-based nonprofit dedicated to helping immigrants, refugees, and low-income residents achieve economic self-sufficiency and successfully integrate into our communities. For more than 50 years, PGC has provided workforce development, small business and agricultural entrepreneurship training, immigration legal services, and language access support through the Hawai‘i Language Bank, serving thousands of individuals statewide each year. Through culturally responsive programs that combine economic opportunity with social services, PGC strengthens Hawai‘i’s workforce, supports local food systems, and helps underserved residents contribute to the state’s long-term economic and community resilience.

SB3322 SD1 strengthens accountability and public trust by ensuring officers are identifiable during public-facing enforcement. When people cannot identify who is exercising authority, fear and confusion increase, and the risk of abuse or impersonation grows. Clear identification standards protect residents and also protect responsible officers by reducing misunderstandings and improving de-escalation.

The bill also helps prevent profiling and unnecessary detention by prohibiting officers from prolonging a stop solely to inquire into civil immigration status and by requiring clear agency policies governing cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement. These standards promote consistent, transparent practices statewide and strengthen community trust—an essential foundation for public safety.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee PASS SB3322 SD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Matthew B. Johnson

Pacific Gateway Center

**Testimony of Megahn Chun & Alejandro Villarino
In SUPPORT of SB3322 SD1**

Committee on Judiciary

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 5, 2026

Dear Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard, and members of the Committee on Judiciary,

Our names are Megahn Chun and Alejandro Villarino, and we submit this testimony in **support of SB3322 SD1**, which requires visible identification by law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits improper facial coverings (with certain exceptions), requires state and county policies regarding cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, and prohibits officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person's civil immigration status.

We are partners in life and in community work, and co-founders of Mercado de la Raza, a space created to uplift and support Hawai'i's Latino community. Beyond operating a small business, we have worked together to connect families with critical resources during times of crisis — including helping Latino residents navigate aid and support during the Lahaina fires and assisting community members affected by the recent government shutdown. Mercado de la Raza also serves as a gathering place for Latino families and a platform for local Latino entrepreneurs to showcase and grow their businesses. Through this work, we are deeply connected to and invested in the well-being, safety, and dignity of our community.

SB3322 SD1 strengthens accountability and public trust by ensuring officers are identifiable during public-facing enforcement. When people cannot identify who is exercising authority, fear and confusion increase, and the risk of abuse or impersonation grows. Clear identification standards protect residents and also protect responsible officers by reducing misunderstandings and improving de-escalation.

The bill also helps prevent profiling and unnecessary detention by prohibiting officers from prolonging a stop solely to inquire into civil immigration status and by requiring clear agency policies governing cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement. These standards promote consistent, transparent practices statewide and strengthen community trust—an essential foundation for public safety.

For these reasons, we respectfully request that the Committee **PASS SB3322 SD1**.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,
Megahn Chun & Alejandro Villarino
Mercado de La Raza
808.593.2226

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 6:18:26 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Clayton Kamida	Testifying for Indivisible Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Rhodes, Vice Chair Gabbard, and committee members:

I am writing in strong support of SB3322 SD1, as a member of Indivisible Hawaii. It seems fairly obvious that the use of masks by law enforcement is designed to enable law enforcement (such as ICE) to avoid being held accountable for illegal conduct, violation of constitutional rights, and in the case of federal ICE agents, unwarranted murder of citizens and protesters. There is no justification for masked law enforcement, unless law enforcement wants to operate like the Ku Klux Klan.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Clayton Kamida

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 8:37:48 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Janet Andrea	Testifying for Indivisible East Hawai'i - Hilo	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Mr Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee;

In order for citizens to feel safe in the presence of law enforcement, ICE must not be allowed to wear masks. No other law enforcement agency wears masks and ICE, CBP and all the other agencies acting as a secret police force should not be the exception. An agency that hides behind masks, are hiding their identities. If they are operating under the guise of the law, why are masks necessary? Citizens need to be able to see the face of law enforcement. Fear is automatically triggered in ordinary citizens being grabbed by masked men, ripped from cars or attacked in their homes. Perhaps ICE acts with impunity because they know they are not identifiable and thus unaccountable. No one should be able to act with impunity and get away with it. No one is above the law. Please vote yes on SB3322. Thank you



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

**Testimony of Liza Ryan-Gill
In SUPPORT of SB3322 SD1**

Committee on Judiciary

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 5, 2026

Dear Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard, and members of the Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Liza Ryan-Gill, and I submit this testimony on behalf of the Hawai‘i Coalition for Immigrant Rights (HCIR) in strong support of SB3322 SD1, which requires visible identification by law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits improper facial coverings (with certain exceptions), requires state and county policies regarding cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, and prohibits officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person’s civil immigration status.

HCIR is a coalition of 30+ immigrant-serving and immigrant-led organizations across the pae ‘āina working to advance policies that protect immigrant and migrant communities and strengthen Hawai‘i as a place where all families can thrive. Our communities depend on public institutions that are transparent, accountable, and worthy of trust—especially in moments of crisis and enforcement.

SB3322 SD1 strengthens accountability and public trust by ensuring officers are identifiable during public-facing enforcement. Across the country, communities have raised urgent concerns about masked, unidentified agents conducting enforcement actions in public spaces—fueling fear, confusion, and the risk of escalation and violence. Hawai‘i has also seen the impacts of federal immigration enforcement in our islands, including Kaua‘i, and residents should never have to guess whether the person detaining someone is a legitimate officer or a vigilante impersonator.

SB3322 SD1 addresses this directly by requiring visible identification—name, agency, and unique badge number—and by requiring agencies to maintain publicly available written policies and ensure training for officers on these requirements. These are basic, common-sense accountability measures that protect residents and protect responsible officers by reducing dangerous confusion during fast-moving encounters and improving opportunities for de-escalation. Transparent identification standards also function as an anti-impersonation



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

measure: they help the public and local officials distinguish lawful enforcement from opportunistic bad actors.

The bill also advances safety and civil rights by setting clear statewide limits on civil immigration enforcement entanglement. SB3322 SD1 requires every law enforcement agency operating in Hawai‘i to adopt written policies governing the narrow and limited instances when officers may inquire about citizenship, immigration status, place of birth, or request documentation for civil immigration purposes. Just as importantly, SB3322 SD1 prohibits officers from initiating or prolonging a stop, detention, or arrest for the purpose of determining civil immigration status except under narrow, lawful circumstances. These standards help prevent pretextual stops and unnecessary detention and reduce the risk that immigration inquiries become a pathway to discriminatory policing.

SB3322 SD1 appropriately reinforces that reasonable suspicion may 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 constitutional rights. This is essential for protecting immigrant communities, communities of color, and religious minorities from unfair targeting—and for strengthening public safety through community trust. When people fear that routine interactions with law enforcement may lead to immigration questioning, they are less likely to report domestic violence, trafficking, exploitation, and other serious crimes, cooperate as witnesses, or call 911 in emergencies. SB3322 SD1 helps prevent this chilling effect by keeping public safety priorities focused on real crime and community protection—not civil immigration enforcement.

Finally, SB3322 SD1 strengthens due process by requiring valid judicial warrants for federal immigration officers to enter nonpublic areas of state and local facilities for enforcement purposes. This is a critical safeguard to ensure public facilities are not used to facilitate enforcement actions absent proper legal authority and judicial oversight, and to protect against misuse of public institutions for surveillance or retaliation related to protected activity.

Other jurisdictions have already moved similar “No Secret Police” and identification accountability policies, reflecting a growing consensus that democratic accountability requires officers exercising public authority in public-facing settings to be identifiable, subject to meaningful oversight, and constrained by clear rules. Hawai‘i should not lag behind.

For these reasons, HCIR respectfully requests that the Committee PASS SB3322 SD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,
Liza Ryan-Gill



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

Executive Director, Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights (HCIR)
lryangill@hicir.org



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

1100 Alakea Street, FL 20, STE B

Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

LATE

Senate Committee on Judiciary

Date: Thursday, March 5, 2026, 10:01AM, Conf. Rm. 016

Re: Fujiwara & Rosenbaum Testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT with Amendments of SB 3322, S.D. 1 Relating to Law Enforcement**

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair MGabbard, 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 SB 3322, S.D. 1, Relating to Law Enforcement**

We have seen firsthand how fear of law enforcement chills the exercise of fundamental rights. SB3322 addresses that fear with concrete, enforceable protections grounded in transparency, due process, and accountability.

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. SB3322 directly addresses this by requiring 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 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."

The civil liability provision in proposed Section 710-A(4) is particularly significant. An officer who commits assault, battery, false imprisonment, or false arrest while wearing a prohibited facial covering or concealing identification "shall not be entitled to assert any privilege or immunity for the tortious conduct" and faces statutory damages of not less than \$10,000. This is a meaningful deterrent. **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. SB3322 closes that gap.**

Protecting Workers from Immigration-Based Retaliation

The bill's treatment of immigration enforcement speaks directly to what is going on in civil rights law practices: employers 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 state and federal 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.

The prohibition on prolonging stops to investigate immigration status, and the requirement 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 the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i," codifies protections that are consistent with equal protection principles and Hawai'i's own constitutional prohibition against discrimination.

Sensitive Location Protections

SB3322 prohibits immigration enforcement at "schools, early-learning sites, health care facilities, emergency or domestic violence shelters, courthouses, or places of worship." This provision is critical. 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, not only to those with unquestioned immigration status.

Recommended Amendments to Strengthen the Bill

While we strongly support SB3322, we respectfully urge the Committee to consider two amendments:

1. **Explicit private right of action for victims.** The bill classifies unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention as a class C felony but does not provide an **explicit private right of action for victims**. We recommend adding a civil cause of action with statutory damages parallel to Section 710-A(4), so that individuals subjected to unlawful immigration interrogation have a direct path to compensation.
2. **Preliminary injunctive relief.** The compliance mechanism in Section 139-A(c) affords agencies ninety days to correct deficiencies before judicial review, and exemptions "remain in effect unless a court rules" noncompliance "and all potential appeals to higher courts have been exhausted by the agency." This effectively allows noncompliant policies to persist for years through appellate delay. We urge the Committee to add a provision empowering courts to issue **preliminary injunctive relief** during the pendency of any appeal.

Conclusion

SB3322 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 SB3322, SD1, with the amendments described above.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Committee: Senate Committee on Judiciary
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, March 5, 2026, at 10:01 AM
Place: Conference Room 016 & Videoconference
Re: **Testimony of the ACLU of Hawai'i in SUPPORT of SB 3322, SD1 Relating to Law Enforcement**

Dear Chair Rhoads, Chair Gabbard, and Committee Members:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i (ACLU-HI) writes in **support of SB 3322, SD1**, 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.¹ 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 2024.² We know that throughout the country, most people being held in detention have not been convicted of a crime.³

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.⁴ We need

¹ 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/>

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

³ Hausman, D. (2025).

⁴ 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.⁵ 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, SD1.

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

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

⁵ 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
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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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LATE

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB3322, SD1 - RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

Senate Committee on Judiciary

Sen. Karl Rhoads, Chair

Sen. Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 5, 2026 | Letter Date: March 4, 2026

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committees:

The Legal Clinic (TLC) supports SB3322, SD1, 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, SD1'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 SD1 that 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, SD1 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

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 9:32:56 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ann Pitcaithley	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong support of SB 3322 .In addition to the horrifying accounts in the news about the lawlessness and violence in Minneapolis . And in the news today Feb 25, Ryan Schwank.an attorney for [U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement \(ICE\)](#) resigned from his position to sound the alarm in February 2026, alleging that the agency's training program for new deportation officers is "deficient, defective, and broken". Other allegations:

- **Gutted Training Curriculum:** Schwank testified that ICE slashed nearly **240 hours** from its training program—a reduction of approximately 40%—to fast-track the hiring of thousands of new agents. He stated the 72-day academy was condensed into just 42 days.
 - **Constitutional Violations:** He alleged that he was given "secretive orders" to instruct recruits that they could enter private residences using only **administrative warrants**, which are not signed by a judge, in direct violation of the Fourth Amendment.
 - **Safety Risks:** Schwank warned that the lack of proper instruction in firearms, use-of-force, and de-escalation tactics creates a "dangerous husk" of a program that could lead to unlawful arrests or deaths.
 - **Pressure to Lie:** He claimed that ICE leadership pressured him and other faculty to lie to Congress and the public about the quality of the training.
- I strongly support this no secret police bill as well due process and the requirement of judicial warrants and no access to sensitive locations. My only fear is that Trump will challenge it

-

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/25/2026 9:33:29 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
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-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2026 8:36:27 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

OPPOSE this bill. Law Enforcement tactics and policy should be left to the professionals in this specific field. This is purely a democrat trend that has zero substance. Next year, it will be another democrat trend.

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/27/2026 8:58:17 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I testify in strong support of SB3322 SD1.

This measure, as revised, maintains the intent of its original in promoting transparency regarding the identities of individual agents of law enforcement as well as the name of the agency they represent. This contributes to assuring members of the public that officers are not hiding behind masks and shields and are working to promote the public good.

The revision delineates very specific and reasonable instances in which concealment of officer's identity is allowed. Such exceptions help officers conduct work in which concealing their identity is critical, as well as to help them be safe.

One additional amendment might be considered to section 2 (4)(a) regarding use of a medical or N95 mask. Perhaps some definition of when use of such masks can be added to avoid a "loophole" which might be used to undermine the intent and language of this Act.

Thank you for receiving my testimony.

Letter in Support of SB3322

February 27, 2026

To: Senate Committee on Judiciary
Hawaii State Legislature
Hawaii State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Strong Support for SB3322 – Law Enforcement Transparency and Accountability

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Honorable Committee Members,

My name is Ryan K. Gomes, and I am a resident of Honolulu. I write to you today as a concerned private citizen in strong support of SB3322, which requires visible identification of law enforcement officers, restricts the use of facial coverings, establishes clear policies on state and county cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, and creates criminal offenses for violations of these transparency and accountability standards.

The Problem: Secret Policing and Erosion of Trust

Across the nation, communities have witnessed masked, unidentified agents conducting enforcement actions that create fear, confusion, and the risk of dangerous escalation. Hawai'i has not been immune to these concerns. When law enforcement officers—whether state, county, or federal agents operating in our state—conceal their identities through masks or lack visible identification, it undermines the most basic principles of democratic policing: transparency, accountability, and public trust.

Residents should never have to guess whether the person arresting someone is a legitimate officer acting under lawful authority or an impersonator, vigilante, or agent operating without proper oversight. When officers cannot be identified, misconduct goes unchecked, civil rights violations become easier to commit, and communities—especially immigrant communities and other vulnerable populations—live in fear.

SB3322 addresses these fundamental problems by establishing clear, enforceable standards for officer identification, limiting facial coverings, and creating boundaries around state and county participation in federal civil immigration enforcement.

Why SB3322 is Critical

This bill strengthens transparency, accountability, and public safety by:

- **Requiring visible identification of law enforcement officers**, including name or badge number and agency affiliation, ensuring that anyone exercising the power of the state can be identified and held accountable for their actions.

- **Restricting facial coverings that conceal officer identity**, while preserving narrowly tailored exceptions for legitimate safety needs such as undercover operations, tactical responses, medical masks, and hazardous conditions.
- **Requiring marked law enforcement vehicles** so that the public can identify which agency is conducting operations and whether enforcement actions are legitimate.
- **Establishing written policies on cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement**, including limits on data sharing, body camera requirements during ICE operations, and prohibitions on enforcement in sensitive locations such as schools, hospitals, courts, and places of worship.
- **Prohibiting prolonging stops to inquire about civil immigration status**, unless there is reasonable suspicion based on specific, articulable facts—and explicitly rejecting race, language, accent, national origin, or location as bases for suspicion.
- **Requiring valid judicial warrants** for federal immigration officers to access nonpublic areas in state and local facilities, ensuring that immigration enforcement respects due process and constitutional protections.
- **Creating criminal offenses** for improper use of facial coverings, lack of visible identification, and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, making accountability enforceable rather than merely aspirational.

Who This Bill Benefits

SB3322 is designed to benefit all Hawai‘i residents by protecting civil rights, strengthening community trust, and ensuring that law enforcement remains transparent and accountable.

- **Community members** gain the ability to identify officers exercising state power, reducing confusion, fear, and the risk of impersonation by vigilantes or unidentified agents.
- **Immigrant communities** can access schools, hospitals, courts, and other essential services without fear that state or local law enforcement will prolong encounters to inquire about immigration status or cooperate with ICE without proper legal authority.
- **Crime victims and witnesses** of all backgrounds are more likely to report crimes and cooperate with investigations when they trust that local law enforcement focuses on public safety rather than immigration enforcement.
- **Vulnerable populations**, including trafficking survivors, LGBTQ+ individuals, and communities of color, are protected from profiling, discriminatory enforcement, and the chilling effects of aggressive immigration tactics.
- **Law enforcement agencies** benefit from clear policies, reduced liability, and stronger community trust when officers operate transparently and within constitutional boundaries.

This is not a bill that undermines public safety or protects criminals. It is a transparency and accountability measure that ensures law enforcement serves all residents fairly and that constitutional protections apply to everyone, regardless of immigration status.

The Evidence: Transparency Strengthens Public Safety

Research consistently shows that when communities trust law enforcement, public safety improves. Cities and states that have implemented transparency and accountability measures—including visible identification requirements and limits on cooperation with federal immigration enforcement—have seen:

- **Increased crime reporting** from immigrant communities, leading to better clearance rates and safer neighborhoods.
- **Stronger cooperation with investigations**, as witnesses and victims are more willing to come forward when they do not fear that contact with law enforcement will lead to immigration consequences.
- **Reduced incidents of misconduct and rights violations**, as officers who can be identified and held accountable are less likely to engage in abusive behavior.
- **Stronger community-police relationships**, as transparency builds trust and legitimacy.

SB3322 brings these evidence-based practices to Hawai'i, ensuring that our state remains a place where law enforcement serves and protects all residents fairly.

Other Jurisdictions Have Already Acted

Hawai'i is not alone in pursuing these protections. California enacted the nation's first statewide "No Secret Police Act" (SB 627), which prohibits most law enforcement officers—including federal immigration agents operating in the state—from wearing identity-concealing facial coverings during operations, with carefully defined exceptions. California also enacted the "No Vigilantes Act," requiring visible identification for all officers.

Los Angeles County adopted an ordinance requiring visible identification and restricting masking by law enforcement. At the federal level, proposals like the "No Anonymity in Immigration Enforcement Act" have been introduced to require ICE agents to be identifiable during enforcement activities.

These measures reflect a growing consensus across the nation: community safety and democratic accountability require that officers who exercise state power in public be identifiable, subject to meaningful oversight, and constrained by clear rules. Hawai'i should not lag behind.

Addressing Concerns

Some may argue that this bill interferes with officer safety or operational effectiveness. But SB3322 includes carefully crafted exceptions for undercover operations, tactical responses, medical needs, and legitimate safety concerns. Officers conducting high-risk operations can still use facial coverings when necessary and justified—but only with proper documentation and oversight.

Others may argue that the bill prevents cooperation with federal law enforcement. This is not accurate. SB3322 does not prohibit state and local agencies from cooperating with federal authorities on criminal investigations or responding to valid judicial warrants. What it does

prevent is the use of state and local resources for civil immigration enforcement—a federal function—without proper legal authority, judicial oversight, and clear policies that protect constitutional rights.

Still others may raise concerns about federal preemption or supremacy. But the anti-commandeering doctrine, grounded in Supreme Court precedent including *Printz v. United States* (1997), affirms that states are not required to enforce federal law or dedicate state resources to federal priorities. SB3322 is a constitutionally sound assertion of state sovereignty and resource allocation.

The Stakes: Preventing Mainland-Style Abuses in Hawai‘i

Recent incidents across the nation—including masked, unidentified federal agents conducting enforcement operations, wrongful detentions of U.S. citizens, and violent encounters resulting from lack of transparency—demonstrate the urgent need for clear accountability measures. Hawai‘i has the opportunity and the responsibility to prevent similar harms here by ensuring that enforcement in our communities is transparent, accountable, and subject to clear standards.

When officers operate without identification, fear and confusion escalate. When immigration enforcement occurs in schools, hospitals, and courts without limits, vulnerable residents stop seeking help. When law enforcement agencies lack clear policies on cooperation with federal immigration enforcement, inconsistent practices and rights violations proliferate.

SB3322 addresses all of these problems by establishing enforceable statewide standards that protect both the public and officers acting in good faith.

Conclusion

SB3322 is a necessary, constitutional, and evidence-based measure that strengthens transparency, accountability, and public trust in law enforcement. It ensures that all officers exercising state power are identifiable, that facial coverings are used only when truly necessary and with oversight, and that state and local law enforcement agencies maintain clear boundaries with federal civil immigration enforcement.

No community should live in fear of masked, unidentified agents. No resident should be afraid to report a crime or seek help because they fear immigration consequences. No law enforcement agency should operate without clear policies and accountability measures that build public trust.

SB3322 ensures that none of these outcomes occurs in Hawai‘i. It affirms that transparency is not a threat to public safety—it is a foundation of it.

I respectfully urge the Committee to pass SB3322.

Mahalo nui for your commitment to transparency, accountability, and ensuring that Hawai‘i remains a place where law enforcement serves all residents fairly and constitutional protections are upheld for everyone.

Me ka ha‘aha‘a,

Ryan K. Gomes
Honolulu, Hawai'i

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2026 6:29:02 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SB2203 (or SB3322) both personally and as a member of the Indivisible Hawaii State Network (IHSN). 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. There are limited exceptions to account for masking or hiding identity for health reasons, undercover work and certain circumstances involving safety of the officer.

For months we have seen video evidence of aggressive, heavily armed federal agents snatching people off the street, subjecting them to excessive force, and now committing unjustified killings. During nearly all of these events the presumed agents are masked, with no identifying badge or tag. There is really no precedent for this kind of “secret” force in the United States, except the Ku Klux Klan. The tactic heightens fear in the public and interferes with accountability for misconduct by the officers.

Senate Bill 2203 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 Hawaii by federal law enforcement. It is a critical piece of our State’s preparations for dealing with a lawless federal government. It is a small step to returning law enforcement in Hawaii to public scrutiny and legal accountability. I urge you to pass this out of committee, and to work for passage through the legislature.

I do suggest an amendment to Section 2 (4)(a) regarding use of a medical or N95 mask. There needs to be a limitation of the exception to times where there is an airborne public health risk. Otherwise officers could simply wear that type of mask all the time.

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

Kathleen Dickson

Waikiki

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2026 10:54:56 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Larry Smith	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Please support this Bill

Larry Smith

HD 27

808 286 2958

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 2/28/2026 12:00:42 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brodie Lockard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/1/2026 6:51:19 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Thank you. I am a member of Indivisible Windward.

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/1/2026 9:09:57 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Thank you for this opportunity to support SB3322.

Younghee Overly, a member of Indivisible Hawaii

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/1/2026 11:13:15 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lily Troy MD	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support (NO MASKS)

SB3322 SD1

make ICE ACCOUNTABLE/FBI

March 1, 2026

To: Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of Senate Committee on
Judiciary
Re: SUPPORT SB 3322D1

Hearing: Thursday, March 1, 2026 — 10:01 AM

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Committee Members

My name is John M. Knox, a retired socio-economic consultant and longtime Waimānalo resident. I am also a member of both the Hawai'i Indivisible and Hawai'i ACLU organizations.

I submit testimony on behalf of myself in strong support of SB 332dD1. I'm old enough to remember Saturday morning TV western shows about the Lone Ranger. Most episodes ended with someone gratefully asking, "Who was that masked man, anyway?" This past year, that question has been repeatedly asked around the country, but more often with anger and fear than gratitude!

Law enforcement agencies risk loss of public support when they appear something like Darth Vader's troops on the Death Star. A uniform establishes authority. But a mask evokes lack of accountability and the potential for tyranny, to the ultimate detriment of intended authority.

I respectfully urge you to PASS this measure, with the common-sense amendments made in the Draft 1 version. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

John M. Knox
Waimānalo
Johnmknox808@gmail.com

Eileen Cain
720 Mahi'ai St., Apt. E
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March 1, 2026

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair, Senate Committee on Judiciary
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

Aloha, Senators,

I am writing this testimony in support of SB3322 SD1, "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.

Please vote for **SB3322 SD1.**

Mahalo,

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

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/1/2026 4:06:58 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Our police have rules against masking to hide their identities, ICE should too. If they aren't doing something illegal, then why do they need to hide their faces OR their badges?

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

HEARING:

Thursday, March 5, 2026 at 10:01 am
Conference Room 016 & Videoconference

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT - SB 3322, SD1 RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT.

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, 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, SD1**, which prohibits, with certain exceptions, facial coverings by law enforcement agencies to establish policies regarding cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement; prohibits officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person's civil immigration status; and establishes criminal offenses for improper facial coverings, lack of visible identification, and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation.

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 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. Just yesterday 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 use license-plate identifying or tracking technology. 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. Over 30,000 people have been trained as constitutional-observers in Minnesota since the federal "surge" there.

I am an educated, privileged, white person. I, like millions of others, have chosen to use my privilege to stand up for and protect my neighbors and community members. 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, SD1 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.
Wailuku, Maui

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/1/2026 10:00:30 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
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-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 4:32:40 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
maile nakano	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

No masking by law enforcement. Show aloha!

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 1:54:31 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aimee E McCullough	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SB2203 (or SB3322) both personally and as a member of the Indivisible Hawaii State Network (IHSN). 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. There are limited exceptions to account for masking or hiding identity for health reasons, undercover work and certain circumstances involving safety of the officer.

For months we have seen video evidence of aggressive, heavily armed federal agents snatching people off the street, subjecting them to excessive force, and now committing unjustified killings. During nearly all of these events the presumed agents are masked, with no identifying badge or tag. There is really no precedent for this kind of “secret” force in the United States, except the Ku Klux Klan. The tactic heightens fear in the public and interferes with accountability for misconduct by the officers.

Aimee McCullough, PsyD

Kailua

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 2:51:52 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in strong favor of SB3322 SD1 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 criminals 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-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 4:49:44 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jane Aquino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SB2203 (or SB3322) both personally and as a member of the Indivisible Hawaii State Network (IHSN). 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. There are limited exceptions to account for masking or hiding identity for health reasons, undercover work and certain circumstances involving safety of the officer.

ICE agents behave in lawless, warrantless abductions. NO MASKING. And Badges and ID visible. We are NOT RUSSIA.

For months we have seen video evidence of aggressive, heavily armed federal agents snatching people off the street, subjecting them to excessive force, and now committing unjustified killings. During nearly all of these events the presumed agents are masked, with no identifying badge or tag. There is really no precedent for this kind of “secret” force in the United States, except the Ku Klux Klan. The tactic heightens fear in the public and interferes with accountability for misconduct by the officers.

Senate Bill 2203 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 Hawaii by federal law enforcement. It is a critical piece of our State’s preparations for dealing with a lawless federal government. It is a small step to returning law enforcement in Hawaii to public scrutiny and legal accountability. I urge you to pass this out of committee, and to work for passage through the legislature.

I do suggest an amendment to Section 2 (4)(a) regarding use of a medical or N95 mask. There needs to be a limitation of the exception to times where there is an airborne public health risk. Otherwise officers could simply wear that type of mask all the time.

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

Jane Aquino

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 8:37:43 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SB2203 (or SB3322) both personally and as a member of the Indivisible Hawaii State Network (IHSN). 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. There are limited exceptions to account for masking or hiding identity for health reasons, undercover work and certain circumstances involving safety of the officer.

For months we have seen video evidence of aggressive, heavily armed federal agents snatching people off the street, subjecting them to excessive force, and now committing unjustified killings. During nearly all of these events the presumed agents are masked, with no identifying badge or tag. There is really no precedent for this kind of “secret” force in the United States, except the Ku Klux Klan. The tactic heightens fear in the public and interferes with accountability for misconduct by the officers.

Senate Bill 2203 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 Hawaii by federal law enforcement. It is a critical piece of our State’s preparations for dealing with a lawless federal government. It is a small step to returning law enforcement in Hawaii to public scrutiny and legal accountability. I urge you to pass this out of committee, and to work for passage through the legislature.

I do suggest an amendment to Section 2 (4)(a) regarding use of a medical or N95 mask. There needs to be a limitation of the exception to times where there is an airborne public health risk. Otherwise officers could simply wear that type of mask all the time.

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

Peggy Brandt

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 9:09:46 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

If they're up to the task, no need for a mask.

Judith White, Kapaa

Member, Kauai Indivisible

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 9:41:40 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am writing to convey the strongest possible support for SB3322 SD1 - no masking by law enforcement.

No law enforcement agent at any level of government should ever be permitted to act anonymously, as this creates an atmosphere of impunity and heightened violence against people they claim to "serve and protect."

Your constituents should never be encountered by masked agents of the government refusing to identify themselves. This is terrifying for everyone who encounters it and also creates massive distrust of law enforcement. Any responsible law enforcement agency knows that trust is a crucial aspect of effective policing of the laws.

Any legislator who does not support this Bill is a foe of democracy. Period.

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 9:47:11 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Thank you

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/2/2026 11:03:29 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

We have seen the crimes committed by the luxury of masking by ICE. This can not be allowed in Hawaii by any law enforcement.

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 9:28:54 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michelle Bonk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Those who choose to serve the public in the role of law enforcement can only do so effectively with the trust of the public. It is antithetical to building and maintaining trust to hide or mask one's identity during the execution of their duties.

Senate Bill 2203 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 Hawaii by federal law enforcement.

Please pass this bill.

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 11:53:40 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephen Munkelt	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SB3322 SD1 both personally and as a member of the Indivisible Hawaii Statewide Network (IHSN). 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. There are limited exceptions to account for masking or hiding identity for health reasons, undercover work and certain circumstances involving safety of the officer.

For months we have seen video evidence of aggressive, heavily armed federal agents snatching people off the street, subjecting them to excessive force, and now committing unjustified killings. During nearly all of these events the presumed agents are masked, with no identifying badge or tag. There is really no precedent for this kind of “secret” force in the United States, except the Ku Klux Klan. The tactic heightens fear in the public and interferes with accountability for misconduct by the officers.

Senate Bill 3322 SD1 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 Hawaii by federal law enforcement. It is a critical piece of our State’s preparations for dealing with a lawless federal government. It is a small step to returning law enforcement in Hawaii to public scrutiny and legal accountability. I urge you to pass this out of committee, and to work for passage through the legislature.

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

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 12:34:37 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Denize Machit	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm writing in strong support of bill SB3322. As a US citizen, I have watched in horror at our so called ICE department that has turned a civil misdemeanor into a possible death sentence. We are supposed to be a free society. Masked forces do not belong in a free society. I am a strong advocate for masking for health reasons, but not to keep identity private.

I would like to see a clarifying amendment that allows for masking for health reasons, such as wearing an N95 mask.

Mahalo nui loa for allowing me to share my input to this legislation.

Denize Machit

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 1:33:35 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

As a grandmother living in Waimea on Hawaii Island I support this common sense measure to protect Hawaii's people from federal over-reach

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 1:45:10 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marie Iding	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Legislature,

In order to maintain safety and professionalism in our law enforcement I am in favor of this bill. I do not want any of us to live in fear of masked, unidentified individuals or law enforcement prolonging stops to inquire about immigration status.

Thank you,

Marie Iding

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 2:05:53 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Anyone in the United States should have the right to see the credentials of persons seeking to detain them. People obscuring their identity could be any thug...or may just be ashamed of what they are doing and should not be permitted to seek the identity of others. Outrageous!

Jennifer Kagiwada
Council Member District 2 South Hilo



Office: (808) 961-8272
jennifer.kagiwada@hawaiicounty.gov

HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL - DISTRICT 2

25 Aupuni Street • Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

DATE: March 3, 2026
TO: Senate Committee on Judiciary
FROM: Jennifer Kagiwada, Council Member
Council District 2
SUBJECT: SB 3322

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard and Committee Members,

I am writing in **strong support of SB3322**. This measure strengthens trust within our communities by establishing clear boundaries between federal and local law enforcement. It is essential to maintaining public trust and ensuring that local agencies remain focused on protecting the safety and constitutional rights of our residents.

Hawai'i County Resolution No. 399-25, which recently passed County Council, affirmed that both the United States Constitution and the Constitution of the State of Hawai'i guarantee fundamental and due process rights to every individual and recognized our collective responsibility to uphold those protections. SB3322 reflects that same commitment in practice. It reinforces the principle that due process and equal protection apply to everyone and helps ensure that residents, regardless of where they come from, do not have to live in fear of local law enforcement.

Our community must feel confident calling on local police for help without hesitation or fear. Strengthening that trust ultimately strengthens our entire state. Please pass SB3322.

Mahalo,

Jenn Kagiwada

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 2:50:21 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aaron Ruddick	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB3322 SD1

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 4:56:17 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Support

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 5:33:16 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Beth McDermott	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SB2203 (or SB3322) both personally and as a member of the Indivisible Hawaii State Network (IHSN). 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. There are limited exceptions to account for masking or hiding identity for health reasons, undercover work and certain circumstances involving safety of the officer.

For months we have seen video evidence of aggressive, heavily armed federal agents snatching people off the street, subjecting them to excessive force, and now committing unjustified killings. During nearly all of these events the presumed agents are masked, with no identifying badge or tag. There is really no precedent for this kind of “secret” force in the United States, except the Ku Klux Klan. The tactic heightens fear in the public and interferes with accountability for misconduct by the officers.

Senate Bill 2203 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 Hawaii by federal law enforcement. It is a critical piece of our State’s preparations for dealing with a lawless federal government. It is a small step to returning law enforcement in Hawaii to public scrutiny and legal accountability. I urge you to pass this out of committee, and to work for passage through the legislature.

I do suggest an amendment to Section 2 (4)(a) regarding use of a medical or N95 mask. There needs to be a limitation of the exception to times where there is an airborne public health risk. Otherwise officers could simply wear that type of mask all the time.

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

Beth McDermott

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 7:45:27 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

STRONG OPPOSE!!!

This bill is an emotional, knee jerk, total over reaction to the events on the mainland, especially Minneapolis, Minnesota. ICE and BP agents have worked in several other states/cities without tragic events. Perhaps the problem is with the people and leaders in Minneapolis, not ICE and BP.

Hawaii vice officers wear masks and justifiably so. You have to be consistent or be sued, and we taxpayers will have to pay the price.

Table this bill and let cooler heads prevail.

Mahalo!

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 9:00:01 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committees Judiciary

My name is Francis M. Nakamoto and I support SB 3322 SD 1, which prohibits the use of facial coverings and requires visible identification by law enforcement officers and their vehicles in the performance of their duties.

The US Department of Homeland Security justifies the wearing of masks to prevent its agents from being identified personally and being harassed and doxed by protesters.

There is no need for a competent, law-abiding, peace officer to wear a mask or conceal his or her name or badge. You wear a mask or hide your identify to prevent being identified individually if you don't intend to conduct yourself professionally and lawfully.

Local police officers don't wear masks and they live in the community where they work. If anyone who is intent on breaking or skirting the criminal law and does not want to be identified and be either arrested or ostracized or doxed in their community, it would be the local police officer. But they nevertheless proudly work without masks and show their names without interference with their duties.

if, however, you are intent on breaking the law and don't want to be identified and don't want to be caught then you would wear a mask and hide your identity.

In light of the horrendous misconduct and widespread assaults on both the residents of Minneapolis and the rule of law, ICE and CBP agents should be required to wear masks! Contrary to what DHS spokespersons claim, there's little chance of surging ICE agents, who return to their secure hotels not their homes, being doxed to justify the official reason for covering their faces, especially if they perform their duties lawfully and professionally.

In the long history of our Nation, law enforcement officers did not wear masks. FBI agents didn't wear masks. Highway patrol officers didn't wear masks. Sheriffs and constables in days past didn'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 could not be immediately identified because they wore masks. Without masks, they certainly would have been identified and chances of being held accountable increased.

More importantly, it might very well have discourages such criminal behavior in the first place.

Please support SB3322 SD1.

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 9:11:04 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kevin J Block	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony of Kevin Block

In SUPPORT of SB3322 SD1

Committee on Judiciary

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair; Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 5, 2026

Dear Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard, and members of the Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Kevin Block, and I submit this testimony in support of SB3322 SD1, which requires visible identification by law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits improper facial coverings (with certain exceptions), requires state and county policies regarding cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, and prohibits officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person’s civil immigration status.

I am an immigration attorney in private practice for over a decade as well as serving on many Boards including the ACLU, the Legal Clinic and Roots Reborn but I speak in my capacity as an attorney and advocate for the immigrant community and not representing any agency or organization.

My mother was an immigrant who came from Germany. One of her gifts to me was to let history be our teacher in order to be vigilant about not repeating mistakes of the past.

Policing requires accountability. It is really that simple. Without it, we are on a dangerous path. We have already seen the erosion of our rights that comes from poorly trained officers who have authority without oversight or proper training.

When people cannot identify who is exercising authority, fear and confusion increase, and the risk of abuse or impersonation grows. Clear identification standards protect residents

and also protect responsible officers by reducing misunderstandings and improving de-escalation.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee PASS SB3322 SD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Kevin Block, Attorney at Law

Maui Immigration Law, LLC

immigrationlawmaui@gmail.com

808-244-5858

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 10:33:49 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair and Members of the Committee,

I write you today in strong support of SB3322 SD1, as it relates to law enforcement.

This bill will provide visible ID and transparency which will strengthen accountability and public trust. Citizens trusting in their law enforcement is a key part of a safe, functioning society.

It will also reduce impersonation risk and helps de-escalation in public-facing enforcement. Anyone can put a mask on and drive an unmarked vehicle. This is a recipe for disaster and innocent lives will be hurt.

This bill will also limit prolonged stops for civil immigration questioning, reducing profiling risk and unnecessary detention. People should not be profiled merely for the color of their skin or the language they speak.

It is for these reasons, that I strongly support SB3322 SD1 and ask that you do the same.

Mahalo,

Mona Eisa, Honolulu HI

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/3/2026 10:42:54 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Dear Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard, and members of the Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Lynn Otaguro and I submit this testimony in **support of SB3322 SD1**, which requires visible identification by law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits improper facial coverings (with certain exceptions), requires state and county policies regarding cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, and prohibits officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person’s civil immigration status.

SB3322 SD1 strengthens accountability and public trust by ensuring officers are identifiable during public-facing enforcement. When people cannot identify who is exercising authority, fear and confusion increase, and the risk of abuse or impersonation grows. Clear identification standards protect residents and also protect responsible officers by reducing misunderstandings and improving de-escalation.

The bill also helps prevent profiling and unnecessary detention by prohibiting officers from prolonging a stop solely to inquire into civil immigration status and by requiring clear agency policies governing cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement. These standards promote consistent, transparent practices statewide and strengthen community trust—an essential foundation for public safety.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee **PASS SB3322 SD1**.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Lynn Otaguro

Oahu, Hawaii

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Committee on Judiciary

From: Veronica Moore, Individual Citizen

Date: March 3, 2026

RE: Senate Bill 3322 SD1
Measure Title: RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT.
Report Title: Law Enforcement Officers; Law Enforcement Agencies; Facial
Coverings; Visible Identification; Civil Immigration Enforcement

To All Concerned,

My name is Veronica Moore and I support Senate Bill 3322 SD1. Your consideration is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Veronica M. Moore

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 12:48:31 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

Please support this bill. Thank you.

**Testimony of Terrina Wong
In SUPPORT of SB3322 SD1**

Committee on Judiciary

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 5, 2026

Dear Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard, and members of the Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Terrina Wong, and I submit this testimony in **support of SB3322 SD1**, which requires visible identification by law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits improper facial coverings (with certain exceptions), requires state and county policies regarding cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, and prohibits officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person's civil immigration status.

I am the retired Deputy Director of Immigration Services at Pacific Gateway Center. I am testifying as an individual who has worked for close to 15 years providing direct client assistance and language access to the foreign born in our state. I know first-hand the importance of transparency, civil rights, or community safety. Many of our foreign born come to Hawaii mistrusting their respective governments because of their circumstances for their need to flee their homes. As they rebuild their lives in Hawaii, they need to know that our Hawaii community does all it can to earn public trust.

SB3322 SD1 strengthens accountability and public trust by ensuring officers are identifiable during public-facing enforcement. When people cannot identify who is exercising authority, fear and confusion increase, and the risk of abuse or impersonation grows. Clear identification standards protect residents and also protect responsible officers by reducing misunderstandings and improving de-escalation.

The bill also helps prevent profiling and unnecessary detention by prohibiting officers from prolonging a stop solely to inquire into civil immigration status and by requiring clear agency policies governing cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement. These standards promote consistent, transparent practices statewide and strengthen community trust—an essential foundation for public safety.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee **PASS SB3322 SD1**.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,
Terrina Wong

Testimony in SUPPORT of SB3322 SD1

Committee on Judiciary

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 5, 2026

Dear Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard, and members of the Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Jeremiah Brown, and I submit this testimony in **support of SB3322 SD1**, which requires visible identification by law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits improper facial coverings (with certain exceptions), requires state and county policies regarding cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, and prohibits officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person's civil immigration status.

I am a 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 SD1 strengthens accountability and public trust by ensuring officers are identifiable during public-facing enforcement. When people cannot identify who is exercising authority, fear and confusion increase, and the risk of abuse or impersonation grows. Clear identification standards protect residents and also protect responsible officers by reducing misunderstandings and improving de-escalation.

The bill also helps prevent profiling and unnecessary detention by prohibiting officers from prolonging a stop solely to inquire into civil immigration status and by requiring clear agency policies governing cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement. These standards promote consistent, transparent practices statewide and strengthen community trust—an essential foundation for public safety.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee **PASS SB3322 SD1**.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,
Jeremiah Brown
Waialua, Oahu

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 7:43:19 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alyce Dodge	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony In SUPPORT of SB3322 SD1

Dear Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard, and members of the Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Alyce Dodge, and I submit this testimony in **support of SB3322 SD1**, which requires visible identification by law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits improper facial coverings (with certain exceptions), requires state and county policies regarding cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, and prohibits officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person’s civil immigration status.

I am an educator and resident of Honolulu.

SB3322 SD1 strengthens accountability and public trust by ensuring officers are identifiable during public-facing enforcement. When people cannot identify who is exercising authority, fear and confusion increase, and the risk of abuse or impersonation grows. Clear identification standards protect residents and also protect responsible officers by reducing misunderstandings and improving de-escalation.

The bill also helps prevent profiling and unnecessary detention by prohibiting officers from prolonging a stop solely to inquire into civil immigration status and by requiring clear agency policies governing cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement. These standards promote consistent, transparent practices statewide and strengthen community trust—an essential foundation for public safety.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee **PASS SB3322 SD1**.

Mahalo,

Alyce Dodge

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 8:12:14 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christian Marquez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard, and members of the Committee on Judiciary,

My name is Christian Marquez, and I submit this testimony in support of SB3322 SD1, which requires visible identification by law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits improper facial coverings (with certain exceptions), requires state and county policies regarding cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, and prohibits officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person’s civil immigration status.

SB3322 SD1 strengthens accountability and public trust by ensuring officers are identifiable during public-facing enforcement. When people cannot identify who is exercising authority, fear and confusion increase, and the risk of abuse or impersonation grows. Clear identification standards protect residents and also protect responsible officers by reducing misunderstandings and improving de-escalation.

The bill also helps prevent profiling and unnecessary detention by prohibiting officers from prolonging a stop solely to inquire into civil immigration status and by requiring clear agency policies governing cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement. These standards promote consistent, transparent practices statewide and strengthen community trust—an essential foundation for public safety.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee PASS SB3322 SD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Christian Marquez

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 8:13:26 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Yvette Kay	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Esteemed Legislators, My name is Yvette Kay and I am a resident of Kailua Kona, HI. I support SB3322 SD1 that prohibits 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. Requires state and county law enforcement agencies to establish policies regarding state and county cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement. Prohibits law enforcement officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person's civil immigration status. Establishes criminal offenses for improper facial coverings, lack of visible identification, and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation. (SD1)

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 8:54:05 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

STRONGLY SUPPORT SB3322 SD1

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 9:18:57 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Diane Ware	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Legislators,

I, Diane Ware, strongly support this bill.

Thank you ,

Volcano 96785

**Testimony of Wendy Naomi Sodetani
In SUPPORT of SB3322 SD1**

Committee on Judiciary

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 5, 2026

Dear Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard, and members of the Committee on Judiciary,

My name is **Wendy Naomi Sodetani**, and I submit this testimony in **support of SB3322 SD1**, which requires visible identification by law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits improper facial coverings (with certain exceptions), requires state and county policies regarding cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, and prohibits officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person’s civil immigration status.

I am testifying as an individual born and raised in Hawai’i and an active member of the Indivisible Hawai’i Statewide Network (IHSN). I recently retired from a community health center in Kalihi caring for vulnerable underserved populations, primarily low-income, new immigrant and Pacific island migrant families.

Also, in my long career as a journalist, I have been committed to uphold community participation and media vigilance to encourage and compel transparency in governmental decisionmaking and actions, and protect the civil rights, safety and wellbeing of our community.

All agents who represent and enforce official government policy must be held to basic accountability standards. **“Secret police” hiding behind masks without visible identification of their names and agencies must not be allowed to act with impunity in our community.**

SB3322 SD1 strengthens accountability and public trust by ensuring officers are identifiable during public-facing enforcement. When people cannot identify who is exercising authority, fear and confusion increase, and the risk of abuse or impersonation grows. Clear identification standards protect residents and also protect responsible officers by reducing misunderstandings and improving de-escalation.

The bill also helps prevent profiling and unnecessary detention by prohibiting officers from prolonging a stop solely to inquire into civil immigration status and by requiring clear agency policies governing cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement. These standards promote consistent, transparent practices statewide and strengthen community trust—an essential foundation for public safety. These are standards that our local law enforcement officers already commonly adhere to.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee **PASS SB3322 SD1**.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,
Wendy Naomi Sodetani
Member of Indivisible Hawai'i Statewide Network
naomisodetani@gmail.com
(808) 741-0555

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 9:47:05 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SB2203 (or SB3322) both personally and as a member of the Indivisible Hawaii State Network (IHSN). 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. There are limited exceptions to account for masking or hiding identity for health reasons, undercover work and certain circumstances involving safety of the officer.

Mahalo, Gail Morrison 96815

LATE

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 11:07:56 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Fujimura Joan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB2203/SB3322 Law Enforcement; Mask; Disguise; Prohibition

I am writing in strong support of SB2203 (or SB3322) both personally and as a member of the Indivisible Hawai'i State Network (IHSN). 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. There are limited exceptions to account for masking or hiding identity for health reasons, undercover work and certain circumstances involving safety of the officer.

For months we have seen video evidence of aggressive, heavily armed federal agents snatching people off the street, subjecting them to excessive force, and now committing unjustified killings. During nearly all of these events the presumed agents are masked, with no identifying badge or tag. There is really no precedent for this kind of "secret" force in the United States, except the Ku Klux Klan. The tactic heightens fear in the public and interferes with accountability for misconduct by the officers.

Senate Bill 2203 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 a lawless federal government. It is a small step to returning law enforcement in Hawai'i to public scrutiny and legal accountability. I urge you to pass this out of committee, and to work for passage through the legislature.

I do suggest an amendment to Section 2 (4)(a) regarding use of a medical or N95 mask. There needs to be a limitation of the exception to times where there is an airborne public health risk. Otherwise officers could simply wear that type of mask all the time.

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

Joan Fujimura

LATE

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 11:46:35 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lisa Diaz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I SUPPORT SB3322 SD1 RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT.

Please pass SB3322 SD1, TO REQUIRE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENTS TO BE UN-MASKED IN THE STATE OF HAWAII.

Mahalo,

Lisa Diaz

76-223 Haoa; Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

LATE

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 11:57:52 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Justice, M.D.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Committee on Judiciary

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 5, 2026

Dear Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard, and members of the Committee on Judiciary,

My apologies for submitting this testimony a few hours late. However, I hope that you will be able to find time to consider it. My name is Robert Justice, M.D, and I submit this testimony in support of SB3322 SD1, which requires visible identification by law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits improper facial coverings (with certain exceptions), requires state and county policies regarding cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, and prohibits officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person's civil immigration status.

I am a resident of Kapolei and am testifying as an individual and a as a member of the Indivisible Hawaii Statewide Network (IHSN). I share IHSN's concerns about transparency, civil rights, and community safety.

I strongly support SB3322 SD1 because it strengthens accountability and public trust by ensuring officers are identifiable during public-facing enforcement. When people cannot identify who is exercising authority, fear and confusion increase, and the risk of abuse or impersonation grows. Clear identification standards protect residents and also protect responsible officers by reducing misunderstandings and improving de-escalation.

The bill also helps prevent profiling and unnecessary detention by prohibiting officers from prolonging a stop solely to inquire into civil immigration status and by requiring clear agency policies governing cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement. These standards promote consistent, transparent practices statewide and strengthen community trust—an essential foundation for public safety.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee pass SB3322 SD1.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,
Robert Justice, M.D. (retired)
robertjusticemd@gmail.com

LATE

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/4/2026 12:22:11 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

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

Comments:

vote yes please

LATE

SB-3322-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/5/2026 8:09:56 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/5/2026 10:01:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Lum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Jen Lum, and I submit this testimony in support of SB3322 SD1, which requires visible identification by law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits improper facial coverings (with certain exceptions), requires state and county policies regarding cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, and prohibits officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person's civil immigration status.

SB3322 SD1 strengthens accountability and public trust by ensuring officers are identifiable during public-facing enforcement. When people cannot identify who is exercising authority, fear and confusion increase, and the risk of abuse or impersonation grows. Clear identification standards protect residents and also protect responsible officers by reducing misunderstandings and improving de-escalation.

The bill also helps prevent profiling and unnecessary detention by prohibiting officers from prolonging a stop solely to inquire into civil immigration status and by requiring clear agency policies governing cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement. These standards promote consistent, transparent practices statewide and strengthen community trust—an essential foundation for public safety.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee PASS SB3322 SD1.

Mahalo

Jen Lum, 'Ewa Beach