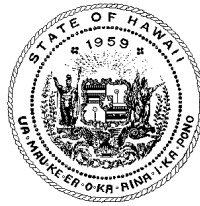


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**  
1177 Alakea Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**MAX N. OTANI**  
DIRECTOR

**Maria C. Cook**  
Deputy Director  
Administration

**Tommy Johnson**  
Deputy Director  
Corrections

**Jordan Lowe**  
Deputy Director  
Law Enforcement

No. \_\_\_\_\_

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2169, HOUSE DRAFT 1, SENATE DRAFT 1  
RELATING TO THE COMPREHENSIVE OFFENDER REENTRY SYSTEM.

by

Max N. Otani, Director  
Department of Public Safety

Senate Committee on Judiciary  
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 31, 2022; 9:30 a.m.  
State Capitol Conference Room 016 and Via Videoconference

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) has reviewed House Bill (HB) 2169, House Draft (HD) 1, Senate Draft (SD) 1, which amends section 353H-32, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to clarify that the Department of Public Safety's role is to work with the Department of Transportation and the county Examiners of Drivers to assist inmates in procuring civil identification necessary to transition into the workforce, access social services, and secure housing, rather than to actually issue civil identification cards.

PSD supports the intent of this measure, to clarify its role to work with other agencies, rather than issue civil identification cards itself.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support HB 2169, HD 1, SD 1.

Statement Before The  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**

Thursday, March 31, 2022

9:30 AM

Via Video Conference and Conference Room 016

in consideration of  
**HB 2169, HD1, SD1****RELATING TO THE COMPREHENSIVE OFFENDER REENTRY SYSTEM.**

Chair RHOADS, Vice Chair KEOHOKALOLE, and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee

Common Cause Hawaii provides comments on HB 2169, HD1, SD1, which clarifies that the Department of Public Safety's role is to work with the Department of Transportation and county examiners of drivers to assist inmates in procuring civil identification cards necessary to transition into the workforce, access social services, and secure housing, rather than issue civil identification cards

Common Cause Hawaii is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, grassroots organization dedicated to reforming government and strengthening our representative democracy through voting modernization efforts such as adopting Automatic Voter Registration (AVR). AVR was passed by this Legislature in 2021 and signed into law as Act 126, SLH 2021.

Common Cause Hawaii provides comments inquiring as to how HB 2169, HD1, SD1 will interface with AVR, Act 126, SLH 2021. Common Cause Hawaii supports proactively providing assistance to incarcerated individuals in procuring civil identification necessary to transition into the workforce, access social services, and secure housing.

Common Cause Hawaii wants to ensure that this assistance will integrate properly with AVR. “[I]f a person is placed on probation or the person is paroled after commitment to imprisonment, the person may register and vote during the period of the probation or parole.” See <https://elections.hawaii.gov/voting/voters-with-a-felony-conviction/> (retrieved Jan. 31, 2022). AVR, Act 126, SLH 2021, affirmatively provides an application for voter registration shall be part of the issuance of an identification card under Hawaii Revised § 286-303.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on HB 2169, HD1, SD1 and to ensure that all those who are eligible to vote are provided with the same means, including AVR, as every other citizen. If you have questions for me, please contact me at [sma@commoncause.org](mailto:sma@commoncause.org).

Very respectfully yours,

Sandy Ma  
Executive Director, Common Cause Hawaii

# COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

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## COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 31, 2022

9:30 AM

## **STRONG SUPPORT W/ SUGGESTION - HB 2169 SD1 - IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS**

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole and Members of the Committee!

My name is Kat Brady and I am the Coordinator of Community Alliance on Prisons, a community initiative promoting smart justice policies in Hawai'i for more than two decades. This testimony is respectfully offered on behalf HD1 of the more than 3,993 Hawai'i individuals living behind bars<sup>1</sup> under the "care and custody" of the Department of Public Safety on any given day. We are always mindful that 1,110 of Hawai'i's imprisoned people are serving their sentences abroad -- thousands of miles away from their loved ones, their homes and, for the disproportionate number of incarcerated Kanaka Maoli, far, far from their ancestral lands.

Community Alliance on Prisons is grateful for this opportunity to share our testimony in strong support of proper identification documents for returning citizens.

The SD1 fixed the problems with the bill by removing language that would have placed the onus in procuring civil identification on soon-to-be released inmates, requiring the Department of Public Safety to assist inmates in obtaining civil identification by providing the forms necessary for obtaining civil identification, and requiring any form provided by the DPS for the purpose of assisting inmates in obtaining civil identification to be in the inmate's primary language.

Our incarcerated population speak eight (8) different languages: Chuukese, English, Hawaiian, Ilokano, Samoan, Tagalog, Tongan, and Vietnamese, who may not know what documents they need.

Releasing people with proper identification assists safe reentry into the community.

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<sup>1</sup> Department of Public Safety, Weekly Population Report, March 21, 2022.

<https://dps.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Pop-Reports-Weekly-2022-03-21.pdf>

Persons returning to the community need the appropriate identification documents to assist them in cashing checks, opening bank accounts, finding housing, seeking employment, applying for a library card, and many other services.

We understand and mahalo the Otani administration who have advanced this issue by partnering with the City to move the process to this point. The department now has a computer (the same ones used at satellite city halls) that can scan documents that then go to the main City computer where the identification cards are made. the department then picks them up. The process will be done 90 days before the person's release date or work furlough.

Community Alliance on Prisons is happy that this is finally happening and thanks the Otani administration for their diligence in getting this important piece of reentry moving in the right direction.

Identification documents are vital for a returning citizen to ease the transition to community life.

Community Alliance on Prisons respectfully asks the committee to support this important reentry piece.



Hawai'i

Committee: Senate Committee on Judiciary  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, March 31, 2022, 9:30AM  
Place: Via videoconference  
Re: ***Testimony of the ACLU of Hawai'i; Oppose HB 2169 HD1 Relating to the Comprehensive Offender Reentry System***

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and members of the Committee:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i ("ACLU of Hawai'i) opposes **HB 2169 HD1** which clarifies that "the Department of Public Safety's role is to work with the Department of Transportation and County Examiners of Drivers to assist inmates in procuring civil identification cards necessary to transition into the work force, access social services, and secure housing, rather than issue civil identification cards."

The ACLU of Hawai'i is committed to transforming Hawaii's criminal legal system and building a new vision of safety and justice. First and foremost, we advocate for decarceration strategies to reduce the number of people in our jails and prisons, the majority of whom are Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders and people of color. Simultaneously, we advocate for sensible conditions of community supervision, humane conditions of confinement, meaningful rehabilitation opportunities, and ***comprehensive re-entry support services that starts from the first day of incarceration.***

**The ACLU of Hawai'i opposes this measure because it waters down the Department of Public Safety's responsibility to provide civil identification to people existing our jails and prisons.**

The U.S. Department of Justice has recognized the provision of identity documents as being "critical to successful reentry."<sup>1</sup>

**Since 2017, the Department of Public Safety (PSD) has been statutorily mandated to provide effective and comprehensive reentry planning and to issue civil identification documents to people exiting jails and prisons.** Under Hawai'i Revised Statutes section 353-H, DPS "shall issue civil identification cards" for people who are imminently reentering society.<sup>2</sup> Additionally, DPS "shall assist" people in "obtain[ing] the inmate's birth certificate, social security card and any other relevant identification documents necessary for the inmate to transition into the workforce."<sup>3</sup>

More than five years later, PSD has failed to meet this mandate, both for people leaving jails and prisons. **According to PSD' own Reentry Coordination Office, between October 2018 and**

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<sup>1</sup> U.S. Dep't. of Justice, *Prison Reform: Reducing Recidivism by Strengthening the Federal Bureau of Prisons* (2017), available at <https://www.justice.gov/archives/prison-reform>.

<sup>2</sup> Haw. Rev. Stat. section 353H-32.

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*

**November 2019, more than half (56 percent) of people exiting jails and nearly as many (46 percent) exiting prison statewide left without state identification cards.<sup>4</sup>**

The failure to provide identification documents to incarcerated and returning individuals to our community is putting already vulnerable people at further risk of harm during the present pandemic by leaving individuals more susceptible to housing and economic insecurity. These documents are necessary to secure housing and employment, to enroll in many benefit programs, and to fill prescriptions for medication.

In a letter dated May 19, 2020, **former PSD Director Nolan Espinda, confirmed that PSD “received approval from the SPO (State Procurement Office) to use the same vendor that C & C uses to purchase its specialized equipment and software, to be eventually installed at correctional facilities statewide. PSD is awaiting the vendor’s final compliance issue to be resolved by the State’s SPO as required for this purchase” for the purpose of issuing civil identification documents.**

Now, two years after the issuance of this letter, ***PSD is submitting testimony to lawmakers requesting to water down the Comprehensive Reentry law by making what was once mandatory (DPS “shall issue civil identification cards to inmates who have one year or less...”)* into a less definitive requirement (DPS “shall assist inmates . . . in obtaining a civil identification card.”)**

Prioritizing reentry planning is not only humane—it makes our communities safer. ***Ninety-five percent of people incarcerated in our jails and state prisons will eventually be released.*** Reentry programs that help people secure civil identification, jobs, treatment, housing, and education, have proven effective in facilitating the successful transition of formerly incarcerated people out of jails and prisons and back to their families and communities.

In closing, we urge lawmakers to ensure PSD’s compliance with their legal obligations to provide comprehensive reentry planning, including the issuance of civil identification documents under the Comprehensive Offender Reentry System. This is a minimal requirement that the Department of Public Safety should provide in order to enhance reentry success.

Please defer **HB2169 HD1** and ensure that PSD fulfills its responsibility under HRS 353-H to issue civil identification cards for people who are imminently reentering society. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Carrie Ann Shirota  
Policy Director  
ACLU of Hawai’i  
[cshirota@acluhawaii.org](mailto:cshirota@acluhawaii.org)

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai’i  
P.O. Box 3410 Honolulu,  
Hawai’i 96801T:  
808.522.5900  
F: 808.522.5909  
E: [office@acluhawaii.org](mailto:office@acluhawaii.org)[www.acluhawaii.org](http://www.acluhawaii.org)

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<sup>4</sup> Dep’t of Pub. Safety, Reentry Coordination Office Annual Report on Civil Identification Documents (2019), available at <https://dps.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/RC-12.4.19-Minutes-DRAFT-01.02.20.pdf>

## **States that Issue Civil IDs to People Exiting Jails and Prisons**

Other states have laws and/or policies requiring their respective Department of Corrections to issue state IDs upon release from incarceration.

Source: **Georgia Justice Project** strengthens our community by demonstrating a better way to represent and support individuals in the criminal justice system and reduce barriers to reentry. 2017.

Link: <https://www.gjp.org/wp-content/uploads/GJP-Breakdown-of-State-ID-Laws-1E.pdf>

**Ohio** - It is the policy of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (ODRC) to provide an inmate release card to all eligible inmates upon his/her release (expiration of sentence, parole, or other approved release status) from an ODRC facility.

**Oregon** - The Oregon Department of Transportation, Driver and Motor Vehicle Services Division (DMV) and the Oregon Department of Corrections (DOC) have established, through interagency agreement, the following program to help an inmate obtain a driver license or identification card prior to his or her release from custody.

**Michigan** - Michigan launched a new program to ensure that all people leaving prison have a state-issued identification card, and, if eligible, are registered to vote. It could have a transformative impact on the civic participation of returning citizens, about 9,000 of whom exit Michigan's prisons every year.

**California** - The CAL-ID program provides certain state prisoners with a valid California state ID card — FOR FREE — *at the time they are released*.<sup>[63]</sup> This means *all eligible prisoners* in a California state prison have the right to receive a California state ID when they leave prison. In the past, the CAL-ID program was available only at prisons designated as "reentry hubs." But starting January 1, 2015, a new state law requires that the CAL-ID program expand to ALL adult state prisons in California.<sup>[64]</sup>

[https://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1640\\_9150-572986--m\\_2000\\_3,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1640_9150-572986--m_2000_3,00.html)

Thousands of returning citizens issued IDs, driver's licenses through MDOS, MDOC partnership



**NOVEMBER 24, 2021**

The Michigan Department of State (MDOS) has provided more than 5,000 state identification cards and driver's licenses to returning citizens since the start of its **joint initiative with the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC)**. The program, which ensures newly paroled Michiganders receive a driver's license or state ID, has increased the number of these transactions by more than 10 times the amount conducted prior to the program.

"By providing identification to returning citizens, we are opening doors that enable them to re-enter the work force and their communities," said Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson. "Our partnership with MDOC provides a valuable resource to formerly incarcerated individuals, ensuring they have the credentials they need to succeed."

MDOS and MDOC announced the joint initiative in June 2020 to assist returning citizens as they rejoin their communities by providing them with a driver's license or state ID upon their parole. The program was fully implemented following a successful pilot.

"Ensuring returning citizens have their vital documents upon release is an essential part of their successful return to society," MDOC Director Heidi E. Washington said. "We are pleased with the success of this program, and know that it is having a real and profound effect on these individuals as they embark on the next chapter in their lives."

Through the initiative, MDOC assists individuals designated for parole in obtaining required documents, paperwork, and photos and forwards the documents directly to MDOS to process either a driver's license or state ID. Once an individual is paroled, they are provided their license or ID, registered to vote unless they indicate they do not want to be, and given information on re-entering the workforce.

After launching the program last year, the departments collaborated to increase the number of returning citizens served. While some parolees may refuse, or do not have the necessary personal information to process an ID, the collaboration has been successful, resulting in 95 percent of parolees in the month of October 2021 receiving an ID or driver's license. Both departments expect to maintain this rate moving forward.

More information on voting rights for returning citizens [can be found on the MDOS website](#).

*The mission of the ACLU of Hawai'i is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawai'i fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawai'i 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 Hawai'i has been serving Hawai'i for over 50 years.*





## **HB2169 HD1 SD1 PSD to help offenders get ID**

### COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair

Thursday, Mar 31 2022: 9:30 : Videoconference

## **Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition Supports HB2169 HD1 SD1:**

*ALOHA CHAIR, VICE CHAIR AND DISTINGUISHED COMMITTEE MEMBERS. My name is Alan Johnson. I am the current chair of the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition (HSAC), a statewide organization for substance use disorder and co-occurring mental health disorder treatment and prevention agencies.*

**Identification cards are an essential part of reentry to access needed services** because many services are not possible without proper ID, including medical and behavioral health services, employment and even housing. As part of transitioning back into their community, proper identification is needed during this COVID-19 pandemic times to access restaurants, gyms, and more.

**Having state-issued identification cards can play a crucial role in a person's successful reintegration** into the community after incarceration. People leaving prisons and jails with state identification may be able to more quickly access vital services and support, and those without such identification will likely face significant barriers to successful reentry.<sup>1</sup>

**Across the nation, states generally have to enact legislation to facilitate collaborations between public safety departments and transportation departments** to issue state identification to incarcerated people prior to release.

**With the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Transportation working together, offenders have a chance** that their reentry plans can be successful.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony and are available for further questions.

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<sup>1</sup> State Identification: Reentry Strategies for State and Local Leaders  
<https://www.justice.gov/archives/reentry/file/846416/download>

**HB-2169-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 10:51:00 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/31/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Carolyn Eaton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole and members of the Committee,

My name is Carolyn Eaton and I strongly support this measure. The value to an individual of carrying civil identification upon re-entry for work furlough or re-entry, at last, to the community at large is inestimable. As fellow citizens, as representatives of the people, you and I hope these men and women make the most of their second chance, hope they find a job, find a home and succeed ultimately, become agents of their own brighter future. They should not be asked to begin the earliest steps of the frequently bewildering transition without a civil identification document. This bill will commit our government, two departments, acting in tandem, to take responsibility for getting these critically important documents into the possession of the men and women who re-enter our communities.

I approve of the provision to require any forms used to assist inmates in application for the identification document be offered in the inmate's primary language.

Mahalo for allowing me to participate with you in reaching for justice in our State.

**HB-2169-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 3:52:21 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/31/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
donn viviani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm writing in support of HB2169 I'm Donn Viviani. My wife and I live in Kailua and have family in the Punchbowl and Manoa areas. Released prisoners face many obstacles. Studies have shown that easier reentry reduces recidivism. Legal IDs are required for many reentry functions. This is an easy thing for DPS to do, which is a very large pōmaika'i for the released prisoner

Mahalo

**HB-2169-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 4:44:50 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/31/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Wendy Gibson-Viviani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

TO: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

FROM: Wendy Gibson-Viviani RN/BSN

RE: HB2169 (In Support)

Hearing: March 31, 2022 at 9:30 a.m.

Dear, Chair Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice-Chair Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, and Members of the Committee,

I am Wendy Gibson-Viviani, a healthcare professional (RN) who has lived and worked in Hawaii for 29 years. I support HB2169 because inmates who are being released need an ID before they can successfully reintegrate into society. Without an ID, chances are slim.

I agree with the Community Alliance on Prisons that:

- ID is a pivotal piece of reentry – without it a person cannot find employment, housing and other needs when one is transitioning to community life
- It is important that DPS retain the responsibility to ensure that everyone has ID before entering the community

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please support HB2169.

Wendy Gibson-Viviani RN/BSN

Kailua

**HB-2169-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 6:53:00 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/31/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kathy Shimata	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and members of the Committee,

My name is Kathy Shimata and I am testifying in strong opposition to HB2169, which weakens the Department of Public Safety’s obligation to provide civil identification cards to people exiting jails and prisons and reentering our communities.

Folks reentering our community need civil identification documents to secure housing and employment, to enroll in many benefit programs, and to fill medication prescriptions. Reentry programs that help people secure IDs, jobs, treatment, housing, and education have proven effective in facilitating the successful transition of formerly incarcerated people out of jails and prisons and back to their families and communities. I urge lawmakers to ensure the Department of Public Safety’s compliance with their legal obligation to provide comprehensive reentry planning, including the issuance of civil identification documents.

Providing IDs to people exiting incarceration decreases recidivism, increases public safety, and strengthens our communities. Please defer HB2169 and support our citizens who are returning home.

Mahalo for your consideration,

**HB-2169-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 6:54:58 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/31/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am testifying in strong opposition to HB2169, which waters down the Department of Public Safety's obligation to provide civil identification cards to people exiting jails and prisons and reentering our communities.

Ninety-five percent of incarcerated people will eventually be released, and it is our responsibility to provide them with a fair chance at finding stability. Folks reentering our community need civil identification documents to secure housing and employment, to enroll in many benefit programs, and to fill medication prescriptions. Reentry programs that help people secure IDs, jobs, treatment, housing, and education have proven effective in facilitating the successful transition of formerly incarcerated people out of jails and prisons and back to their families and communities. I urge lawmakers to ensure the Department of Public Safety's compliance with their legal obligation to provide comprehensive reentry planning, including the issuance of civil identification documents.

Providing IDs to people exiting incarceration decreases recidivism, increases public safety, and strengthens our communities. Please defer HB2169 and support our loved ones who are returning home.

Mahalo for your consideration.

**HB-2169-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 6:58:13 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/31/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nancy Davlantes	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Why would we make it more difficult for incarcerated people to re-enter society than it already is? Why would we have them go through hoops for a civil identification card that they need to secure housing and employment, to enroll in many benefit programs, and to fill medication prescriptions. Reentry programs that help people secure IDs, jobs, treatment, housing, and education have proven effective in facilitating the successful transition of formerly incarcerated people out of jails and prisons and back to their families and communities. The DPS has a legal obligation to provide comprehensive reentry planning, including the issuance of civil identification documents. So give them what they need.



**HB-2169-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 7:47:22 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/31/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Colleen Rost-Banik	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and members of the Committee,

My name is Colleen Rost-Banik. I am a resident of Honolulu and a lecturer within the University of Hawai‘i system. One of the places I have the opportunity to teach is at the Women's Community Correctional Center. I am testifying in **strong opposition to HB2169**, which waters down the Department of Public Safety’s obligation to provide civil identification cards to people exiting jails and prisons and reentering our communities.

I constantly hear from my students at the Women's Community Correctional Center that they are terrified to be released, not because they don't want to be out of prison but because they are concerned about being able to find a job, afford housing, and navigate the challenging realities of life with the stigma of a felony. HB2169 would lessen the responsibility of DPS to provide civil identification cards. This needs to be a REQUIREMENT of DPS, as is currently the law. Rather than being relieved of this responsibility because they can't figure out how to do it, DPS needs to embrace the commitment to provide all people who are released from prison with state-recognized civil identification cards.

Ninety-five percent of incarcerated people will eventually be released, and it is our responsibility to provide them with a fair chance at finding stability. Folks reentering our community need civil identification documents to secure housing and employment, to enroll in many benefit programs, and to fill medication prescriptions. Reentry programs that help people secure IDs, jobs, treatment, housing, and education have proven effective in facilitating the successful transition of formerly incarcerated people out of jails and prisons and back to their families and communities. I urge lawmakers to ensure the Department of Public Safety’s compliance with their legal obligation to provide comprehensive reentry planning, including the issuance of civil identification documents.

Providing IDs to people exiting incarceration decreases recidivism, increases public safety, and strengthens our communities. **Please defer HB2169 and support our loved ones who are returning home.**

Mahalo for your consideration,  
Colleen Rost-Banik

**HB-2169-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 8:51:17 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/31/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dylan Ramos	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

As much as I want to support this bill, especially for its proposal to provide forms in inmates' primary languages, I hope the changes to the first paragraph of §353H-32 can be reversed and instead be strengthened by striking out the words "upon request" and inserting some qualifiers so the last clause of the paragraph reads something like this: "and ~~upon request~~ shall issue civil identification cards to inmates who have one year or less prior to the inmate's parole or release date remaining on their prison sentence."

If further amendment is needed to separate out those who already have IDs, then I am OK with that, but in general I would prefer we strengthen §353H-32, not weaken it.

Mahalo,  
Dylan Ramos  
96816

**HB-2169-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 8:58:54 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/31/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
E. Ileina Funakoshi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am e. ileina funakoshi, Chair of Public Safety for Pearl City Neighborhood Bd #21. We have a resolution supporting the endeavors of the Oversight Committee.

Please pass this bill so the inmates will be able to have an ID to seek employment or apply for drivers' license, etc.

That the Dept of Public Safety will assure that the ID is printed and the inmate will be able to pick up his ID before he is released.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony.

**HB-2169-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 9:03:16 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/31/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Barbara Polk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge you to pass HB2169 HD1SD2. Having a State ID is absolutely essential to the possibility of succeeding when getting out of jail or prison. It should definitely be the DPS responsibility to make sure that the person being released has that identification. Without it, no wonder Halawa ACOs, when saying goodbye to a person, say, "See you next week!" Unfortunately, DPS responded to a law a few years ago by giving out *prison IDs*, making quite clear their lack of interest in the success of the person released!

**HB-2169-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 9:37:24 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/31/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Diana Bethel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB2169 HD1 is designed to assist released inmates to obtain an ID. An ID is essential for successful reentry into our communities. It is needed when applying for a job, for finding housing, and many other basic requirements of daily living.

I find it odd that the Department of Public Safety wants to avoid any responsibility for ensuring that an individual has an ID upon release (by putting the onus of responsibility on the individual to take the initiative to obtain an ID). Please remove this language.

DPS has a duty as a government agency that directly affects public safety to make sure no one leaves prison without a civil ID. It should do everything possible to make it as easy as possible to enable a person to leave prison with an ID when they go on work furlough or are released.

Why do we put so many roadblocks in front of people released from prison? Why do we keep setting people up to fail? If we make it harder for a released individual to successfully reenter society, the consequences may lead to reoffending. A person may lack the resources, language ability, or information to get a ID on their own. Without an ID, so many avenues for successful reentry are cut off and a person may be left with few options for survival.

It seems like such a simple and decent thing for the Department of Public Safety to do. Please pass HB2169 HD1 SD1 and give released individuals a fighting chance to make it on the outside. It may well increase public safety in our communities.

**HB-2169-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 9:49:45 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/31/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Emily Sarasa	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and members of the Committee,

My name is Emily Sarasa and I am testifying in strong opposition to HB2169, which waters down the Department of Public Safety’s obligation to provide civil identification cards to people exiting jails and prisons and reentering our communities.

Ninety-five percent of incarcerated people will eventually be released, and it is our responsibility to provide them with a fair chance at finding stability. Folks reentering our community need civil identification documents to secure housing and employment, to enroll in many benefit programs, and to fill medication prescriptions. Reentry programs that help people secure IDs, jobs, treatment, housing, and education have proven effective in facilitating the successful transition of formerly incarcerated people out of jails and prisons and back to their families and communities. I urge lawmakers to ensure the Department of Public Safety’s compliance with their legal obligation to provide comprehensive reentry planning, including the issuance of civil identification documents.

Providing IDs to people exiting incarceration decreases recidivism, increases public safety, and strengthens our communities. Please defer HB2169 and support our loved ones who are returning home.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Emily Sarasa

**HB-2169-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 9:50:37 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/31/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Barbara L. George	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**OPPOSE in the strongest terms possible!** Those who have served their time and are preparing to reenter the public domain **MUST** have the basic support to reenter successfully. This includes an official ID.

**HB-2169-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 10:00:37 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/31/2022 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ruth Luka Bascar-Sellars	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and members of the Committee,

My name is Ruth L Bascar-Sellars. I am testifying in **strong opposition to HB2169**, which waters down the Department of Public Safety’s obligation to provide civil identification cards to people exiting jails and prisons and reentering our communities.

Ninety-five percent of incarcerated people will eventually be released, and it is our responsibility to provide them with a fair chance at finding stability. Folks reentering our community need civil identification documents to secure housing and employment, to enroll in many benefit programs, and to fill medication prescriptions. Reentry programs that help people secure IDs, jobs, treatment, housing, and education have proven effective in facilitating the successful transition of formerly incarcerated people out of jails and prisons and back to their families and communities. I urge lawmakers to ensure the Department of Public Safety’s compliance with their legal obligation to provide comprehensive reentry planning, including the issuance of civil identification documents.

Providing IDs to people exiting incarceration decreases recidivism, increases public safety, and strengthens our communities. **Please defer HB2169 and support our loved ones who are returning home.**

Mahalo for your consideration,

Ruth L Bascar-Sellars



**HB-2169-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 10:57:19 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/31/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
cori	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and members of the Committee,

My name is Cori Farrow and I am testifying in strong opposition to HB2169, which waters down the Department of Public Safety's obligation to provide civil identification cards to people exiting jails and prisons and reentering our communities.

Ninety-five percent of incarcerated people will eventually be released, and it is our responsibility to provide them with a fair chance at finding stability. Folks reentering our community need civil identification documents to secure housing and employment, to enroll in many benefit programs, and to fill medication prescriptions. Reentry programs that help people secure IDs, jobs, treatment, housing, and education have proven effective in facilitating the successful transition of formerly incarcerated people out of jails and prisons and back to their families and communities. I urge lawmakers to ensure the Department of Public Safety's compliance with their legal obligation to provide comprehensive reentry planning, including the issuance of civil identification documents.

Providing IDs to people exiting incarceration decreases recidivism, increases public safety, and strengthens our communities. Please defer HB2169 and support our loved ones who are returning home.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Cori Farrow

**LATE**

**HB-2169-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 1:59:19 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/31/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Barbara Best	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

HB2169 waters down the Department of Public Safety's obligation to provide civil identification cards to people exiting jails and prisons and reentering our communities.

Ninety-five percent of incarcerated people will eventually be released, and it is our responsibility to provide them with a fair chance at finding stability. Folks reentering our community need civil identification documents to secure housing and employment, to enroll in many benefit programs, and to fill medication prescriptions. Reentry programs that help people secure IDs, jobs, treatment, housing, and education have proven effective in facilitating the successful transition of formerly incarcerated people out of jails and prisons and back to their families and communities. I urge lawmakers to ensure the Department of Public Safety's compliance with their legal obligation to provide comprehensive reentry planning, including the issuance of civil identification documents.

Providing IDs to people exiting incarceration decreases recidivism, increases public safety, and strengthens our communities. Please defer HB2169 and support our loved ones who are returning home.

Mahalo for your consideration

**LATE**

**HB-2169-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 9:40:36 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/31/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dave Kisor	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Pardon me, but what I see is just more bureaucratic chicken excrement. This is an interesting conundrum in the respect that we're here to help you, but not here to give you what you require. That goes foot in mouth with We're from the government and we're here to help you. If that doesn't scare the hell out of you, nothing will!

**LATE**

**HB-2169-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 12:31:12 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/31/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kristine Crawford	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

DPS needs to facilitate the successful reentry of people to their communities by ensuring they have IDs when they leave. I support this bill.

**LATE**

**HB-2169-SD-1**

Submitted on: 3/31/2022 5:04:38 AM

Testimony for JDC on 3/31/2022 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alan Edward Texeira	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To Chair Rhoads Vice Chair; Keohokalole; Members of the Committee:

I Alan Edward Texeira, 4052A Keanu Street, Kaimuki, Hawaii 96816 stand in opposition of HR 2169.

In my own words I feel that The Department of Public Safety has a responsibility to provide ID Cards, Training, Education, Housing, Treatment so that individuals who leave prison will have a chance in a better life. We must help these individuals in finding stability outside prison.

This is all I have to say in simple words.

Please defer HB 2169.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alan Edward Texeira