



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE, 2010**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 2289, RELATING TO CIVIL IDENTIFICATION.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

DATE: Thursday, January 28, 2010 **TIME:** 1:50 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 016

TESTIFIER(S): Mark J. Bennett, Attorney General, or
Lauren Uwaine, Hawaii Criminal Justice Data Center

Chair Chun Oakland and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General believes this bill is unnecessary.

This bill requires a nursing home administrator to make application for a state civil identification certificate on behalf of a resident of a nursing home who cannot appear in person due to infirmity.

The Department already has rules and procedures in place to address this issue. Hawaii Administrative Rules §5-22-9(b) permits renewal by mail for those with physical or mental disability who had a state civil identification certificate after November 1, 1998. We have further expanded our services by having staff available upon request to go to nursing or care home facilities to process applicants upon request of a family member or the operator of the facility. We have also gone to several senior facilities to process applicants.

We believe the procedures that we have in place and are currently using adequately address the needs of seniors who cannot appear in person.

We therefore respectfully ask the Committee to hold this bill.

**Testimony Presented Before
Senate Committee on Civil Identification
January 28, 2010
1:50 PM
Conference Room 16**

By

**Charles H. Turner, President, Resident Council of Maunalani Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
Lucille Rider, Vice President, Resident Council of Maunalani Nursing and Rehabilitation Center**

SB 2289, Relating to Civil Identification

Chair Oakland, Vice Chair Ihara, Jr., and Members of the Human Services Committee

January 27, 2010

Dear Chair Oakland and Vice Chair Ihara, Jr:

Despite the public perception that we, patients/residents in nursing homes are only wasting away our remaining time in solitary isolation, actually, we are active and eager to participate in affairs of the outside world. This includes our unalienable right to vote whenever elections are held. However, many of us do not have the proper identification card as required at polling places. We ask for a waiver of the requirement that we appear personally to apply for such a service.

We therefore, wholeheartedly, support the Bill introduced by Senator Les Ihara, Jr. and look forward to its eventual adoption.

Signed,

MAUNALANI NURSING AND REHABILITATION CENTER

Charles H. Turner
President, Resident Council

Lucille Rider
Vice President, Resident Council