

**TESTIMONY BY:**

JADE T. BUTAY  
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors  
ROSS M. HIGASHI  
EDUARDO P. MANGLALLAN  
PATRICK H. MCCAIN  
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

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

February 28, 2022  
10:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Teleconference

**S.B. 2456, S.D. 1**  
**RELATING TO IDENTIFICATION CARDS**

Senate Committee on Judiciary

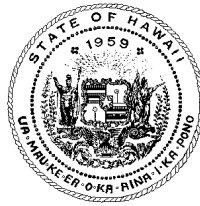
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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** the intent of S.B. 2456 S.D. 1, Relating to Identification Cards. The purpose of this Act is to authorize the issuance of limited purpose identification cards for individuals who otherwise satisfy the requirements for a government-issued identification card except for the individual's refusal or inability to provide satisfactory proof of authorized presence in the United States under federal law. This Act would not convey immigration benefits, but it would help determine who these folks are which is an important objective of the government. It would also help alleviate an immeasurable amount of suffering for folks who have lost their belongings or have limited documentation.

The DOT appreciates the amendments in Senate Draft 1 which align the limited purpose identification card application process with that of the limited purpose driver's license under section 286-104.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes and that a person who has been issued a REAL ID compliant driver's license or identification card in any state shall not be issued a limited purpose identification card under this section.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

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. \_\_\_\_\_

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2456, SENATE DRAFT 1  
RELATING TO IDENTIFICATION CARDS.**

by

Max N. Otani, Director  
Department of Public Safety

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

February 28, 2022, 10:30 a.m.  
Via Videoconference

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

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) supports the intent of Senate Bill (SB) 2456, Senate Draft (SD) 1, which authorizes the issuance of limited purpose identification cards for certain residents.

In advance of their scheduled release, the Department's Reentry Coordination Office offers assistance to offenders in securing birth certificates, driver's licenses, and other identification needed to gain employment and housing, and access other essential services, so they can successfully reintegrate into the community. To help facilitate these often difficult processes, PSD has established working agreements with the issuer of driver's licenses, the State Department of Transportation (DOT), and the City and County of Honolulu, to whom DOT has delegated the responsibility to issue driver's licenses on Oahu, to accept and process offenders' driver's license applications before the offenders' release. PSD notes that the driver's licenses secured in this manner are REAL ID compliant.

The Limited Purpose Identification Card proposed in SB 2456, SD1 would not be REAL ID compliant, however, PSD believes it is in the best interests of exiting

offenders, as well as the Department and the State for as many offenders as possible to receive ID cards that are acceptable in the community to access basic needs and services, and views this proposal as a reasonable means of achieving that goal.

PSD's experience has shown that there are particular barriers in securing REAL ID-compliant identification cards for certain offenders, such as, the lack of a central office from which to obtain a duplicate birth certificate from countries like Chuk, one of the Federated States of Micronesia, or countries like the Philippines. Or, for example, an offender may be convicted under an alias, which is the name that follows the offender throughout the judicial process and is used for their prison identification card. Without a duplicate, certified birth certificate, these offenders would be precluded from obtaining REAL ID compliant identification cards, issued by the DOT or counties under the agreement with PSD. The Limited Purpose Identification Card would be a suitable and useful substitute for these offenders which would allow them to access housing and services when they return to the community.

The Department notes that SB 2456, SD 1 lists the Department of Public Safety-issued ID as an acceptable document to use in applying for a Limited Purpose ID Card, which, if enacted would be helpful to these offenders. Of course, if an offender desires a REAL ID compliant identification, the individual will need to present further certified qualifying documentation to obtain a Gold-Star ID and surrender the Limited Purpose ID Card upon approval.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.



## HAWAI'I FRIENDS OF CIVIL RIGHTS

February 25, 2022

TO: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair

FROM: Amy Agbayani, Co-Chair & Pat McManaman, Co-Chair

SUBJECT: **SB2456, SD1 Relating to Identification Cards**

HEARING: February 28, 2022, 10:30 AM  
Via Videoconference

The Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights stands in **STRONG SUPPORT** of **SB2456, SD1** with a suggested amendment adding the following as acceptable documentation issued to incarcerated persons upon their release: "A prisoner identification card, certificate of discharge, order of parole, or printout prepared by the department of public safety with the person's photograph, name, and date of birth. "

The federal REAL ID Act of 2005, Pub. L. No. 109-13 requires states to comply with federally mandated eligibility criteria in issuing driver licenses and identification cards. These documents are often referred to as "REAL ID compliant." The REAL ACT does not, however, prohibit states and local governments from issuing non-compliant driver's licenses and identification cards. In 2015, the Hawai'i Legislature created a limited purpose driver's license, a limited purpose provisional driver's license, and a limited purpose instruction permit. Act of June 30, 2015, c 172, (codified at HRS §286-104.5).

Many young adults, elderly residents, houseless persons, recently released inmates, undocumented immigrants, and lawfully present non-immigrants who do not drive and cannot meet the heightened standards for a REAL ID-compliant identification card are unable to access state-issued identification.

Proving your identity is a necessity that has been turned into an obstacle for many immigrants and non-immigrants and further heightened by COVID-19. Restaurants, theaters, and other public venues currently require proof of valid vaccination and identification. Our

public libraries require the same. And, even before the onset of COVID-19, state office buildings including Queen Liliuokalani Building (DHS & DOE) and the Princess Ruth Keelikolani building (DLIR, DoTax, HCRC, OCS, and DCD) required valid proof of identity for entry.

Additional benefits of a limited purpose identification card include:

- Helping emergency personnel, including police and emergency response teams, identify the person in distress;
- Providing basic access to public services including filling prescriptions at a local pharmacy, picking up packages at a post office, accessing Kamaaina discounts at museums, hotels, and public parks such as Hanauma Bay;
- Promoting public safety by diminishing an undocumented immigrant's fear of interacting with local police due to the lack of identification and also helps local police to properly identify individuals they come into contact with; and
- Providing access to financial services at banks that will honor state identification cards and permit holders to open accounts. Many individuals unable to open bank accounts carry large sums of cash and can be targeted for theft. Others, who cannot access a bank account must rely upon check-cashing businesses which may charge a fee of up to 5% or \$5.00 whichever is greater. See, HRS §480F-3.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this important bill.



www.hicir.org | Instagram @hicir  
hicoalitionforimmigrantrights@gmail.com

## Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 2456 SD1 RELATING TO IDENTIFICATION CARDS

**Committee on Judiciary**  
Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair  
Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice-Chair

Hearing Date: 2/28/2022

Room Number: Via Videoconference

Dear Committee Members,

We write to SUPPORT SB 2456 SD1, with a suggested amendment adding the following as acceptable documentation issued to incarcerated persons upon their release: “A prisoner identification card, certificate of discharge, order of parole, or printout prepared by the department of public safety with the person’s photograph, name, and date of birth.” This bill provides the opportunity for a Hawai`i state ID card to individuals who are unable to get a “Gold Star” ID card because they cannot access their vital documents to meet the strict federal requirements. It will provide non-drivers with the same kind of ID as the limited purpose driver’s license, which Hawai`i has already implemented successfully. This is critical to allow non-driving members of our community access to public services and businesses during the pandemic, as many entities now require a proof of identification.

### **It is difficult for many Hawai`i residents to obtain the “Gold Star” ID.**

The federal REAL ID Act requirements for a “Gold Star” ID are stringent, requiring strict documentation of proof of authorized presence in the United States, and this can be difficult to obtain for many community members, including some immigrants, kūpuna, houseless individuals, and others. First, undocumented immigrants are explicitly excluded from the “Gold Star” ID, because they are unable to show proof of authorized presence. However, they are not the only group excluded by the REAL ID Act requirements. Many U.S. citizens also struggle to obtain the “Gold Star” ID, because of the practical barriers to obtaining the required documents—especially during the COVID-19 pandemic where offices across the country are facing closures and record-setting backlogs.

We have heard many stories of individuals who have struggled to obtain such paperwork, particularly among kūpuna. There is the story of a U.S. national who has lived in Hawai`i for half a century. She was unsure about how to even begin to obtain the documents showing proof of authorized presence, and she used her ID only at the bank. She experienced a sudden and confusing disruption to her decades-long routine when her ID expired, and she was turned away at the DMV. There is the story of a U.S. citizen who has experienced homelessness for many years and has struggled to obtain any of his vital documents—despite his ongoing best efforts.



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### **IDs are necessary for many aspects of daily life during the COVID-19 pandemic.**

All individuals, including non-drivers, should have access to identification, which is increasingly required for access to day-to-day needs, like accessing some businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. IDs are requested by state agencies, banks, pharmacies, and accessing businesses as a Kama`āina like at museums, hotels, and public parks such as Hanauma Bay. During the COVID-19 pandemic, many spaces require a valid ID and proof of vaccination. And finally, IDs are critical during emergencies, so that emergency personnel can easily identify injured and distressed individuals.

### **This bill is about inclusion for all members of our community.**

In addition to the practical benefits of the limited purpose State ID, this bill is also necessary for inclusion for all members of our community. The inability to overcome the federal REAL ID Act's obstacles for a "Gold Star" ID should not prevent individuals from being full members of our Hawai`i community. The inability to access documents needed for a "Gold Star" ID has wide-ranging effects on all members of our community regardless of immigration status. It does of course have an outsized effect on undocumented immigrant communities.

Inclusion is important because these communities contribute greatly to our economy and society. There are about 41,246 undocumented individuals in Hawai`i as of 2018, and they are estimated to have paid a total of 110.5 million dollars in taxes that year (\$65.7 million in federal taxes paid, and \$44.8 million in state and local taxes paid).<sup>1</sup> With mechanisms towards greater inclusion, these contributions can be even greater. More than just economic statistics, these individuals are also our friends, neighbors, and family members. This bill recognizes that.

### **The limited purpose state ID is a simple expansion from the successful limited purpose driver's license.**

Finally, a limited purpose state ID would not be an entirely new enterprise. Recognizing the challenges of the federal REAL ID Act requirements and the importance of not leaving behind members of our community, the Hawai`i legislature created the limited purpose driver's license in 2015. It has been successfully implemented since then. We have heard stories of individuals who have obtained a limited purpose driver's license, allowing them to engage with the economy and community in new, expanded ways. Non-drivers deserve the same chance.

We fully SUPPORT SB 2456 SD1. Thank you for your support and consideration.

Catherine Chen, Co-chair, Hawai`i Coalition for Immigrant Rights  
Liza Ryan Gill, Co-chair, Hawai`i Coalition for Immigrant Rights

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<sup>1</sup> New American Economy, *Immigrants and Migrants in Hawai`i* (May 2021), at 26, [https://research.newamericaneconomy.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2021/05/NAE\\_Hawaii\\_V7\\_FINAL.pdf](https://research.newamericaneconomy.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2021/05/NAE_Hawaii_V7_FINAL.pdf).

# COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

P.O. Box 37158, Honolulu, HI 96837-0158

Phone/E-Mail: (808) 927-1214 / [kat.caphi@gmail.com](mailto:kat.caphi@gmail.com)



## COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair

Monday, February 28, 2022

9:30 AM

## **SB 2546 SD1 - STRONG SUPPORT w/ CLARIFYING AMENDMENT**

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 of the more than 4,052 Hawai'i individuals living behind bars under the "care and custody" of the Department of Public Safety on any given day. We are always mindful that 1,111 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 strongly supports this measure and respectfully requests that the committee clarify the bill on page 7, lines 2 and 3 which now reads:

"(16) A prisoner identification card issued by the department of public safety; or"

There is no prisoner identification card, which makes (16) unworkable. We, therefore, respectfully request that (16) be amended to read:

(16) A Prison ID, Certificate of Discharge or Order of Parole issued by the Hawaii Department of Public Safety, or a printout prepared by the Department of Public Safety with the person's photograph, name, and date of birth.

Identification cards are crucial for cashing checks, opening a bank account, seeking employment, finding a place to live, getting a library card, etc. In other words, IDs are vital for all the things that help someone feel that they are a part of the community. Identification cards help people who are new to this country as well as returning citizens reentering their communities after incarceration. These limited purpose ID cards can help someone get started.

Mahalo nui for hearing this bill and for considering the clarifying amendment we respectfully suggested in order to provide information that is helpful in your deliberations.

*"The minute we become an integrated whole, we look through the same eyes  
and we see a whole different world together."*

*Azizah Al-Hibri  
Philosopher and Legal Scholar*





**TO: Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole, and Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary**

**FROM: Ryan Kusumoto, President & CEO of Parents And Children Together (PACT)**

**DATE/LOCATION: February 28, 2022; 10:30 a.m., Video Conference**

**RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2456 SD 1– RELATING TO IDENTIFICATION CARDS**

**We ask you to support SB 2456 which authorizes the issuance of limited purpose identification cards for certain residents.** We strongly support this bill which will help to eliminate some of the barriers that migrant and immigrant residents face while navigating our systems. Access to a limited purpose identification card would create equal opportunity for migrant and immigrant residents to access health care, benefits, banking, and other services.

Navigating local systems is challenging for families who are new to Hawaii -- Compact Of Free Association (COFA) Citizens and other immigrants -- and already struggling with limited English proficiency, unemployment, lack of affordable housing, food insecurity, little access to technology and inadequacy of support systems or even information about support systems that they might be eligible for. The inequities that were easily observable pre-COVID are now exacerbated, particularly for these residents, and have increased exponentially. Barriers preventing access to acceptable forms of identification complicates things further by making it virtually impossible for these residents to thrive. Issuing limited purpose identification cards would allow our residents to engage more readily in our communities and continue to contribute positively to our economies and society.

Founded in 1968, Parents And Children Together (PACT) is one of Hawaii's not-for-profit organizations providing a wide array of innovative and educational social services to families in need. Assisting more than 17,000 people across the state annually, PACT helps families identify, address and successfully resolve challenges through its 20 programs. Among its services are: early education programs, domestic violence prevention and intervention programs, child abuse prevention and intervention programs, childhood sexual abuse supportive group services, child and adolescent behavioral health programs, sex trafficking intervention, poverty prevention and community building programs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support of SB 2456 SD 1**, please contact me at (808) 847-3285 or [rkusumoto@pacthawaii.org](mailto:rkusumoto@pacthawaii.org) if you have any questions.



**LATE**

February 27, 2022

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair

Senator Jarrett Keohokalole, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: February 28, 2022, 10:30 a.m.

Via Videoconference

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**Testimony in Support of Senate Bill 2456, SD 1  
Relating to Identification Cards**

Chair Moriwaki, Vice-Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee:

The Legal Clinic (“TLC”) submits this testimony in support of SB 2456, which would authorize the issuance of limited purpose identification cards for certain residents.

TLC provides legal and related services to Hawai'i's low- and moderate-income immigrant community.

In the course of our work, we have learned that there are many in the immigrant and other marginalized communities, such as the homeless, the elderly and others, who cannot obtain the documents necessary to qualify for a “Gold Star” identification card. Many also do not drive and are not eligible to obtain the limited purpose driver’s license. And yet, these residents have just as much need as others to access public services and businesses during the pandemic, but cannot do so since some form of proof of identification is required.

While the limited purpose identification card will not satisfy all identification requirements, like the limited purpose driver’s license, it will at least help the considerable number of non-drivers access public services and businesses like virtually everyone else.

We urge you to pass SB 2456, SD 1 out of committee.

Thank you.

Corey Park  
President, Board of Directors  
The Legal Clinic

**SB-2456-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/24/2022 9:42:22 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/28/2022 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Diana Bethel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in strong support of SB2456 SD1 which authorizes the issuance of limited purpose identification cards for certain residents.

The purpose of SB2456 SD1 is to provide identification cards for people who are not, for various reasons, able to obtain state-issued identification, such as immigrants and those released from prison. Having some form of identification card would allow them to conduct essential basic tasks necessary to participate in daily life without unnecessary problems. Without any ID, individuals are unable to cash checks, open a bank account, get a library card, apply for employment, or find a place to live, etc. This is a cruel form of government neglect and an avoidable hardship imposed on immigrants and those released from prison.

In the case of those released from prison, it seems that it should be a requirement for the DPS to issue an ID card to individuals upon release, whether or not they request one. Why make it more difficult for incarcerated individuals to reintegrate into society? An ID card seems like the very least that can be provided to assist them and would perhaps be the most cost-effective strategy to reduce the likelihood of recidivating.

Please pass SB2456 SD1. Mahalo.

**SB-2456-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/25/2022 12:24:44 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/28/2022 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Thaddeus Pham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole and JDC Committee Members,

I write to SUPPORT SB2456, which authorizes the issuance of limited purpose identification cards for certain residents. Hawai'i has already successfully implemented a limited purpose driver's license, and this bill will provide non-drivers with the same kind of ID. As a result, the non-driving members of our community will be able to access public services and businesses during the pandemic, as many entities now require a proof of identification.

It can be difficult to obtain the documents necessary for a "Gold Star" ID, which must be compliant with federal REAL ID Act requirements, including strict documentation of proof of authorized presence in the United States. This can be difficult to obtain for many community members, including some immigrants, kūpuna, houseless individuals, and others.

The inability to overcome these obstacles for a "Gold Star" ID should not prevent individuals from being full members of our community, as the legislature recognized when it created the limited purpose driver's license in 2015.

All individuals, including non-drivers, should have access to identification, which is increasingly required for access to day-to-day needs, like accessing some businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. As a public health professional working with many of our most vulnerable communities in Hawai'i, I have witnessed how the lack of ID becomes a major barrier to essentials health and social services.

This bill simply extends the limited purpose driver's license, already successfully implemented, to a limited purpose state ID, so that non-drivers can have the same opportunities as drivers in Hawai'i.

With gratitude,

Thaddeus Pham (he/him)

**SB-2456-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/25/2022 12:20:17 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/28/2022 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
amy agbayani	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Amy Agbayani Thank you to the Filipino House caucus for including SB 2456 in their package and to this committee for hearing the bill. This bill is similar to the Limited Purpose Driver's License which has proven to be very helpful to community members who need to drive and need an acceptable Identification Card. It only makes sense to allow individuals who cannot or do not want to drive a car to also to have Limited Purpose Identification Cards. Having a Limited Purpose ID will be helpful to many citizens (including kupuna citizens) and non-citizens to fully and more easily participate in various activities (e.g. covid-19 regulations require IDs and proof of vaccination or negative test.

I support an amendment by adding the following as acceptable documentation issued to incarcerated persons upon their release: “ A prisoner identification card, certificate of discharge, order of parole, or printout prepared by the department of public safety with the person’s photograph, name, and date of birth. “

I respectfully request you approve this measure.

Amy Agbayani

**SB-2456-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/25/2022 1:11:32 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/28/2022 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
John Robert Egan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Committee on Judiciary

HEARING DATE: Monday, February 28, 2022

TIME: 1:30 pm

PLACE: Via Videoconference

Aloha Committee Members:

I write in strong support of SB2456, which authorizes the issuance of limited purpose identification cards for certain residents. Hawai'i has recognized the need for limited purpose driver's licenses, but that well-considered and appropriate measure did not include any provision for people who need ID (and who does not?) but do not need or want to drive. This measure is a commonsense extension of that same successful program.

I strongly SUPPORT SB2456.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

John Robert Egan, Immigration lawyer and educator

**SB-2456-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/25/2022 1:18:12 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/28/2022 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Clare M Hanusz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I write in strong support of SB 2456. Hawai'i has already successfully implemented a limited purpose driver's license, and this bill would extend a similar ID option to non-drivers. This will allow access to public services and business during the pandemic, as many more places now require identification. Having a limited purpose state ID is a great idea and will benefit many in our community.

Thank you,

Clare Hanusz

**Robert K. Merce**  
2467Aha Aina Place  
Honolulu, HI 96821

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**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2456, SD 1**  
Relating to Identification Cards

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY**  
Chair, Senator Karl Rhoads  
Vice-Chair, Senator Jarrett Keohokalole

Video Conference Hearing Date: February 28, 2022

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

My name is Robert Merce. I am a retired lawyer and previously served as vice-chair of the HCR 85 Task Force on Prison Reform. In 2018 I was appointed to the Reentry Commission by House Speaker Scott Saiki and served on the Commission until its responsibilities were transferred to the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission pursuant to Act 179 SLH 2019.

**I strongly support SB 2456, SD 1** and for the reasons stated below **request an amendment** that would allow formerly incarcerated people to obtain a limited purpose identification card.

Many people who are incarcerated find themselves without government identification when they are released because their previous identification expired, or was lost or damaged while they were incarcerated.

Leaving prison without proper identification can make reentry into the community much more difficult by blocking access to adequate housing, employment, transportation, financial services, and government benefit programs such as SNAP, Medicaid, Medicare, Social Security, and veterans' benefits. Lack of identification can make complying with the many conditions of probation or parole more difficult, and it impedes the ability of formerly incarcerated people to gain a modicum of stability while they adjust to life outside of prison.

In 2017 the Legislature passed Act 56, SLH 2017 (codified as HRS §353H-32) which requires the Department of Public Safety, "upon request," to issue civil identification cards to inmates who have one year or less remaining on their sentence.

Despite the clear mandate of HRS §353H-32, *over the past six years DPS had not issued any civil identification cards to inmates*. The project has been stalled for a variety of reasons<sup>1</sup> and instead, DPS has issued inmates a Certificate of Discharge, an Order of Parole (for inmates who

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<sup>1</sup>The problems DPS has encountered in setting up the program are discussed in their Annual Report to the Legislature on Civil Identification Documents, April 21, 2021. <https://dps.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Reentry-Coordination-Report-on-ID-Documents-Act-56-SLH-2017-210421.pdf>



are paroled), and a departmental printout which has the inmate's photograph, name, date of birth, and social security number.

Hopefully DPS it will begin issuing civil identification cards in the near future, but until it does, a limited purpose identification card would be an enormous help to the many men and women who are returning to the community from prison.

Even if DPS begins issuing civil identification cards, some inmate may fail to request the card or for a variety of reasons be released without a card. In those cases the limited identification card would serve as a safety net for formerly incarcerated individuals.

In view of the fact that the Department of Public Safety is not now issuing identification cards, and we do not know when, if ever, such cards will be issued, I recommend that the Committee amend SB 2456, SD 1 by deleting lines 2 and 3 on page 7, and in their place insert the following:

- (16) A prisoner identification card, certificate of discharge, order of parole, or printout prepared by the department of public safety with the person's photograph, name, and date of birth.

Thank you for allowing me to testify on this matter.

**LATE**

**SB-2456-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 8:18:16 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/28/2022 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

NO ILLEGALS IN HAWAII!!

**LATE**

**SB-2456-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/27/2022 9:36:58 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/28/2022 10:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Remote Testimony Requested</b>
Carolyn Eaton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keohokalole and members of the Committee. My name is Carolyn Eaton and I support this bill. The limited ID's it proposes to secure for immigrating individuals, new to our country, and for newly released individuals who will re-enter our communities from jail or prison will be of immeasurable value to both.

Please include language in the bill to specify the documents which will be sufficient to obtain the limited purpose ID's: an order of parole or a certificate of discharge or a letter from DPS bearing the individual's name, date of birth and photograph.

The legislature has expressed itself in the past on the importance of the State's responsibility in furnishing such a document to those individuals leaving State custody. These are new members of the greater community, as much as immigrants are. Both will face many obstacles navigating the housing market, joining the labor force, and, in securing and spending the money they will earn, joining the local economy. Managing the path without any ID at all is an unnecessary burden.

Mahalo for this opportunity to contribute to your decision making.

**LATE**

**SB-2456-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 9:32:46 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/28/2022 10:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Liza Ryan Gill	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Committee Members,

**I write to SUPPORT SB 2456 SD1, with a suggested amendment adding the following as acceptable documentation issued to incarcerated persons upon their release: “A prisoner identification card, certificate of discharge, order of parole, or printout prepared by the department of public safety with the person’s photograph, name, and date of birth.” This bill provides the opportunity for a Hawai`i state ID card to individuals who are unable to get a “Gold Star” ID card because they cannot access their vital documents to meet the strict federal requirements. It will provide non-drivers with the same kind of ID as the limited purpose driver’s license, which Hawai`i has already implemented successfully. This is critical to allow non-driving members of our community access to public services and businesses during the pandemic, as many entities now require a proof of identification.**

**It is difficult for many Hawai`i residents to obtain the “Gold Star” ID.**

**The federal REAL ID Act requirements for a “Gold Star” ID are stringent, requiring strict documentation of proof of authorized presence in the United States, and this can be difficult to obtain for many community members, including some immigrants, kūpuna, houseless individuals, and others. First, undocumented immigrants are explicitly excluded from the “Gold Star” ID, because they are unable to show proof of authorized presence. However, they are not the only group excluded by the REAL ID Act requirements. Many U.S. citizens also struggle to obtain the “Gold Star” ID, because of the practical barriers to obtaining the required documents—especially during the COVID-19 pandemic where offices across the country are facing closures and record-setting backlogs.**

**We have heard many stories of individuals who have struggled to obtain such paperwork, particularly among kūpuna. There is the story of a U.S. national who has lived in Hawai`i for half a century. She was unsure about how to even begin to obtain the documents showing proof of authorized presence, and she used her ID only at the bank. She experienced a sudden and confusing disruption to her decades-long routine when her ID expired, and she was turned away at the DMV. There is the story of a U.S. citizen who has experienced homelessness for many years and has struggled to obtain any of his vital documents—despite his ongoing best efforts.**

**IDs are necessary for many aspects of daily life during the COVID-19 pandemic.**

**All individuals, including non-drivers, should have access to identification, which is increasingly required for access to day-to-day needs, like accessing some businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic. IDs are requested by state agencies, banks, pharmacies, and accessing businesses as a Kama`āina like at museums, hotels, and public parks such as Hanauma Bay. During the COVID-19 pandemic, many spaces require a valid ID and proof of vaccination. And finally, IDs are critical during emergencies, so that emergency personnel can easily identify injured and distressed individuals.**

**This bill is about inclusion for all members of our community.**

**In addition to the practical benefits of the limited purpose State ID, this bill is also necessary for inclusion for all members of our community. The inability to overcome the federal REAL ID Act's obstacles for a "Gold Star" ID should not prevent individuals from being full members of our Hawai`i community. The inability to access documents needed for a "Gold Star" ID has wide-ranging effects on all members of our community regardless of immigration status. It does of course have an outsized effect on undocumented immigrant communities.**

**Inclusion is important because these communities contribute greatly to our economy and society. There are about 41,246 undocumented individuals in Hawai`i as of 2018, and they are estimated to have paid a total of 110.5 million dollars in taxes that year (\$65.7 million in federal taxes paid, and \$44.8 million in state and local taxes paid). With mechanisms towards greater inclusion, these contributions can be even greater. More than just economic statistics, these individuals are also our friends, neighbors, and family members. This bill recognizes that.**

**The limited purpose state ID is a simple expansion from the successful limited purpose driver's license.**

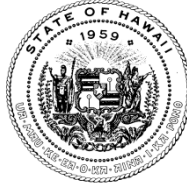
**Finally, a limited purpose state ID would not be an entirely new enterprise. Recognizing the challenges of the federal REAL ID Act requirements and the importance of not leaving behind members of our community, the Hawai`i legislature created the limited purpose driver's license in 2015. It has been successfully implemented since then. We have heard stories of individuals who have obtained a limited purpose driver's license, allowing them to engage with the economy and community in new, expanded ways. Non-drivers deserve the same chance.**

**We fully SUPPORT SB 2456 SD1. Thank you for your support and consideration.**

**Catherine Chen, Co-chair, Hawai`i Coalition for Immigrant Rights**

**Liza Ryan Gill, Co-chair, Hawai`i Coalition for Immigrant Rights**





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February 28, 2022  
10:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Teleconference

**S.B. 2456, S.D. 1  
RELATING TO IDENTIFICATION CARDS**

Senate Committee on Judiciary

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** the intent of S.B. 2456 S.D. 1, Relating to Identification Cards. The purpose of this Act is to authorize the issuance of limited purpose identification cards for individuals who otherwise satisfy the requirements for a government-issued identification card except for the individual's refusal or inability to provide satisfactory proof of authorized presence in the United States under federal law. This Act would not convey immigration benefits, but it would help determine who these folks are which is an important objective of the government. It would also help alleviate an immeasurable amount of suffering for folks who have lost their belongings or have limited documentation.

The DOT appreciates the amendments in Senate Draft 1 which align the limited purpose identification card application process with that of the limited purpose driver's license under section 286-104.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes and that a person who has been issued a REAL ID compliant driver's license or identification card in any state shall not be issued a limited purpose identification card under this section.

However, we suggest amendments which authorizes the issuance of limited purpose identification (ID) cards for certain residents. New Section 286-A (c) found on Page 7 and 8, should be amended to satisfy the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) preferred marking on the face of a Non-Compliant Card as published in the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrator's (AAMVA), 2020 AAMVA driver's license/ID Card Design Standard, and be amended as follows:

"(c) Every limited purpose identification card issued pursuant to this section shall on its face [and in a machine readable zone] bear the phrase, [~~"Not acceptable for official federal purposes and does not establish eligibility for employment, voter registration, or public benefits]~~ **"NOT ACCEPTABLE FOR REAL ID OFFICIAL PURPOSES"**, and on its reverse bear the phrase, **"This identification card does not establish eligibility for employment, voter registration, or public benefits."**, and be of a unique design or color

indication that clearly distinguishes the limited purpose identification card from the state's [~~fully federally~~] REAL ID compliant civil-identification cards. If the United States DHS determines that any limited-purpose identification card issued pursuant to this section do-not satisfy the requirements of title 6 Code of Federal-Regulations section 37.71, adopted pursuant to section 202 of-the REAL ID Act of 2005, Public Law 109-13, the examiner of-drivers shall modify the limited purpose identification card issued pursuant to this section only to the extent necessary to-satisfy the requirements of the federal law.”

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.