

March 20, 2026

House Committee on Economic Development and Technology
Support for SB 3322, SD2 – Relating to Law Enforcement



Aloha Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey, and Members of the Committee:

The **State of Hawai'i Organization of Police Officers (SHOPO)** respectfully offers comments on **SB 3322, SD2**, 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. It also requires state and county law enforcement agencies to establish policies regarding state and county cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement. This bill prohibits law enforcement officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person's civil immigration status and establishes criminal offenses for use of a mask or facial covering by a law enforcement officer, lack of visible identification, and unauthorized civil immigration interrogation.

Masks are a critical tool for officers performing undercover operations, SWAT activities, or assignments in high-risk environments. Although this bill attempts to narrowly permit undercover activity, a ban would significantly limit officers' ability to maintain anonymity, directly compromising their safety and effectiveness. Requiring officers to be unmasked exposes their identities to the public, which increases the risk of doxxing, harassment, retaliation, and threats against officers and their families, particularly from criminal elements or organized groups. Law enforcement officers frequently operate in conditions that require facial protection, including smoke, chemical exposure, or infectious disease environments. Mask use is a practical necessity to prevent injury. Masks may also be necessary should an officer become ill or at risk for airborne illness.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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



UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

Legislative Testimony

Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the
House Committee on Economic Development & Technology
March 20, 2026 at 9:30 a.m.

By

Jan Gouveia

Vice President for Administration

University of Hawai'i System

and

Carrie K.S. Okinaga

Vice President for Legal Affairs and University General Counsel

University of Hawai'i System

SB 3322 SD2 – RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT.

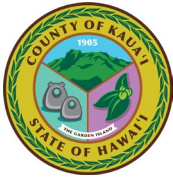
Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey, and Members of the Committee:

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

Suggested amendments for your consideration are highlighted in red:

- Page 11 lines 5-9
(1) Identify, **arrest**, or **otherwise** impose **civil-or** criminal **penalty liability** upon a person or entity based on their participation in activities protected by the First Amendment of the United States Constitution or state constitution; or
- Page 11 lines 14-16
(d) This policy shall not prevent compliance with a valid judicial warrant **or other documented, reviewable legal process** authorizing entry or entry under exigent circumstances.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



POLICE DEPARTMENT COUNTY OF KAUA'I



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

RUDY TAI, CHIEF OF POLICE
MARK T. OZAKI, DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE

March 17, 2026

The Honorable Representative Greggor Ilagan, Chair
And Honorable Members of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology
Hawai'i State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: Testimony in Opposition to SB 3322 SD2, Relating to Law Enforcement

Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey, and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Kaua'i Police Department, I am submitting testimony in **OPPOSITION** to SB 3322 SD2, which restricts the use of facial coverings by law enforcement officers except in certain circumstances, 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 criminal penalties—including petty misdemeanor and misdemeanor offenses—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. Restricting the use of masks or face coverings during many law enforcement interactions, even with certain statutory exceptions, 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 violations of these mask restrictions in operational contexts could jeopardize officer safety and compromise ongoing operations.


More significantly, SB 3322 SD2 creates a Class C felony for certain unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention conducted outside the limits established by the bill. 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 the imposition of felony liability for officers operating in fluid situations 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.

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 SD2**. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully submitted,



Rudy Tai
Chief of Police
Kaua'i Police Department



Cade Watanabe, Financial Secretary-Treasurer

Gemma G. Weinstein, President

Eric W. Gill, Senior Vice-President

March 16, 2026

House Committee on Economic Development and Technology
Rep. Greggor Ilagan, Chair
Rep. Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

Testimony in Strong Support of SB 3322

Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey, and Committee Members:

UNITE HERE Local 5 represents 10,000 working people in the hotel, food service and health care industries across Hawaii. The experiences of our sister locals elsewhere in the U.S., including Minneapolis, Los Angeles, and Washington DC, make clear to us that it is necessary to take action to rein in ICE and DHS across the country.

We do not want our union members, their families, or anyone else in our community to be targeted, terrorized, assaulted, kidnapped, or killed by government agents or anyone else. We do not want their rights to be violated. All people should be treated with respect and dignity.

We urge your support of SB 3322. This measure is an important step toward greater accountability and safeguarding the most vulnerable people in our community.

Thank you.

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 11:16:15 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Estela Chao-Reza	Faith Action for Community Equity	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony of Rev. Dr. Estela Chao-Reza
Executive Director, Faith Action for Community Equity (Faith Action)

In SUPPORT of SB3322 SD2

Committee on Economic Development & Technology

Representative Greggor Ilagan, Chair
Representative Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 20, 2026

Dear Chair Greggor Ilagan, Vice Chair Ikaika Hussey, and members of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology,

My name is Rev. Dr. Estela Chao-Reza, and I serve as the Executive Director of Faith Action for Community Equity (Faith Action). I submit this testimony in strong support of SB3322 SD2. Faith Action is a faith-based, grassroots organization working across Hawai‘i to build community power and advance justice, equity, and dignity for all people. Our work is grounded in supporting immigrant families, strengthening civic engagement, and promoting transparency and accountability in our public systems.

SB3322 SD2 is an important measure that strengthens public trust and accountability in law enforcement. When officers are clearly identifiable through visible badges, names, and marked vehicles, it helps ensure that residents understand who is exercising authority. Without this clarity, fear and confusion increase—particularly among immigrant and mixed-status families who may struggle to distinguish between local law enforcement and federal civil immigration agents. Clear identification protects both community members and officers by reducing misunderstandings and supporting safer, more transparent interactions.

This bill also helps prevent profiling and unnecessary detention by prohibiting officers from prolonging a stop solely to inquire into a person’s civil immigration status. In our communities, even brief encounters can escalate fear when individuals believe their immigration status may be questioned without cause. Establishing clear limits helps ensure that public safety interactions remain focused, fair, and respectful of civil rights.

Additionally, requiring state and county agencies to adopt written policies on cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement promotes consistency and accountability across jurisdictions. The inclusion of enforceable penalties in the SD2 version ensures that these protections are meaningful and upheld in practice—not merely aspirational.

At its core, SB3322 SD2 reflects our shared commitment to fairness, safety, and trust. When communities trust law enforcement, they are more likely to report crimes, seek help when needed, and participate fully in civic life—making all of Hawai‘i safer and stronger.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the Committee PASS SB3322 SD2. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,
Estela



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

**Testimony of the Hawai‘i Coalition for Immigrant Rights
In SUPPORT of SB3322 SD2**

Committee on Economic Development & Technology

Representative Gregor Ilagan, Chair
Representative Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 20, 2026

Dear Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey, and members of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology,

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

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

Across the country, communities have raised urgent concerns about masked and unidentified enforcement actions in public spaces. Hawai‘i has also experienced the impacts of federal immigration enforcement, including on neighbor islands such as Kaua‘i. Residents should never have to guess whether the person detaining someone is a legitimate officer or an impersonator. By requiring visible identification — including name, agency, and badge number — and limiting the use of improper facial coverings, this measure establishes clear, common-sense accountability standards.

SB3322 SD2 also strengthens safeguards around state and county collaboration with federal civil immigration enforcement. By requiring written agency policies and training, the bill ensures that any cooperation is governed by clear, transparent rules that prioritize due process and judicial oversight. These guardrails help maintain the proper role of local agencies and prevent the



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hicoalitionforimmigrantrights@gmail.com

erosion of trust that occurs when local institutions are perceived as extensions of federal immigration enforcement.

Importantly, the measure prohibits officers from initiating or prolonging a stop solely to inquire into a person's civil immigration status. This is a critical protection against pretextual stops and discriminatory enforcement. It helps ensure that individuals are not subjected to prolonged detention based on vague or improper grounds, and reinforces that factors such as race, ethnicity, language, or national origin cannot be used as a basis for suspicion. These protections are essential to maintaining community trust and ensuring that all residents feel safe reporting crimes, seeking help, and cooperating with law enforcement.

The SD2 amendment appropriately strengthens this framework by establishing criminal penalties for violations, ensuring that these protections are enforceable and meaningful. With the companion measure advancing, this is the right moment for the Committee on Economic Development & Technology to move SB3322 SD2 forward.

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,
Liza Ryan Gill
Hawai'i Coalition for Immigrant Rights (HCIR)



COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TECHNOLOGY

Rep. Greggor Ilagan, Chair

Rep. Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

HEARING:

Friday, March 20, 2026 at 9:30 am

Via Videoconference and Conference Room 423

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

Aloha Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey, Rep. Yamashita of Maui, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Veronica Mendoza, Founding Executive Director of Roots Reborn and a founding coalition member of El Pueblo en Acción (EPA) Maui — *The People in Action Maui*. I am writing in **strong support of SB 3322, SD2**, 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, SD2 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, SD2** 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*



Committee on Economic Development and Technology
Chair Greggor Iligan, Vice Chair Ikaika Hussey

March 20, 2026 9:30 am, 423 via Videoconference
SB3322 SD2 — Law Enforcement, Facial Coverings, Immigration Enforcement

TESTIMONY

Stephen Munkelt, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Iligan, Vice Chair Hussey, and Committee Members:

**The League of Women Voters of Hawaii supports BILL NUMBER
SB3322 SD2**

The **League of Women Voters of Hawai'i (LWVH)** writes in **strong support of SB3322 SD2**, a bill to address problems which have emerged nationally during the Trump administration. This bill would require law enforcement agencies operating in the state to adopt policies restricting the use of facial coverings, requiring visible identification including the officer's name or badge number, limiting immigration enforcement and sharing of immigration-related information, and establishing civil and criminal liability for violation of these policies.

It is the policy of the League of Women Voters to promote social and economic justice, equal rights and equal opportunity for all, and the health and safety of all Americans. Unfortunately, the current federal administration is actively working against every one of these values, including actively pursuing racist policies in immigration enforcement and federal employment and both verbal and physical attacks on the exercise of First Amendment rights. Thousands of people have been incarcerated, many without any due process. Shockingly poor conditions of incarceration have resulted in physical and emotional harm, and many preventable deaths. Unidentified, masked federal agents have invaded cities, abducting people off the street, attacking peaceful demonstrators, and killing citizens without justification.

Senate Bill 3322 SD2 seeks to protect against potential misconduct by limiting agents of law enforcement from hiding their faces and identity, prohibiting detentions without reasonable suspicion of immigration violations and prohibiting violation of the U.S. and Hawaii Constitutions by prolonging detentions in order to secure immigration status information. Hawaii is not alone in this effort. California enacted the "No Secret Police Act" and the "No Vigilantes Act" in 2025 to address the masking and identification issues underlying this bill. A Federal court has invalidated the masking part of these

laws, but only because they were worded so as to apply exclusively to federal agents, not state and county officers. There will be a new bill to correct this problem in California, but SB3322 SD2 already applies to federal, state and county law enforcement agencies alike, avoiding this potential pitfall.

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

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

The old adage is that “change is hard”. But State and County law enforcement **must** change to fulfill their mission to protect and serve - by protecting all of us from lawless federal agents.

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

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

Stephen Munkelt
League of Women Voters of Hawai'i (LWVH)



Committee: House Committee on Economic Development & Technology
Hearing Date/Time: Friday, March 20, 2026, at 9:30 AM
Place: Conference Room 423 & Videoconference
Re: **Testimony of the ACLU of Hawai'i in SUPPORT of SB 3322, SD2 Relating to Law Enforcement**

Dear Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey, and Committee Members:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i (ACLU-HI) writes in **support of SB 3322, SD2**, 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, SD2.

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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MARCH 20, 2026

SENATE BILL 3322 SD2

CURRENT REFERRAL: ECD

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Kris Coffield,
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David Negaard,
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Beatrice DeRego,
Director

Corey Rosenlee,
Director

Amy Zhao,
*Policy and Partnerships
Strategist*

POSITION: SUPPORT

Imua Alliance supports SB 3322 SD2, 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 IN SUPPORT OF SB3322, SD2 - RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

House Committee on Economic Development & Technology

Rep. Greggor Ilagan, Chair
Rep. Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 20, 2026 | Letter Date: March 19, 2026

Dear Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey, and Members of the Committees:

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

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

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

TLC acknowledges the amendments made in this measure include extending the masking exemption to plainclothes officers if they are within sight of another unmasked officer from the same agency while performing their duties. We note that the amendment may present implementation challenges and require additional training and internal guidance to prevent confusion. However, even as amended, SB3322, SD2 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-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2026 1:23:30 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Support this bill please. Sorry ICE ruined it for everyone, but don't let law enforcement cover their faces anymore. Thank you!

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2026 1:43:02 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mariana Monasi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in strong support for bill SB3322. We have seen fascism spread in our own communities as children and teachers were kidnapped by so called federal agents, and we have seen tens of thousands of everyday people be assaulted and trafficked by literal nazis and insurrectionists who were pardoned. This disgusting treatment of hard working people has been facilitated by the lack of accountability of these alleged agents, because they have been allowed to cover their faces, break into people's homes without warrants, and because they continually and illegally change the plates on the cars they drive. By supporting this bill- and enforcing it when it becomes law, the state is creating a barrier for abuse by the white supremacists signing unconstitutional executive orders that take months to fight in court. Please support this bill, and help keep Hawaii residents safe, and keep law enforcement accountable to their actions.

Mahalo for putting our residents safety first by supporting this bill.

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2026 8:42:42 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 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.

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/16/2026 10:53:19 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dwight T. Martin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a Hawaii resident, a registered voter, and a member of IndivisibleHawaii. I am writing in strong support of SB2203 (or SB3322). I am in favor of creating a new misdemeanor offense for the use of a mask or personal disguise by a law enforcement officer in the performance of their duties. Of course, there are limited exceptions to account for masking or hiding identity for health reasons, undercover work and certain circumstances involving safety of the officer.

I do feel that there needs to be an amendment which states 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.

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 12:38:13 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support this bill.

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 10:49:35 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Dear Chair Ilagan, Vice-Chair Hussey, and Committee Members:

My name is Rev. Amy Wake, pastor of Wesley United Methodist Church in Kahala and I strongly support SB 3322, SD2, which bans extreme masking by law enforcement, requires that officers visibly identify themselves, and limits state and county law enforcement’s cooperation with federal immigration enforcement.

In Minnesota and throughout the continent, we have witnessed the growing police force that the Trump administration is building employ secret police 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.

We are all less safe when masked agents are in our streets. When people fear law enforcement, they are less likely to report crimes, seek help, or cooperate with law enforcement. Additionally, 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. 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.

We believe that this legislation is a step towards real community safety and trust. It is our kuleana to protect our neighbors' right to live without fear.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Rev. Amy Wake

pastoramywake@gmail.com

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 10:55:51 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sam Guckenheimer	Kona Indivisible	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SB2203 (or SB3322) both personally and as the Lead of Kona Indivisible. This bill creates a new misdemeanor offense for the use of a mask or personal disguise by a law enforcement officer in the performance of their duties. 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.

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 11:17:04 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 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-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 11:18:05 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Danielle Goren	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB3322 SD2: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT – DANIELLE GOREN

Dear Chair Ilagan, Vice-Chair Hussey, and Committee Members:

My name is Danielle Goren and I am submitting my testimony in **strong support of SB 3322, SD2**, as an individual, and as a member of the Indivisible Hawai'i State Network (IHSN), and the ACLU. SB 3322 would ban extreme masking by law enforcement, requires that officers visibly identify themselves, and limits state and county law enforcement's cooperation with federal immigration enforcement.

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. Masked agents have terrorized the public, detaining a five-year-old boy, shooting and killing two U.S. citizens, raiding churches, utilizing teargas on peaceful protesters which include children and the elderly, sexually assaulting people they have in detention...the list of atrocities multiplying exponentially each day. During nearly all of these events the presumed agents are masked, with no identifying badge or tag. They are acting with impunity heightened by anonymity the masks afford, violating basic human rights and showing a gross disrespect for our Constitution and bedrock principles of liberty and justice for all. This is how secret police under authoritarianism operate; not legitimate, accountable law enforcement in a democracy.

The inconsistency of masked agents with our democratic constitutional principles was outlined by Ronald Reagan-appointed judge, Honorable William G. Young, United States District Court, District of Massachusetts, in his decision in *American Association of University Professors v. Rubio*,[\[1\]](#) issued last year:

And there's the issue of masks. This Court has listened carefully to the reasons given by Öztürk's captors for masking- up and has heard the same reasons advanced by the defendant Todd Lyons, Acting Director of ICE. It rejects this testimony as disingenuous, squalid and dishonorable. **ICE goes masked for a single reason -- to terrorize Americans into quiescence. Small wonder ICE often seems to need our respected military to guard them as they go about implementing our immigration laws. It should be noted that our troops do not ordinarily wear masks. Can you imagine a masked marine? It is a matter of honor -- and honor still matters. To us, masks are associated with**

cowardly desperados and the despised Ku Klux Klan. In all our history we have never tolerated an armed masked secret police. Carrying on in this fashion, ICE brings indelible obloquy to this administration and everyone who works in it. “We can not escape history,” Lincoln rightly said. “[It] will light us down in honor or dishonor, to the latest generation.” Abraham Lincoln, Second Annual Message to Congress (Dec. 1, 1862).

Perhaps we're now afraid to stick our necks out. If the distinguished Homeland Security intelligence agency can be weaponized to squelch the free speech rights of a small, hapless group of non-citizens in our midst, so too can the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, and the audit divisions of the I.R.S. and the Social Security Administration be unconstitutionally weaponized against the President's ever growing list of “enemies” or opponents he “hates” notwithstanding that political persecution is anathema to our Constitution and everything for which America stands.

Finally, perhaps we don't much care. After all, these Plaintiffs, a group of non-citizen pro-Palestinians are relatively small compared to the much larger interest groups who have every right vigorously to espouse the cause of the State of Israel. Palestine is far away and its people are caught up in the horrors of a modern war with heavy ordinance wreaking massive indiscriminate destruction, a war that is not one of our making. Why should we care about the free speech rights of their compatriots here among us?

Here's why:

The United [S]tates is a great nation, not because any of us say so. It is great because we still practice our frontier tradition of selflessness for the good of us all. Strangers go out of their way to help strangers when they see a need. In times of fire, flood, and national disaster, everyone pitches in to help people we've never met and first responders selflessly risk their lives for others. Hundreds of firefighters rushed into the Twin Towers on 9/11 without hesitation desperate to find and save survivors. That's who we are. And on distant battlefields our military “fought and died for the men [they] marched among.” Frank Loesser, “The Ballad of Roger Young”, LIFE, 5 March 1945, at 117.

Each day, I recognize (to paraphrase Lincoln again) that the brave men and women, living and dead, who have struggled in our Nation's service have hallowed our Constitutional freedom far above my (or anyone's) poor power to add or detract. The only Constitutional rights upon which we can depend are those we extend to the weakest and most reviled among us.[\[2\]](#)

SB3322 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. They are a critical piece of our State's preparations for dealing with a lawless federal government. This is a small step to returning law enforcement in Hawaii to public

scrutiny and legal accountability. Masking “isn’t about any typical policing concerns, such as safety. It’s about a symbol – a way to wear utter contempt for democratic institutions and the rule of law right there on your face.”^[3] We are all less safe when masked agents terrorize our streets. When the people fear law enforcement, they are less likely to report crimes, seek help, or cooperate with 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. Moreover, not only does this lack of identification make it difficult to identify the perpetrators of constitutional violations, community terror, and aggressive, illegal tactics.

Additionally, it is vital that we 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 must ensure our law enforcement agencies do not support this gross federal overreach. Our Hawai’i dollars should not be used in such a way to terrorize our communities.

Again, I thank you for the opportunity to testify, and I thank you for your commitment to our democracy.

Respectfully,

Danielle Goren

Lahaina

^[1] Civ. A. No. 25-10685-WGY (D. Mass. Sep. 30, 2025), access at <https://docs.justia.com/cases/federal/district-courts/massachusetts/madce/1:2025cv10685/282460/261>

^[2] *Id.*, at pp. 98-100 (emphasis added).

^[3] Danny Westneat, *The real meaning of those ICE masks, as blurted out in a WA hearing*, The Seattle Times, Jan. 28, 2026, <https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/politics/the-real-meaning-of-those-ice-masks-as-blurted-out-in-a-wa-hearing/>

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 11:31:52 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

We are not a nation of masked thugs employed by federal and local law enforcement agencies which are funded by public dollars.

Let us require that people whose oaths are to protect and serve us and our nation proudly display their identities.

Thank you for accepting my testimony in support of SB3322.

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 11:38:26 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrew Perez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Ilagan, Vice-Chair Hussey, and Committee Members:

My name is Andrew Perez and I strongly support SB 3322, SD2, which bans extreme masking by law enforcement, requires that officers visibly identify themselves, and limits state and county law enforcement’s cooperation with federal immigration enforcement.

In Minnesota and throughout the continent, we have witnessed the growing police force that the Trump administration is building employ secret police 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.

We are all less safe when masked agents are in our streets. When people fear law enforcement, they are less likely to report crimes, seek help, or cooperate with law enforcement. Additionally, 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. 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.

We believe that this legislation is a step towards real community safety and trust. It is our kuleana to protect our neighbors' right to live without fear.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Andrew Perez

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 11:55:08 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Collat	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).

I wish this bill was not necessary, but we've seen the horrendous impacts when federal forces are wielded by an autocrat without regard for the law or for basic human decency. Clearly, additional guardrails are required to mitigate the effects of federal overreach in our our state. Our law enforcement bodies are the ultimate example of government "of, by, and for the people." They work for the people and serve the people by maintaining the security of our neighborhoods based on rules of behavior we have all (through our elected representatives) collectively agreed to. They are not secret police or mafia-style goon squads meant to enforce loyalty to an autocratic ruler. This bill aims to remove one of the key tactics used recently by federal forces operating in goon squadmode.

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.

Aloha,

Michael Collat, Honolulu

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 11:59:47 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I strongly support SB 3322, SD2, which bans extreme masking by law enforcement, requires that officers visibly identify themselves, and limits state and county law enforcement’s cooperation with federal immigration enforcement.

In Minnesota and throughout the continent, we have witnessed the growing police force that the Trump administration is building employ secret police 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.

We are all less safe when masked agents are in our streets. When people fear law enforcement, they are less likely to report crimes, seek help, or cooperate with law enforcement. Additionally, 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. 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.

We believe that this legislation is a step towards real community safety and trust. It is our kuleana to protect our neighbors’ right to live without fear.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 12:06:21 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jason Lewis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB3322 SD2: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT

Dear Chair Ilagan, Vice-Chair Hussey, and Committee Members:

My name is Jason Lewis and I am submitting my testimony in **strong support of SB 3322, SD2**, as an individual, and as a member of the Indivisible Hawai'i State Network (IHSN), and the ACLU. SB 3322 would ban extreme masking by law enforcement, requires that officers visibly identify themselves, and limits state and county law enforcement's cooperation with federal immigration enforcement.

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. Masked agents have terrorized the public, detaining a five-year-old boy, shooting and killing two U.S. citizens, raiding churches, utilizing teargas on peaceful protesters which include children and the elderly, sexually assaulting people they have in detention...the list of atrocities multiplying exponentially each day. During nearly all of these events the presumed agents are masked, with no identifying badge or tag. They are acting with impunity heightened by anonymity the masks afford, violating basic human rights and showing a gross disrespect for our Constitution and bedrock principles of liberty and justice for all. This is how secret police under authoritarianism operate; not legitimate, accountable law enforcement in a democracy.

SB3322 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. They are a critical piece of our State's preparations for dealing with a lawless federal government. This is a small step to returning law enforcement in Hawaii to public scrutiny and legal accountability. Masking "isn't about any typical policing concerns, such as safety. It's about a symbol – a way to wear utter contempt for democratic institutions and the rule

of law right there on your face.” We are all less safe when masked agents terrorize our streets. When the people fear law enforcement, they are less likely to report crimes, seek help, or cooperate with 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. Moreover, not only does this lack of identification make it difficult to identify the perpetrators of constitutional violations, community terror, and aggressive, illegal tactics.

Additionally, it is vital that we 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 must ensure our law enforcement agencies do not support this gross federal overreach. Our Hawai’i dollars should not be used in such a way to terrorize our communities.

Again, I thank you for the opportunity to testify, and I thank you for your commitment to our democracy.

Respectfully,

Jason Lewis

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 12:57:44 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Pamela Elders	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Chair Ilagan, Vice-Chair Hussey, and Committee Members:

My name is Pamela Elders and I am writing to you to express my strong support for SB 3322, SD2, which bans extreme masking by law enforcement, requires that officers visibly identify themselves, and limits state and county law enforcement’s cooperation with federal immigration enforcement. This is a prudent pre-emptive action given what we have witnessed in other states.

The Trump administration is building its own police force which has used secret police tactics, including ordering masked law enforcement agencies and military troops into cities. In Hawai‘i, we have seen this occur – in Kaua‘i, for example.

We are all less safe when masked agents are in our streets; we have witnessed this in New York, Minneapolis, and other cities. Additionally, the illegal acts of the Trump troops undermines the trust and reliance of residents on our local police forces which actually do make our communities safer.

Our local law enforcement must not be co-opted into federal law enforcement operations that take our neighbors away from their families and hurt our communities. Our state and local policies must ensure our law enforcement agencies do not support this gross federal overreach.

I believe that this legislation is a step towards real community safety and trust. Our neighbors’ right to live without fear must be protected.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Pamela Elders

Laupahoehoe HI 96764

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 1:03:59 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha,

Pleae pass this Bill

Mahalo

Larry Smith

Indivisible

HD 27

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 2:19:32 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I am a resident of the City & County of Honolulu and support this Bill.

Please approve the Bill

Mahalo

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 3:33:59 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carla Allison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Ilagan, Vice-Chair Hussey, and Committee Members:

My name is Carla Allison, and I **strongly support SB 3322, SD2**, banning extreme masking by law enforcement, requiring officers to visibly identify themselves, and limiting our state and county law enforcement’s cooperation with federal immigration enforcement.

I am a Hawai’i resident and voter, deeply concerned for the care and treatment of our immigrant communities as well as the public safety and civil liberties of all the people of Hawai’i.

I support SB3322 SD2 because throughout our country we are witnessing the growing police force that the current administration is building. We’ve seen the secret police tactics, including ordering masked law enforcement agencies and military troops into cities. We’ve seen federal agents taking our own immigrant neighbors on Kaua’i.

SB3322 SD2 will prevent our local law enforcement from being co-opted into federal law enforcement operations. Our state and local policies must ensure our law enforcement agencies do not support gross federal overreach happening in our country

SB3322 SD2 is a step towards real community safety and trust.

Please support and pass SB3322 SD2.

Mahalo,

Carla Allison - Honolulu

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 3:58:04 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mimi Beams	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.

Thank you,

Mimi

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 4:32:48 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha e Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey, and Members of the Committee,

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of this critical measure.

This measure is a thoughtful, common-sense step toward strengthening trust between our communities and law enforcement. At its core, SB3322 SD2 advances transparency, accountability, and fairness—values that are essential to ensuring public safety in Hawai‘i.

Requiring officers to be visibly identifiable while engaging with the public is a basic but critical standard. It promotes accountability, reduces confusion, and helps foster safer, more respectful interactions. When community members know who they are engaging with, it builds confidence and supports de-escalation.

Equally important, this bill establishes clear statewide guardrails to prevent prolonged detention or questioning based solely on a person’s immigration status. By ensuring that law enforcement interactions remain focused on actual criminal activity, SB3322 helps prevent racial and ethnic profiling while reinforcing that our public safety systems should serve and protect everyone.

When individuals feel safe engaging with law enforcement—whether to report a crime, seek help, or serve as a witness—our entire community is stronger and safer. This measure supports that foundation of trust.

Finally, we have seen on the continent how blurred lines between local law enforcement and federal immigration enforcement, particularly with ICE, involvement can erode trust and create fear in communities. We cannot allow those dynamics to take root here in Hawai‘i.

For these reasons, I urge the committee to pass this critical measure.

Me ka ha'aha'a,

Chevelle Dava

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 5:49:19 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 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.

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.

Gail Morrison

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 7:12:35 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David S Cotner	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 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.

Respectfully,

David S. Cotner

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 9:19:47 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jesse Hutchison	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you!

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 9:42:44 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 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-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 9:50:30 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

I very strongly support SB3322. I retired after serving as a police officer for 34 years and find it utterly disgusting that a police officer hides their identity from the public they are accountable to. A professional police officer is proud of the work they do. Any police officer afraid of the public should not be in law enforcement.

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/17/2026 9:50:45 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Chair Ilagan, Vice-Chair Hussey, and ECD Committee Members,

As a citizen concerned with safety in Hawai‘i, I write in **strong support of SB3322 SD2**, which bans extreme masking by law enforcement, requires that officers visibly identify themselves, and limits state and county law enforcement’s cooperation with federal immigration enforcement.

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

We are all less safe when masked agents are in our streets. When people fear law enforcement, they are less likely to report crimes, seek help, or cooperate with law enforcement. Additionally, 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. 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.

We believe that this legislation is a step towards real community safety and trust. It is our kuleana to protect our neighbors’ right to live without fear.

Mahalo,

Thaddeus Pham

Sincerely,

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 12:37:02 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 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.

Thank you,

Aimee McCullough

Indivisible Hawaii

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 4:29:57 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

In support

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 4:35:25 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Thank you

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 5:56:10 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

No masks! Show aloha.

Mahalo, Maile from Honolulu

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 8:33:55 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Andrea Schmidt	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. I support this bill because I oppose the idea of having secret police. There are limited exceptions to account for masking or hiding identity for health reasons, undercover work and certain circumstances involving safety of the officer. 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 matter,

Andrea Schmidt

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 8:45:44 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
David Cuthbert	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.

We've all watched video evidence of aggressive, heavily armed federal agents snatching people off the street, subjecting them to excessive force, and committing unjustified killings all while being masked.

Senate Bill 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 ask for an amendment to Section 2 (4)(a) regarding use of a medical or N95 mask that lays out a limitation to only when and where there is an airborne public health risk.

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

David Cuthbert, Pahoa

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 9:41:04 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marcela Montalto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill.

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 10:07:07 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Donna Sue Shepherd	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

PROTECT OUR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS!!

MAHALO

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 11:58:47 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

It burns me to think it should be legal for strangers, unidentified by name and affiliation and hidden by masks, to detain and otherwise affect our freedom. It's ridiculous and unAmerican. I strongly support this bill for aloha in Hawaii.

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 12:04:25 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 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-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 12:16:45 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cheryl Bellamy	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.

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 1:16:58 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Denize Machit	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 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.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important bill.

Denize Machit

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TECHNOLOGY

Rep. Greggor Ilagan, Chair

Rep. Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

HEARING:

Friday, March 20, 2026 at 9:30 am

Via Videoconference and Conference Room 423

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

Aloha Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey, Rep. Yamashita of Maui, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Christine Andrews and I am a long-term resident of Wailuku, Maui. I am also an attorney licensed in the state of Hawaii for over 25 years and a founding coalition member of El Pueblo en Acción (EPA) Maui — The People in Action Maui. I am writing in **strong support of SB3322, SD2**, 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 use of a mask or facial covering by a law enforcement officer, 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 in social media of aggressive, untrained, and violent unmasked, unbadged persons attacking citizens and noncitizens alike is eroding trust in law enforcement and our government. In my capacity as a volunteer educator, I have heard concerns that victims of sexual and domestic violence, some of our most vulnerable community members, are afraid to call local law enforcement for assistance because they now do not trust law enforcement. I have heard from health care providers that fear of lawless, violent, unmasked and unidentified persons is making people afraid to leave their homes to seek necessary medical care.

As a lawyer with an understanding of the Constitution and who has taken an oath to uphold it and the rule of law, what I am witnessing nationwide is chilling. Seeing images of the murder of people engaged in lawful, constitutionally-protected activity has impacted my mental health. As a woman and mother, I am afraid of being targeted by unmasked, unbadged government agents or imposters. I am afraid that they will take my picture and find out who I am, where I live, and come to my house and harm not just myself but my loved ones. Recently during a training I was conducting, an audience member asked what constitutional observers like me can do to protect themselves from being targeted by federal agents. I said that there really is not much we can do other than rely on our community, document the truth, and hope that the courts and the law will protect us as we peaceably engage in constitutionally-protected activity. Our fear is justified based on the unlawful and violent behavior we are witnessing from federal agents. That is why bills like this are so important.

Federal agents take photos of people and use name-recognition software to identify them. They take photos of license plates to learn the identity of and track constitutional observers as well as noncitizens.

I would ask that this bill be amended to ensure that law enforcement does not share license-plate identifying or tracking technology data with federal agents engaged in civil immigration enforcement. It would be one protective step that could help protect not just me, I have chosen to assume the risk, but my family members who live with me. I should not have to fear hostile and lawless agents tracking my activities and endangering the community members I serve. The goal of the administration is to frighten people into silence. I almost hesitated to submit testimony in support of this bill for fear of retaliation. This is how far we have fallen in the direction of authoritarianism, that people like me fear speaking up for basic, civil protections such as unmasked and properly-identified federal agents. Fortunately, I am not alone. Recently, over 200,000 people participated in the No Kings Coalition held an Eyes on ICE: Document and Record national training call and over 30,000 people have been trained as constitutional-observers in Minnesota since the federal “surge” there.

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

I request that you support SB 3322, SD2 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-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 1:17:37 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
DeWaine Tollefsrud	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I will make this brief. I am in strong support of demasking law enforcement officers when they are engaged in their duties. All need to be accountable for their actions and not use fear inducing intimidation tactics such as masking provides.

Mahalo,

DeWaine Tollefsrud, Keaau, HI

Testimony in SUPPORT of SB3322 SD2

Committee on Economic Development & Technology

Representative Greggor Ilagan, Chair
Representative Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 20, 2026

Dear Chair Greggor Ilagan, Vice Chair Ikaika Hussey, and members of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology,

My name is Jeremiah Brown, and I submit this testimony in **support of SB3322 SD2**, 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 teacher who works with immigrant and migrant students and I am testifying as an individual. In recent months, we have witnessed scenes of masked, anonymous law enforcement agents violently detaining people with no due process or regard for their Constitutional rights. If this were happening in another country, we would call it what it is- a secret police force for a totalitarian regime, something that goes against the founding principles of our nation.

SB3322 SD2 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 SD2**.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,
Jeremiah Brown
Waialua, Oahu

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 1:43:27 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Yuko Ida	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.

Yuko Ida

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 1:52:04 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
ginger edmunds	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

No masking by law enforcement, our law enforcement should be accountable.

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 2:16:47 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in strong favor of SB3322 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-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 2:17:51 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Aloha Representative Greggor Ilagan, Chair; Representative Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology (ECD)

I am a retired physician, a resident of Kapolei, and a member of the Indivisible Hawai`i Statewide Network. I am writing to submit testimony in strong support of SB3322 SD2, which requires visible identification by law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits the use of improper facial coverings (with certain exceptions), requires state and county agencies to establish written policies on cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, and prohibits officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person’s civil immigration status. SD2 also establishes criminal offenses for violations of these requirements.

SB3322 SD2 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. This is especially true for immigrant and mixed-status families who may be unable to tell the difference between state officers and federal civil immigration agents during an encounter. Clear identification standards protect residents and also protect responsible officers by reducing misunderstandings and supporting 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 written agency policies governing cooperation with federal enforcement. The SD2 amendment adds criminal offenses for violations, ensuring these protections have real teeth, not just aspirational language. The companion House bill HB2540 has already passed the House, making this the right moment for ECD to advance SB3322 SD2 forward.

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully,

Robert L. Justice, M.D.

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 2:46:37 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nancy J. Budd	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Nancy J. Budd

njbudd@gmail.com

March 18, 2026

Testimony In **SUPPORT** of **SB3322 SD2**

Committee on Economic Development & Technology

Representative Greggor Ilagan, Chair

Representative Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 20, 2026

9:30 a.m.

Aloha Chair Greggor, Vice Chair Hussey, and members of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology,

I am writing to express my strong **support of SB3322 SD2**, which requires visible identification by law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits the use of improper facial coverings (with certain exceptions), requires state and county agencies to establish written policies on cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, and prohibits officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person's civil immigration status. SD2 also establishes criminal offenses for violations of these requirements.

I am a retired Hawai'i attorney, having practiced law on at the island of Kaua'i for forty years, working in myriad ways to promote fairness and access to justice,

SB3322 SD2 is one of the most important pieces of legislation this session. We have witnessed purported federal law enforcement officers across the nation wearing masks and providing no

identification or court-ordered warrants. In some cases the officers appear to *de facto* kidnap the target. These tactics are meant to intimidate and traumatize. Ensuring officers are identifiable during public-facing enforcement strengthens public trust and trust in the rule of law. When people cannot identify who is appearing to exercise authority, fear and confusion increase — and the risk of abuse or impersonation grows. This is especially true for immigrant and mixed-status families who may be unable to tell the difference between state officers and federal civil immigration agents during an encounter.

Clear identification standards protect residents and also protect responsible officers by reducing misunderstandings and supporting 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 written agency policies governing cooperation with federal enforcement. The SD2 amendment adds criminal offenses for violations — ensuring these protections have real teeth, not just aspirational language.

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Nancy J. Budd

**Testimony of Wendy Naomi Sodetani
In SUPPORT of SB3322 SD2**

Committee on Economic Development & Technology

Representative Greggor Ilagan, Chair
Representative Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 20, 2026

Dear Chair Greggor Ilagan, Vice Chair Ikaika Hussey, and members of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology,

My name is **Wendy Naomi Sodetani**, and I submit this testimony in **support of SB3322 SD2**, which requires visible identification by law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits the use of improper facial coverings (with certain exceptions), requires state and county agencies to establish written policies on cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, and prohibits officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person's civil immigration status. SD2 also establishes criminal offenses for violations of these requirements.

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 decades-long career as a professional journalist, I have been committed to uphold community participation and media vigilance in reporting on governmental decisions and actions, to compel transparency and to protect the civil rights, safety and wellbeing of all community members.

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 SD2 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. This is especially true for immigrant and mixed-status families who may be unable to tell the difference between state officers and federal civil immigration agents during an encounter. Clear identification standards protect residents and also protect responsible officers by reducing misunderstandings and supporting 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 written agency policies governing cooperation with federal enforcement. The SD2 amendment adds criminal offenses for violations — ensuring these protections have real teeth, not just aspirational language. The companion House bill HB2540 has already passed the House, making this the right moment for ECD to advance SB3322 SD2 forward.

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

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

March 18, 2026

To: Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey, and Members of House Committee on Economic Development and Technology

Re: SUPPORT SB 3322D2

Hearing: Friday, March 20, 2026 — 9:30 AM

Aloha Chair Ilagan, Vice Chair Hussey, 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 3322D2. 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 amendments made in the Draft 2 version. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

John M. Knox
Waimānalo
Johnmknox808@gmail.com

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 5:23:41 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jim Klyman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

There is absolutely no reason for an officer's identity needs to remain undisclosed during a public interaction. This is especially true when there is the clear appearance of being personally abducted by unknown assailants. ID badges and name plates must be displayed during these actions or no one can be certain they are not being abducted by unofficial means.

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 5:41:00 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Linda Morgan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB3322 SD2. No law enforcement official should be allowed to wear a mask. ICE wears masks to terrorize Americans and to protect its cruel agents from being identified. Please pass this bill so that at least in Hawaii, ICE agents cannot wear masks.

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 6:38:33 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 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 SD2, 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 SD2 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 SD2.

Mahalo

Jen Lum, 'Ewa Beach

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 7:16:40 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

We are writing in support of SB3322. It is in the best interest of our constituents to ensure agents are identifiable in multiple ways. Considering the uptick in ICE activity over the past year, it is also important that Hawai'i establishes clear policies regarding how federal immigration enforcement is allowed to act in our state, and that law enforcement officers cannot prolong a stop to inquire about someone's civil immigration status, which is unconstitutional according to Rodriguez vs. The United States. Mahalo in advance for ensuring transparency in law enforcement operation in Hawai'i.

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 7:49:24 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Badia Muhammad	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing in support of SB3322. It is in the best interest of our constituents to ensure agents are identifiable in multiple ways. Considering the uptic in ICE activity over the past year, it is also important that Hawai'i establishes clear policies regarding how federal immigration enforcement is allowed to act in our state, and that law enforcement officers cannot prolong a stop to inquire about someone's civil immigration status, which is unconstitutional according to *Rodriquez vs. The United States*. Mahalo in advance for ensuring transparency in law enforcement operation in Hawai'i.

Badia Muhammad

Honolulu, Hawaii

Eileen Cain
720 Mahi'ai St., Apt. E
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96826-5635
eileencaïn808@gmail.com
March 18, 2026

Representative Gregor Ilagan, Chair, Committee on Economic Development & Technology
Representative Ikaika Hussey, Vice-Chair
and Members of the House Committee on Economic Development & Technology

Aloha, Representatives,

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

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

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

Due Process is also guaranteed under the Constitution for everyone. If anyone is denied due process, then everyone could lose their right to due process. We are all at risk. Everyone has a right to legal counsel and a chance to plead their case, just as Donald Trump himself had when he was charged with crimes. He always had due process. Everyone needs due process.

Please vote for **SB3322 SD2.**

Mahalo,

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

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/18/2026 8:15:36 PM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brett Kulbis	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Ilagan and Committee Members,

My name is Brett Kulbis, I'm a 26yr retired Navy Veteran, who took a solemn oath to defend the Constitution from all enemies foreign and domestic, and that oath didn't expire when I retired. I live in Ewa Beach.

I STRONGLY OPPOSE BILL SB-3322 SD2.

As a veteran, this bill is offensive and dangerous! I served in uniform in environments where the line between safety and catastrophe can be razor thin. We were trained to balance mission, accountability, and protection of both our people and the public. This bill reads like it was written by people who have never had to run toward danger, never had to worry if they will make it home to their families after a shift or a patrol.

SB-3322 SD2 effectively criminalizes officers for protecting themselves and each other in volatile situations by turning the use of certain facial coverings into a misdemeanor offense. It second-guesses tactical decisions from the Capitol building instead of trusting trained professionals on the ground who, like soldiers, have to make split-second calls in life-threatening circumstances.

Criminalizing protective gear is ridiculous! The bill creates a new crime, "Use of a mask or facial covering by a law enforcement officer," if an officer wears a covering that conceals facial identity while interacting with the public, with only narrow exceptions. In the military, we understand that visibility can mean vulnerability; we used protective equipment, including face coverings, in situations involving hazardous substances, crowd control, or high-risk operations. To threaten officers with a misdemeanor for wearing gear that might protect them or their families from being targeted later is not just bad policy, it is absurd.

The bill claims that "generalized and undifferentiated fear and apprehension about law enforcement officer safety shall not be sufficient" to justify facial coverings. Anyone who has actually stood a post, deployed, or responded to a hostile situation knows you rarely get the luxury of "specific" threats neatly spelled out ahead of time. You prepare for the worst because that is how you prevent tragedy, not by waiting until there is a dead officer to justify basic protective measures.

SB-3322 SD2 also creates the new offense of “Unauthorized civil immigration interrogation, arrest, or detention,” making it a misdemeanor if an officer, acting under color of law, questions, detains, or arrests someone about civil immigration status without “reasonable suspicion” they are unlawfully present, as defined by a long list of limitations. It also restricts state and county participation in civil immigration enforcement at schools, health facilities, shelters, courthouses, and places of worship, with only narrow exceptions.

As a veteran, I was taught that security relies on coordination, not fragmentation. This bill erects legal minefields between local officers and federal authorities, especially Immigration and Customs Enforcement. It tells officers: “If you misjudge a complicated immigration situation in the field, we might charge you with a crime.” That is a recipe for hesitation, confusion, and uneven enforcement — and criminals will exploit that hesitation.

The bill requires every law enforcement agency, including federal agencies operating in the state, to adopt detailed written policies on facial coverings, visible identification, vehicle markings, civil immigration enforcement, and immigration status inquiries by July 1, 2027. It prescribes what counts as “reasonable suspicion,” where enforcement can occur, what data can be collected or shared, and how officers must respond when notified of ICE activity, including mandatory body-camera monitoring of federal agents.

From a veteran’s perspective, this is micromanagement at its worst. We would never have accepted legislators dictating, from thousands of miles away, how we could wear our protective gear, who we could coordinate with, or what level of threat justified certain equipment. Yet that is exactly what this bill does to our local and federal law enforcement professionals on island.

The opening findings of the bill focus on “fear, intimidation, and public distrust” caused by masks and a desire for visible identification and clearly marked vehicles. Of course transparency matters. As a veteran, I believe in accountability and the rule of law. But this bill goes far beyond transparency; it elevates optics over officer safety and operational effectiveness.

There are legitimate reasons for officers not to have their identities and faces fully exposed in every single interaction:

- Threats to officers’ families from gangs or cartels.
- Long-term undercover work that can be compromised by one recorded encounter.
- High-risk crowd situations where officers can be individually targeted later online or in person.

In the service, we did not send people into harm’s way stripped of gear just because someone might feel intimidated by seeing a helmet or mask. We accepted that safety gear can look intimidating, and we trained and supervised our people instead of stripping them of protection.

Finally, this draft sets an effective date of March 22, 2075, a date so far in the future that it is clearly a placeholder. From a citizen and veteran’s view, that signals that even its authors know the bill is not ready for prime time but are pushing a radical framework anyway to score political points. Our officers, our communities, and our legal immigrant neighbors deserve serious,

balanced policy, not symbolic gestures that criminalize the very people we ask to run toward danger.

As someone who has worn a uniform and understands what it means to accept risk for the sake of others, I find this bill deeply misguided and frankly insulting to those who serve. It undermines officer safety, chills cooperation with federal partners, criminalizes split-second tactical decisions, and prioritizes optics over real-world security.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to vote NO or defer indefinitely SB-3322 SD2 and reject this attempt to legislate tactical gear and immigration enforcement from behind a desk.

Mahalo,

Brett Kulbis
U.S. Navy Retired

Testimony of Barbara Tom
Committee on Economic Development & Technology

Representative Greggor Ilagan, Chair
Representative Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: March 20, 2026

Dear Chair Greggor Ilagan, Vice Chair Ikaika Hussey, and members of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology,

My name is Barbara Tom and I submit this testimony in **support of SB3322 SD2**, which requires visible identification by law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits the use of improper facial coverings (with certain exceptions), requires state and county agencies to establish written policies on cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, and prohibits officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person's civil immigration status. SD2 also establishes criminal offenses for violations of these requirements.

As the Director of the Waipahu Safe Haven Immigrant/Migrant Resource Center, I testify on behalf of the migrants and immigrants we serve in Waipahu. Although many of the families we work with are legal residents of Hawai'i, they are living in fear of deportation due to what they are seeing in news media across the United States. This fear is real and impacts their willingness to seek essential services, including healthcare, education, and emergency assistance.

SB3322 SD2 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. This is especially true for immigrant and mixed-status families who may be unable to tell the difference between state officers and federal civil immigration agents during an encounter. Clear identification standards protect residents and also protect responsible officers by reducing misunderstandings and supporting 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 written agency policies governing cooperation with federal enforcement. The SD2 amendment adds criminal offenses for violations — ensuring these protections have real teeth, not just aspirational language. The companion House bill HB2540 has already passed the House, making this the right moment for ECD to advance SB3322 SD2 forward.

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

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,
Barbara Tom, Director Waipahu Safe Haven Immigrant/Migrant Resource Center

To: Representative Greggor Ilagan, Chair
Representative Ikaika Hussey, Vice Chair
Committee on Economic Development & Technology

From: Veronica Moore, Individual Citizen

Date: March 19, 2026

RE: Senate Bill 3322 SD2
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 SD2. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Veronica M. Moore

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/19/2026 6:35:12 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dawn Wakukawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Pls make common sense common law. Everyone needs to be held accountable for their actions. HPD is notorious for bad actors. Pls pass this so the fair, honest cops can also do their jobs as well. I support HPD AND transparency!

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/19/2026 7:04:02 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Noelle Lindenmann	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Members:

I am writing in support of SB3322. It is in the best interested of constituents to ensure all federal agents are identifiable in multiple ways. Considering the uptick in ICE and federal agent activity over the past year, it is also important that Hawaii establishes clear policies regarding how federal immigration enforcement is allowed to act in our state, and that law enforcement offices cannot prolong a stop to inquire about someone's civil immigration status. This is unconstitutional according to Rodriguez vs The United States.

Thank you in advance for ensuring transparency in law enforcement operation in Hawaii.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Noelle Lindenmann, Kailua-Kona

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/19/2026 7:38:28 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 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.

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, Indivisible

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/19/2026 8:00:29 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
janet Matlock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Greggor Ilagan, Vice Chair Ikaika Hussey, and members of the Committee on Economic Development & Technology,

I am in strong support of SB3322, which requires visible identification by law enforcement officers and their vehicles, limits the use of improper facial coverings (with certain exceptions), requires state and county agencies to establish written policies on cooperation with federal civil immigration enforcement, and prohibits officers from prolonging a stop to inquire about a person's civil immigration status. I support criminal offense prosecution for violations of these requirements.

Mahalo for passing this legislation, which will strengthen public safety and trust in our law enforcement.

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/19/2026 8:34:29 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

SUPPORT: SB 3322

Dear Senate ECD Committee Members:

My name is Peter Matlock (Hawai'i Island resident) and I strongly support S.B. 3322.

We should never have secret police that roam our streets anonymously, violating the law and our due process rights.

This bill is necessary to ban extreme masking by law enforcement, require officers to visibly identify themselves, and limit state and county law enforcement's cooperation with federal immigration enforcement.

We are all safer and we are a better community when law enforcement follows the law, there is accountability, and there is trust between law enforcement and the community.

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.

Please approve S.B. 3322.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Peter Matlock

SB-3322-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/19/2026 8:52:42 AM

Testimony for ECD on 3/20/2026 9:30:00 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, where there was little to no local law enforcement cooperation. Had the local police at least provided better crowd control, those two people might not have been shot. Perhaps the problem is with the people and leaders in Minneapolis, not ICE and BP. ICE and BP agents have worked in several other states/cities without tragic events.

Facial coverings, visible identifications and checking immigration status are not the problems. The lack of support from local law enforcement is the problem. They should work together to get the job done so ICE and BP can come and go quickly and without tragic incidents.

Table this bill and let cooler heads prevail.

Mahalo!