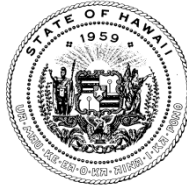


DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



**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

March 21, 2022  
2:00 P.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 325/Teleconference

**S.B. 2679, S.D. 2, H.D. 1**  
**RELATING TO DRIVER'S LICENSES**

House Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

---

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** S.B. 2679, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, which extends the renewal period from 2 years to 4 years for licensees who are 72 years of age or older but younger than 80 years of age.

The DOT has not found local data to indicate drivers 70 years or older are at higher risk of causing or being involved in crashes. Also, based on a review of an American Automobile Association study, which included information on age-based license renewals from 51 jurisdictions, only 21 of the United States jurisdictions polled have a shorter renewal cycle based on the age of the driver. Those age-based policies were generally longer than 4 years.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



1001 Bishop Street | Suite 625 | Honolulu, HI 96813-2830  
1-866-295-7282 | Fax: 808-536-2882  
aarp.org/hi | [aarphi@aarp.org](mailto:aarphi@aarp.org) | [twitter.com/AARPHawaii](https://twitter.com/AARPHawaii)  
[facebook.com/AARPHawaii](https://facebook.com/AARPHawaii)

**The State Legislature  
The House  
Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs  
Monday, March 21, 2022  
2:00 p.m.**

TO: The Honorable Mark Nakashima, Chair

RE: S.B. 2679 S.D. 2, H.D.1 Relating to Drivers' License

Aloha Chair Nakashima and Members of the Committee:

My name is Keali'i Lopez and I am the State Director for AARP Hawai'i. AARP is a nonpartisan, social mission organization that advocates for individuals age 50 and older. We have a membership of 38 million nationwide and over 140,000 in Hawai'i.

AARP Hawai'i appreciates and supports this measure to extend the renewal period for older drivers from two to four years. The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the driver license renewal process for all Hawaii drivers as local motor vehicle stations reduced the daily number of customers served and made other operational changes due to public health safety. This has resulted in extensive backlog and delays which have made it increasingly difficult for everyone to renew their license on a timely basis. Extending the renewal process from two to four years for older drivers reduces the frequency to update their driver's license. This alleviates the license renewal burden on the driver as well as the local department of motor vehicle stations.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support on S.B. 2679 S.D.2. HD1.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keali'i E. Lopez".

Keali'i Lopez, AARP Hawai'i  
State Director

**SB-2679-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2022 2:53:26 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/21/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ryden Iwamoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Nakashima and Vice Chair Matayoshi:

Thank you for hearing this bill. My grandfather, aged 73, is one of the best drivers I know—a far better driver than my father, mother, and myself. When I was younger, he would always take me around whenever I needed a ride, and when the time came, I learned how to drive by watching him. He is also a very busy man, caring for several grandchildren (of which I am one) and doing the same for them as he did for me. He also cares for several dogs, does housework, and does other miscellaneous tasks. The last time he renewed his driver's license, the process took nearly the whole morning, from the point of waiting in the queue to processing the renewal at the desk. As is evident, finding time to renew his driver's license is a very time-consuming ordeal that takes his attention away from the things that really matter.

I am confident my grandfather is merely one example of the inconveniences seniors face when renewing their driver's license every two years. I encourage the committee to adopt this measure so that it may realize its true potential as an act in this legislative session.

Thank you for your consideration.

**SB-2679-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2022 5:34:38 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/21/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge you to move this bill forward. I went through the two year renewal process in the midst of the pandemic. Fortunately, I was able to renew by mail, something which should be a permanent option. That option was only available for several months and I met the criteria. This was at a time when COVID numbers were high and drivers' license offices were closed for days and weeks on end because employees had tested positive.

People live much longer than they used to. Most people in Hawaii are active in their 70s and 80s. Some even into their 90s. The current President of the United States is 79 and will turn 80 this year. The immediate past President is 75. If people in their 70s and 80s can lead our nation, then certainly people of that age can be trusted to drive without having to renew their driver's licenses every 2 years. This bill recognizes and respects the rights and abilities of people as they age rather than treating them as being less competent than the rest of the population. In fact, many of them are more competent than the younger folks who are not discriminated against and are not forced to renew their licenses every two years.

I do however object to the defective effective date. That must be changed from 1/1/2050 to upon approval. These defective dates often result in the failure of a bill. I would like to be alive when this takes affect, and not sure i will make it to 2050.

**SB-2679-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/18/2022 9:03:30 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/21/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
JANICE FUKUDA	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Chair & committee members

I strongly support this bill to extend the driver license renewal period from two to four years for drivers age 72-80. Many individuals in this age range are still employed or actively engaged in activities including caregiving. According to the CDC, Hawaii has the highest life expectancy and this is mainly attributed to the active lifestyle of our population, yet we are one of the few states that require a two year renewal period.

Please pass this bill.

**SB-2679-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 12:15:06 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/21/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Anne Anderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Representative Nakashima, Chair, Representative Matayoshi, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

**I support S.B. 2679, S.D.2., H.D.1, but suggest a change.**

People live much longer than they used to and most people in Hawaii are active in their 70s and 80s and some even into their 90s. The current President of the United States is 79 and will turn 80 this year. The immediate past President is 75. If people in their 70s and 80s can lead our nation, then certainly people of that age can be trusted to drive without having to renew their driver's licenses every 2 years. This bill recognizes and respects the rights and abilities of people as they age rather than treating them as being less competent than the rest of the population. Accordingly, I support the bill. However, I suggest that the age range for 4 year licenses be changed to 72 – 89 years of age, instead of 72 – 79 years of age.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Anne Anderson

**SB-2679-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 12:28:00 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/21/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lance S. Fujisaki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Representative Nakashima, Chair, Representative Matayoshi, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

**I support S.B. 2679, S.D.2., H.D.1, but suggest a change.**

People live much longer than they used to and most people in Hawaii are active in their 70s and 80s and some even into their 90s. The current President of the United States is 79 and will turn 80 this year. The immediate past President is 75. If people in their 70s and 80s can lead our nation, then certainly people of that age can be trusted to drive without having to renew their driver's licenses every 2 years. This bill recognizes and respects the rights and abilities of people as they age rather than treating them as being less competent than the rest of the population. Accordingly, I support the bill. However, I suggest that the age range for 4 year licenses be changed to 72 – 89 years of age, instead of 72 – 79 years of age.

Respectfully submitted,

Lance Fujisaki

**SB-2679-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 1:10:23 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/21/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Julie Wassel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Representative Nakashima, Chair, Representative Matayoshi, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee.

**I support S.B. 2679, S.D.2., H.D.1, but suggest a change.**

People live much longer than they used to and most people in Hawaii are active in their 70s and 80s and some even into their 90s. The current President of the United States is 79 and will turn 80 this year. The immediate past President is 75. If people in their 70s and 80s can lead our nation, then certainly people of that age can be trusted to drive without having to renew their driver's licenses every 2 years. This bill recognizes and respects the rights and abilities of people as they age rather than treating them as being less competent than the rest of the population. Accordingly, I support the bill. However, I suggest that the age range for 4 year licenses be changed to 72 – 89 years of age, instead of 72 – 79 years of age.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Wassel



**SB-2679-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 2:03:56 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/21/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
George Vozikis	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Representative Nakashima, Chair, Representative Matayoshi, Vice Chair,  
and Members of the Committee:

**I support S.B. 2679, S.D.2., H.D.1, but suggest a change.**

People live much longer than they used to and most people in Hawaii are active in their 70s and 80s and some even into their 90s. The current President of the United States is 79 and will turn 80 this year. The immediate past President is 75. If people in their 70s and 80s can lead our nation, then certainly people of that age can be trusted to drive without having to renew their driver's licenses every 2 years. This bill recognizes and respects the rights and abilities of people as they age rather than treating them as being less competent than the rest of the population. Accordingly, I support the bill. However, I suggest that the age range for 4 year licenses be changed to 72 – 89 years of age, instead of 72 – 79 years of age.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. George S. Vozikis

**SB-2679-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 5:30:59 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/21/2022 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chandra Kanemaru	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Representative Nakashima, Chair, Representative Matayoshi, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

**I support S.B. 2679, S.D.2., H.D.1, but suggest a change.**

People live much longer than they used to and most people in Hawaii are active in their 70s and 80s and some even into their 90s. The current President of the United States is 79 and will turn 80 this year. The immediate past President is 75. If people in their 70s and 80s can lead our nation, then certainly people of that age can be trusted to drive without having to renew their driver's licenses every 2 years. This bill recognizes and respects the rights and abilities of people as they age rather than treating them as being less competent than the rest of the population. Accordingly, I support the bill. However, I suggest that the age range for 4 year licenses be changed to 72 – 89 years of age, instead of 72 – 79 years of age.

Respectfully submitted,

Chandra R. Kanemaru

**SB-2679-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/19/2022 11:15:02 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/21/2022 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
mary freeman	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Dear Representative Nakashima, Chair, Representative Matayoshi, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee:

**I am in complete support of S.B. 2679, S.D.2., H.D.1, but suggest a change.**

People live much longer than they used to and most people in Hawaii are active in their 70s and 80s and some even into their 90s. The current President of the United States is 79 and will turn 80 this year. The immediate past President is 75. If people in their 70s and 80s can lead our nation, then certainly people of that age can be trusted to drive without having to renew their driver's licenses every 2 years. This bill recognizes and respects the rights and abilities of people as they age rather than treating them as being less competent than the rest of the population. Accordingly, I support the bill. However, I suggest that the age range for 4 year licenses be changed to 72 – 89 years of age, instead of 72 – 79 years of age.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary S. Freeman

Ewa Beach