

SB 2686

RELATING TO DRIVER
EDUCATION

LATE TESTIMONY

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

by
Peter Kruse

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

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

Chair Belatti, Vice Chair Creagan, and members of the House Committee on Health:

My name is Peter Kruse and I am a member of Hawai'i's donor family community. I am writing in support of House Bill 1775. This legislation will increase opportunities to educate the residents and students of Hawaii of the importance of organ and tissue donation.

On April 18th, 1998, my only daughter, Lokelani Kruse gave others a second chance at life through her gift of organ donation. Although, she was taken very young, Lokelani had a strong mind and a strong heart. She was only 16 years old when she was in the car accident that took her life. Yet, she had already taken a positive stand on organ and tissue donation, and in her high school essay, she stated she wanted to be an organ donor. So we honored her wishes. Today, I am very proud of her decision to be a donor-hero and to give the gift of life to those in need of life-saving transplants. Lokelani was able to be a kidney, liver, cornea and tissue donor. Because of her, lives were healed and improved. Since, that time I have committed myself to honoring Lokelani by telling her story, by promoting organ and tissue donation and by volunteering with Legacy of Life Hawai'i.

I support this legislation as it creates an opportunity for Hawaii to increase the number of donors statewide, and it provides a door to educate the next generation of the message of organ and tissue donation. I, therefore, respectfully request your support of this legislation and the lives that it represents.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify in honor of my daughter, Lokelani Martha Yoshimi Kruse.

Peter Kruse
PO Box 115
Eleele, HI 96705