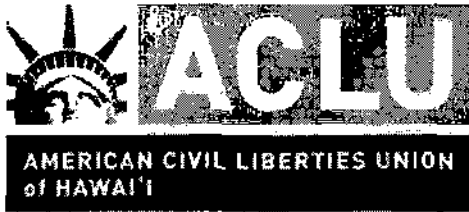


LATE TESTIMONY



Committees: Committees on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs and Transportation and International Affairs
Hearing Date/Time: Tuesday, February 4, 2014, 1:16 PM
Place: Conference Room 224
Re: Testimony of the ACLU of Hawaii in Support of S.B. 2935, Relating to Motor Vehicle Driver Licensing

Dear Chair Espero and Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs and Chair English and Members of the Committee on Transportation and International Affairs:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii ("ACLU of Hawaii") writes in **support** of S.B. 2935.

The ACLU of Hawaii supports efforts to ensure that all Hawaii drivers have access to driver's licenses in order to contribute to public safety and curb marginalization of immigrants. Unlicensed drivers are generally untested and uninsured, which creates risks for all on the roads. With the ability to drive legally, undocumented persons would be required to learn and take a test on road rules, just like other drivers. An increased knowledge of traffic laws would result in fewer accidents.

Without a valid driver's license, it is generally impossible to purchase motor vehicle insurance. Uninsured motorists are costly to insurance companies that cover claims of damage by those motorists, and these costs are passed on to policy-holders. If all drivers are able to obtain insurance, overall costs of insurance will decrease, providing a net benefit. As such, the ACLU of Hawaii urges the Committees to support S.B. 2935.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Daniel Gluck
Senior Staff Attorney
ACLU of Hawaii

The mission of the ACLU of Hawaii is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawaii fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawaii is a non-partisan and private non-profit organization that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds. The ACLU of Hawaii has been serving Hawaii for over 45 years.

Filipino Coalition for Solidarity

A HAWAII RIGHTS ADVOCACY GROUP • FOUNDED IN 1990

c/o 728 Nunu St. · Kailua, HI 96734 · <http://www.philippinesonline.org/thecoalition/>

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 2935

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs
Feb. 4, 2014, 1:15 p.m. | Hawai'i State Legislature | Room 226

To: Honorable Senate Committee on PSM Sen. Will Espero, Chair,
Honorable Sen. Roslyn H. Baker, Vice Chair; Honorable PSM Committee
Members

Honorable Senate Committee on TIA Sen. J. Kalani English, Chair;
Honorable Sen. Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair; Honorable TIA
Committee Members

From: Helena Manzano, Vice President, Filipino Coalition for Solidarity

Dear Senate Committee on PSM Sen. Will Espero, Chair; Sen. Roslyn H. Baker, Vice
Chair;
Senate PSM Committee Members; Senate Committee on TIA Sen. J. Kalani English,
Chair; Sen. Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair; and Senate TIA Committee Members:

My name is Helena Manzano, vice president of the Filipino Coalition for Solidarity. The Coalition strongly supports this bill. Since its inception in 1990, the Coalition has represented more than 50 Filipino community leaders, whose aim is to work for social justice issues to empower Filipinos to make socially responsible contributions to Hawai'i and our global neighbors through education, advocacy, and social action.

I strongly support this bill from the vantage points of a community leader, a trained social worker, and a naturalized U.S. citizen myself. I have seen firsthand the unintended consequences of complicated and restrictive immigration laws. For those who do not have proper documentation, it not only creates extraordinary stress on the ability for families to care for each other, but it also puts society at great risk when it concerns the lack of accountability for traffic safety. According to the American Auto Association, unlicensed drivers are five times more likely to be involved in a fatal car crash than licensed drivers. This bill will remedy this situation by allowing undocumented immigrants an opportunity to be trained, tested, and accountable in order to acquire a driver's license. The public will be well served and all will be protected with this bill.

The Coalition extends our gratitude to you for hearing this important bill.

Respectfully,

Helena Manzano, MSW, Vice President, Filipino Coalition for Solidarity

Filipino American Citizens League

Jake Manegdeg, President
P. O. Box 270126 * Honolulu, Hawaii 96827

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 2935

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs
Feb. 4, 2014, 1:15 p.m. | Hawai'i State Legislature | Room 226

To: Honorable Senate Committee on PSM Sen. Will Espero, Chair and Honorable Sen. Roslyn H. Baker, Vice Chair; Honorable Committee Members

Honorable Senate Committee on TIA Sen. J. Kalani English, Chair and Honorable Sen. Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair; and Honorable Committee Members

From: Charlene Cuaresma, Vice President, Filipino American Citizens League

Dear Senate Committee on PSM Chair Espero, Sen. Roslyn H. Baker, Vice Chair, PSM Committee Members; Senate Committee on TIA Sen. J. Kalani English, Chair, Sen. Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair, and Senate TIA Committee Members:

My name is Charlene Cuaresma. As vice president of the Filipino American Citizens League, I am very proud to strongly support this bill. The League was formed over ten years ago to contribute to the advancement of civil rights and social justice for minority groups, underserved populations, and vulnerable communities through education, advocacy, and social action.

The League sends you our appreciation for hearing this bill. We support this bill because it provides safeguards to ensure that all drivers, including individuals without proper immigration documentation, are offered to produce other forms of documentation, in order to access driver's license training, car insurance, and be held accountable for public safety.

Thank you for FACL's opportunity to speak up, in hopes of pointing our civil society in the direction of strengthening people's ability to participate more fully and responsibly in the daily tasks of acquiring food, shelter, clothing, transportation, health, education and more for themselves, their families, and others. The vitality of Hawai'i's communities and economy depends on our ability to be inclusive for the benefit of all.

Sincerely,

Charlene Cuaresma, Vice President, Filipino American Citizens League



LATE TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 2935

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs
Feb. 4, 2014, 1:15 p.m. | Hawai'i State Legislature | Room 226

To: Honorable Senate Committee on PSM Sen. Will Espero, Chair,
Honorable Sen. Roslyn H. Baker, Vice Chair; Honorable PSM Committee Members

Honorable Senate Committee on TIA Sen. J. Kalani English, Chair;
Honorable Sen. Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair; Honorable TIA Committee Members

From: Rouel Velasco, Chair, National Federation of Filipino American Associations Region 12

Dear Senate Committee on PSM Sen. Will Espero, Chair; Sen. Roslyn H. Baker, Vice Chair;
Senate PSM Committee Members; Senate Committee on TIA Sen. J. Kalani English, Chair; Sen. Donovan
M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair; and Senate TIA Committee Members:

My name is Rouel Velasco, Chair, NaFFAA Region 12, which strongly supports this bill. NaFFAA Region 12 represents the interests of Filipinos in Hawai'i, Guam, and the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands. We are an affiliate of the National NaFFAA. Washington policy-makers, private industry and national advocacy groups recognize NaFFAA as the Voice of Filipinos and Filipino Americans throughout the United States. We are a non-partisan, non-profit national affiliation of more than five hundred Filipino-American institutions and umbrella organizations that span twelve regions throughout the continental United States and U.S. Pacific territories.

NaFFAA supports the intent of this bill, which is to protect the public with an inclusive policy that offers undocumented immigrants to get a driver's license. That will allow them to drive to work, bring their family members to school or to the doctor's, go grocery shopping, be responsibly engaged in the daily transactions of commerce, and more. This will be in the public's best interest, because it will increase accountability and opportunity for undocumented immigrants to contribute positively to traffic safety. We also agree with the bill's comprehensive public safety provisions included.

Thank you for hearing this bill and for the opportunity to submit our strong support.

Sincerely,

Rouel Velasco, Chair, NaFFAA Region XII

LATE TESTIMONY



Hawai`i Friends for Civil Rights
Amy Agbayani, Co-Founder & President
c/o 3432 B2 Kalihi Street, Honolulu, HI 96819

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 2935

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs
Feb. 4, 2014, 1:15 p.m. | Hawai`i State Legislature | Room 226

Dear Senate Committee on PSM Sen. Will Espero, Chair; Sen. Roslyn H. Baker, Vice Chair;
Senate PSM Committee Members; Senate Committee on TIA Sen. J. Kalani English, Chair; Sen. Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair; and Senate TIA Committee Members:

As the co-founder and president of Hawaii Friends of Civil Rights, I submit strong support for this bill. HFCR is a group dedicated to fulfilling the work of the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. by addressing disparities and discrimination through the promotion of change agents for social justice through education, service and advocacy.

HFCR strongly supports this bill that would enable persons who are ineligible to receive a social security number to show other documentation in order to apply for a driver's license. Concerns over public safety are addressed in this bill. The benefits of registering all drivers in the DMV provides protections to public safety by increasing the number of trained, tested and accountable drivers. Everyone stands to benefit from an inclusive system that promotes civic responsibility.

Thank you for hearing this bill, and for the opportunity to provide our full support in your consideration of its passage.

Very Sincerely,

Amy Agbayani, Ph.D.
Co-Founder and President
Hawai`i Friends of Civil Rights

LATE TESTIMONY



Nursing Advocates & Mentors, Inc.

... a non-profit organization with a mission to address the global nursing shortage by providing guidance and assistance for nursing colleagues to obtain their professional license in nursing.

*NAMI, P.O. Box 2034 Aiea, HI 96701
E-mail: bramosrazon@aol.com*

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 2935

**Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Senate Committee on Transportation and International Affairs
Feb. 4, 2014, 1:15 p.m. | Hawai'i State Legislature | Room 226**

To: Honorable Senate Committee on PSM Sen. Will Espero, Chair,
Honorable Sen. Roslyn H. Baker, Vice Chair; Honorable PSM Committee Members

Honorable Senate Committee on TIA Sen. J. Kalani English, Chair;
Honorable Sen. Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair; Honorable TIA Committee Members

From: Beatrice Ramos-Razon, Co-Founder & President, NAMI
Nursing, Advocates & Mentors, Inc.

Dear Senate Committee on PSM Sen. Will Espero, Chair; Sen. Roslyn H. Baker, Vice Chair;
Senate PSM Committee Members; Senate Committee on TIA Sen. J. Kalani English, Chair; Sen. Donovan
M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair; and Senate TIA Committee Members:

My name is Beatrice Ramos-Razon. As the founder and president of NAMI (Nursing Advocates & Mentors, Inc.), I am proud to submit our strong support for this bill. NAMI's membership is comprised of over 75 volunteer nurses, instructors, allied health care professionals, and Filipino leaders, who are dedicated to improve the health of Hawai'i's people through education, mentoring, advocacy and service.

NAMI strongly supports this bill, because this measure offers a viable solution. It will reduce the sky rocketing financial burdens and risks on society due to traffic accidents that are aggravated when a significant segment of individuals drive without a license, and under the radar of accountability. The state of New Mexico has demonstrated that since 2003, when undocumented immigrants were issued drivers licenses, the rate of uninsured motorists fell from 33% to 9%. Hawai'i could likewise benefit.

Thank you for hearing this bill, and for the opportunity to share the hope that disenfranchised individuals and families can be strengthened by leaders like you, in order to become viable and accountable stakeholders for public safety and well-being.

Sincerely,

Beatrice Ramos-Razon, RN, FACDONA, President, Nursing Advocates and Mentors, Inc.

725 Kapiolani Boulevard, #1701
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
(808) 591-6662

cliffes@aol.com

To: Chair Will Espero
Vice-Chair Rosalyn Baker
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental
Military Affairs

Chair J. Kalani English
Vice-Chair Donovan Dela Cruz
Senate Committee on Transportation and International
Affairs

From: Esther Kwon Arinaga
Member, Church and Society Committee
First United Methodist Church, Honolulu

Hearing Date and Time 02-04-14 1:15PM

Place: Conference room 224

RE: ^{2935.} ~~SB2915~~ STRONG
SUPPORT

Senator Espero, Senator English, and Members of your respective Committees:

On behalf of the Church and Society Committee of First United Methodist Church (FUMC) I write to express our strong support of Senate Bill 2915 which would provide access to Hawaii drivers' licenses for persons who cannot show proof of authorized presence or are not given a Social Security number, if additional documentation regarding identity can be provided.

SB2915 is vital and necessary to ensure roadway safety for Hawaii residents and visitors alike. It requires everyone who drives on our roads and highways to be trained, tested and insured. Simply put, this legislation will promote public safety, especially for our

elderly pedestrians, safer roads and highways, and increased security with insured drivers behind the wheel.

Currently, far too many people in Hawaii drive without valid licenses. Some are simply reckless and lazy. But a significant number, including many in our immigrant population, simply cannot apply for a valid driver's license because of current restrictive rules and requirements relating to identification in the driver's licensing application process.

Will Espero, Chair
J. Kalani English Chair
SB2915: 2/4/2014 Hearing
FUMC Church & Society Testimony
Page Two

Access is the key word underlying this legislation. By improving access to a valid driver's license, the State of Hawaii will ensure not only the greater safety of its roads and highways, it will reduce the number of accidents involving uninsured motorists and lead to lower insurance rates. Already, eleven states, including the state of California have enacted laws to increase access to driver's licenses. Others have followed, including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this important legislation.

LATE TESTIMONY

SB2935

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for PSM/TIA on Feb 4, 2014 13:16PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
april bautista	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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LATE TESTIMONY

SB2935

Submitted on: 2/4/2014

Testimony for PSM/TIA on Feb 4, 2014 13:16PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sue haglund	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I write in **STRONG SUPPORT** of SB2935. Since 2013, there are eleven states that have enacted similar laws that enable undocumented immigrants to access and apply for driver's license and/or permit. I recommend that the state of Hawaii to the same. This policy is a public safety and road safety policy. It enhances the public safety of motorists who commute daily on Hawaii's roadways. Further, this bill increases the insured motorists population, while decreasing the uninsured motorist population. This in turn, ensures that all persons who drive on the roads are trained, licensed and insured. SB2935 is a public safety policy and it is needed to address and to reduce the already growing uninsured motorist population. I strongly support SB 2935 and I ask that members of both committees to consider, support and pass this public safety measure, SB 2935. Thank You.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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LATE TESTIMONY

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 05, 2014 2:55 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: al@makaha.us
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2935 on Feb 11, 2014 13:15PM
Attachments: sb2935.doc

SB2935

Submitted on: 2/5/2014

Testimony for PSM/TIA on Feb 11, 2014 13:15PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Allen Frenzel	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

Dear Senators,

I OPPOSE SB 2935 and ask you to kill this bill.

Illegal immigrants should be deported; not given special treatment.

If they are illegally living in Hawaii, then its doubtful they are obeying other laws - what is the likelihood they will purchase insurance once granted a license to drive?

Please wake up and smell the roses on this bill and shelve it for all of eternity.

Mahalo,

AL Frenzel