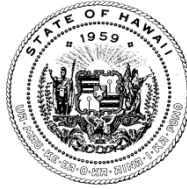


SB 2686

RELATING TO DRIVER
EDUCATION



Testimony by:
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
JADE T. BUTAY
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 16, 2016
2:55 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 229

S.B. No. 2686
RELATING TO DRIVER EDUCATION; ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION

Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **opposes** H.B. 2686 relating to drivers education, which requires information on organ and tissue donation to be included in the curriculum for the statewide driver education program and behind-the-wheel driver training program.

The proposed bill would also require driver education instructors to do the following:

- To notify parents or guardians of the instruction relating to organ and tissue donation
- To make instructional materials available for inspection by parents or guardians
- To obtain consent to provide instruction from parents or guardians

In the Department's opinion, asking the instructors to implement these additional responsibilities takes away from the main focus of teaching students about driver education.

The DOT has concerns that the bill would require additional resources to develop the material for the new curriculum, implement the new program, and oversee this initiative. It would also set a precedent for other initiatives to seek inclusion into the program.

Additionally, the new curriculum may conflict with certain religious, cultural and/or familial beliefs. Families who may practice these beliefs may not welcome the topic of organ and tissue donation as part of driver educational instruction mandated by the legislation. We recommend that topics such as organ and tissue donation be left to the discretion of the parents as to when to discuss such issues with their school-aged children.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2686
RELATING TO DRIVER EDUCATION**

by
Stephen A. Kula, Ph.D., NHA
President and CEO
Legacy of Life Hawaii

Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 16; 2:55 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on behalf of Legacy of Life Hawaii in strong support of SB 2686, requiring information on organ and tissue donation to be included in the curriculum for the statewide driver education program and behind-the-wheel driver training program.

Legacy of Life Hawaii currently provides organ and tissue donation information at the request of driver education teachers statewide. Typically an organ/tissue recipient accompanies a Legacy of Life Hawaii representative to offer firsthand testimonials and answer any questions that students may have. Legacy of Life Hawaii is also committed to covering the costs associated with this curriculum to ensure the State will bear no financial burden.

Since 1987 Legacy of Life Hawaii has been saving lives through the generosity of organ and tissue donors who have given the Gift of Life so others may live. Ultimately this measure will encourage more people to register as donors and help save and enhance the lives of too many critically ill patients in need of these transplants.

I, therefore, urge this Committee to give SB 2686 your favorable consideration. Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on behalf of Legacy of Life Hawaii in strong support.

405 N. Kukini Street, Suite 810 Honolulu, HI 96817
Phone: (808) 599-7630 Toll Free: (877) 855-0603 Fax: (808) 599-7631

legacyoflifehawaii.org





**TESTIMONY ON SB 2686
RELATING TO DRIVER EDUCATION**

by
Nancy Downes
Director of Marketing
Legacy of Life Hawaii

Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 16; 10:00 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Gabbard and members of the Transportation and Energy Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on behalf of Legacy of Life Hawaii in strong support of SB 2686 requiring information on organ and tissue donation be included in the curriculum for the statewide driver education program and behind-the-wheel driver training program.

In accordance with section Hawaii Statute 286-109.5 *Designation of anatomical gift*, Hawaii State driver license application includes the question, "Do you wish to be an organ donor?" This bill ensures students can make an informed choice in answering that question. By integrating information regarding organ and tissue donation into the driver education curriculum, students are provided with accurate facts early on which not only prepares them to make an informed choice when applying for their driver's permit or license, but it also brings the conversation home so that family members' wishes are understood. Legacy of Life Hawaii currently provides presentations on organ and tissue donation at the request of driver education teachers statewide, and thus, has a well-developed and adaptable curriculum for the program.

As the only federally designated organ procurement organization in Hawaii, Legacy of Life Hawaii serves an important role in educating the public about the life-saving impact of organ and tissue donation in Hawaii. This measure will encourage more people to register as organ and tissue donors to help save and enhance the lives of critically ill patients in need of organ/tissue transplants.

I, therefore, urge this Committee to give SB 2686 your favorable consideration. Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on behalf of Legacy of Life Hawaii in strong support.

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**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2686
RELATING TO DRIVER EDUCATION**

By Yolanda C. Domingo, Heart Recipient

SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY

Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair

Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2016, 2:55 P.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong **support** of SB 2686, requiring organ and tissue donation curriculum in drivers education and behind-the-wheel driver training programs statewide.

My name is Yolanda C. Domingo, and I am a heart recipient. On Mother's Day 2000, I received my second chance at life. My donor's name is Steven Mitsuo Ginoza, and I wouldn't be here today if it wasn't for his last selfless act to save another.

With my new lease on life, I have had the chance to give back and share my story with so many and that includes students in drivers' education classes at several high schools on O'ahu. It's been so rewarding to give these students a firsthand account of my experience, as well as to dispel any myths and misperceptions that they may have.

In the end, I just want them to have factual information so they can make informed decisions for themselves and share what they have learned with their 'ohana. This bill would serve to raise awareness of the life-saving benefits of organ and tissue donation.

Mahalo for this opportunity to share my support with all of you. I respectfully ask for your support and passage of this important and worthwhile bill.

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2686
RELATING TO DIVER EDUCATION**

By Aaron T. Okubo

Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy
Senator Lorraine Inouye, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 16, 2016
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Thank you for allowing me to submit my written testimony as a resident of Hawaii in strong **support** of SB2686 to be included in the curriculum for the statewide school driver education program and behind-the-wheel driver training program.

With two (2) sons – 12 and 15 years old in 2006, I had received the ultimate gift, “the gift of life,” a liver and kidney transplant. After the surgery, doctors mentioned that if it weren’t for the organ donor, I would have only 8-10 days left to live.

I have had the pleasure of visiting students at Radford and Farrington High Schools on a number of occasions to share my life-saving experience and to let them know there is nothing to be afraid of when signing up to be an organ & tissue donor.

Majority of the students were not familiar with organ & tissue donation so the passage of the bill would be a great way to make students aware of organ & tissue donation and one day they may save or enhance someone’s life.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to share my support with all of you. I humbly ask for your support of this very important and worthwhile bill.

Aloha,
Aaron T. Okubo
98-1369 Akaaka Street
Aiea, Hawaii 96701

**Testimony on Senate Bill 2686
Relating to Drivers Education**

By
Olivia Hodges
Aliamanu Middle School

Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

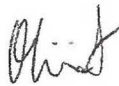
Tuesday, February 16, 2016
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

I support the SB B2686 bill requiring education on organ and tissue donation to be included in the curriculum for the statewide driver education program and behind-the-wheel driver training program.

In Hawaii, every driver is asked when applying for a license, if they wish to be an organ or tissue donor. It is crucial to educate new drivers on the importance of organ donation, which saves lives. Education will help dispel myths and doubts about organ donation. Because learners can opt-out of the donor education without penalty, there is no risk in adding this information to the curriculum.

I support this, and I ask that you support this because it will help students make informed decisions when applying for their driver's license and it will have no cost to the state, as Legacy of Life Hawaii will cover all costs associated with the curriculum.

Olivia Hodges
813-465-2010



**Written Testimony on Senate Bill 2686
Related to Driver Education**

By
Emily Hanks
Aliamanu Middle School

Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 16, 2016
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

I support the SB26861 requiring education on organ and tissue donation to be included in the curriculum for the statewide driver education program and behind-the-wheel diver training program.

In Hawaii, every driver is asked when applying for a license, if they wish to be an organ or tissue donor. It is very important to educate new drivers on the importance of organ donation, which saves lives. Education will help get rid of the myths and doubts about organ donation. Because learners opt out of the donor education without penalty, there is no risk in adding this information to the curriculum.

I support this, and I ask that you support this because it will help students make informed decisions when applying for their driver's license and it will have no cost to the state, as Legacy of Life Hawaii will cover all costs associated with the curriculum.

Emily Hanks

808-457-6992

Testimony on Senate Bill 2686
Relating to Driver Education

By

Mackenzie Dawson
Moanalua Middle School
Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 16, 2016
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

I support the Senate Bill 1775 requiring education on organ and tissue donation to be included in the curriculum for the statewide driver education program and behind -the-wheel driver training program.

In Hawaii, every driver is asked when applying for the license, if they wish to be an organ or tissue donor. It is very important to educate new drivers on the importance of organ donation, which saves lives. Education will help get rid of the myths and doubts about organ donation. Because learners can opt-out of the donor education without penalty, there is no risk in adding this information to the curriculum.

I support this, and I ask that you support this because it will help student make informed decisions when applying for the driver's license and it will have no cost to the state, as Legacy of Life Hawaii will cover all costs associated with the curriculum.

Mackenzie Dawson
808-347-5702

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2686
RELATING TO DIVER EDUCATION**

By Bella McRae
Moanalua Middle School

Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy
Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 16, 2016
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

I support the SB2686 Bill requiring education on organ and tissues donation to be included in the curriculum for the statewide driver education program and behind-the-wheel driver training program.

In Hawaii, every driver is asked when applying for a license, if they want to be an organ or tissue donor. It is crucial to educate new drivers on the importance of organ donation, which saves lives. Education will help dispel any myths and doubts about organ donation. Because learners can opt-out of the donor education without a penalty, there is no risk in adding this information to the curriculum.

I support this, and I ask that you support this because it will help students make more informed decisions when applying for their driver's license and it will have no cost for the state, as Legacy of Life Hawaii will cover all costs associated with the curriculum.

Bella McRae
808-445-8535

