

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT
235 S. BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-2437

February 23, 2012

**COMMENTS TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**

For Hearing on Friday, February 24, 2012
9:00 a.m., Conference Room 211

BY

BARBARA A. KRIEG
INTERIM DIRECTOR

**Senate Bill No. 2506, S.D. 1
Relating to Civil Identification**

WRITTEN COMMENTS ONLY

TO CHAIRPERSON IGE AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

The purpose of S.B. No. 2506, S.D. 1 is to transfer the non-driver's, or civil, identification program from the Department of the Attorney General to the Department of Transportation. The bill requires civil identification cards to be issued by the examiners of drivers in each county to comply with the federal REAL ID Act of 2005, P.L. 109-13, by January 1, 2013.

The Department of Human Resources Development has **comments** on the proposed transfer. Staff from the Department of Human Resources Development and staff of the Department of the Attorney General met to discuss the proposed transfer language. We are in agreement with the bill's transfer language with a correction (proposed additional language is underscored) to line 16 of Section 10 on page 21 to read:

“...functions are transferred to the department of transportation or the examiners of drivers of the respective counties pursuant to a plan approved by the state and the counties...”

Also, in lines 17 and 18 of Section 10 on page 22 to read:

“The director of transportation or the examiners of drivers of the respective counties pursuant to a plan approved by the state and counties...”

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments on this measure.

Council Chair
Danny A. Mateo

Vice-Chair
Joseph Pontanilla

Council Members
Gladys C. Baisa
Robert Carroll
Elle Cochran
Donald G. Couch, Jr.
G. Riki Hokama
Michael P. Victorino
Mike White

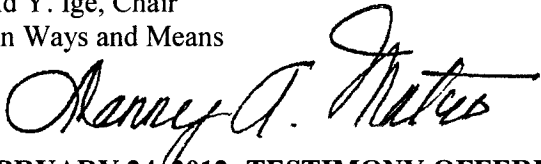


Director of Council Services
Ken Fukuoka

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.mauicounty.gov/council

February 23, 2012

TO: The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

FROM: Danny A. Mateo
Council Chair 

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 24, 2012; TESTIMONY OFFERING COMMENTS ON SB 2506, SD1, RELATING TO CIVIL IDENTIFICATION**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify and offer comments on this important measure. The purpose of this measure is to transfer the civil identification program from the Department of the Attorney General to the Department of Transportation, and to require civil identification cards to be issued by the examiners of drivers in each county. Consolidation of the driver's license and civil identification programs for the State, and the issuance of civil identification cards by county employees, would be implemented by January 15, 2013.

The Maui County Council has not had the opportunity to take a formal position on this measure. Therefore, I am providing these comments in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

My concern is financial. Requiring the counties to issue civil identification cards, in addition to driver's licenses, will add a significant financial burden on counties. County facilities handling the issuance of driver's licenses are already stretched; additional staffing will be needed and operational costs must be budgeted.

The measure contemplates the establishment of a special fund in the State treasury, which shall be the repository of all fees assessed for the processing and issuance of identification cards. In other words, the counties would do the work while the State would collect the fees. (Such a system is already in place where uncontested traffic fines are concerned, and the counties have yet to be permitted any portion of the proceeds.) In cases of extreme hardship, fees associated with the civil identification cards may be waived. Furthermore, the State Director of Transportation would have the discretion to determine the amount of reimbursement to the counties. Whether or not the program would pay for itself through the fees assessed is questionable, and even if it did, the counties have no assurance that their full share of the fees would be reimbursed. To the extent the program does not pay for itself, the measure makes no provision for the State to cover any shortfall.

Finally, while the measure provides for *reimbursement* to counties, it does not provide for up-front costs the counties will incur. I urge you to amend the measure by (1) providing the counties with funding to establish the program, not simply a mechanism for after-the-fact reimbursement; (2) providing for full funding for the cost of the program, irrespective of the amount of fees collected into the special fund; and (3) mandating funds for the full cost, rather than allowing simply for discretionary reimbursement.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit these comments on this measure.

DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMER SERVICES
CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU
DIVISION OF MOTOR VEHICLE, LICENSING AND PERMITS
ADMINISTRATION
P.O. BOX 30300
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96820-0300

PETER B. CARLISLE
MAYOR



GAIL Y. HARAGUCHI
DIRECTOR

DENNIS A. KAMIMURA
LICENSING ADMINISTRATOR

February 22, 2012

The Honorable David Y. Ige, Chair
and Committee Members
Committee on Ways and Means
The Senate
State of Hawaii
State Capitol, Room 215
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Ige and Committee Members:

Subject: S.B. No. 2506 SD1, Relating to Civil Identification

The City and County of Honolulu has no objections to S.B. No. 2506 SD1 which transfers the responsibility of issuing state identification cards to the county driver licensing offices.

We request a minor technical amendment to page 10, line 4: "READ ID-compliant driver's or commercial driver's license if a REAL ID-compliant identification card had been previously issued. This amendment is necessary to be in compliance with the federal requirement that only one REAL ID compliant credential (driver license or identification card) may be issued to an individual.

Since the required documents and processing procedures for issuance of a driver's license and a state identification card is similar, the transition should not be difficult to implement. However, the lines at the driver licensing offices will be longer with the corresponding increase in waiting time by the public.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dennis A. Kamimura".

Dennis A. Kamimura
Licensing Administrator



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Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-2991

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The Twenty-Sixth Legislature, State of Hawaii
Hawaii State Senate

Committee on Ways and Means

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association
February 24, 2012

S.B. 2506, SD1 - RELATING TO CIVIL IDENTIFICATION

The Hawaii Government Employees' Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO is providing comments on S.B. 2506, SD1. This bill transfers the non-driver's license, or civil identification program from the Department of the Attorney General to the Department of Transportation, and requires that the non-drivers' license identification cards be issued by each county.

While we do not oppose the intent of this bill, our main concern is for the continued employment opportunity, as well as the protection of the rights and benefits, of the employees to be transferred under this legislation.

Please ensure that provisions to protect and maintain affected employees' civil service status, pay, seniority, service credits, retention points, and all other rights and benefits upon transfer remain in the bill.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on S.B. 2506, SD1.

Respectfully submitted,

Leiomalama Desha
Deputy Executive Director