



Committee on Judiciary
Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard

Wednesday, April 2, 2025, Conference Room 016 & Videoconference
9:30 a.m.
State Capitol
SCR 158, Proposed SD1

URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND ALL MEMBERS OF
ANY CURRENT AND FUTURE ADMINISTRATION, TO ABIDE BY THE LAWS
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INCLUDING BY COMPLYING
WITH ORDERS ISSUED BY THE UNITED STATES COURTS.

TESTIMONY

Janet Mason, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii strongly supports SCR 158, Proposed SD1, which urges the President of the United States, and all members of any current and future administrations, to abide by the laws of the United States of America, including by complying with orders issued by United States Courts.

We urge the President of the United States to support a system of checks and balances as established by the Constitution.¹

We urge the President to follow Constitutional provisions regarding the number of terms allowable for a President.²

We urge our President to respect appointed judges and justices.³

¹ On April 14, 2022, Donald Trump said "When somebody's the President of the United States, the authority is total, and that's the way it's got to be."

² Last weekend the President insisted it would be possible to seek a third term as President. "There are methods which you could do it," he said, including a scenario in which Vice President J.D. Vance ran at the top of the 2028 ticket with Donald Trump as his running mate, only for Donald Trump to assume the Oval Office after the election."

³ In January 2016 Donald Trump expressed disdain for our justice system, joking that he could commit a capital crime without repercussions: "I could stand in the middle of Fifth Avenue and shoot somebody, and I wouldn't lose any voters, OK?. "It's, like, incredible."

Especially concerning the President's recent executive order mandating that the federal Election Assistance Commission requires documentation of citizenship on national voter registration forms. It is already illegal for noncitizens to register and vote in federal or state elections. This new process creates another barrier to voting, is unnecessary and seeks to divide us. The League of Women Voters stands opposed to onerous barriers that threaten the right to vote. The League of Women Voters seeks to make democracy work, encourages eligible citizens to register to vote, then vote.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

Submitted by
Janet Mason, Legislative Committee
Judith Wong, VP League of Women Voters of Hawaii



1 April 2025

VIA EMAIL

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SCR158, URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND ALL MEMBERS OF ANY CURRENT AND FUTURE ADMINISTRATION, TO ABIDE BY THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INCLUDING BY COMPLYING WITH ORDERS ISSUED BY THE UNITED STATES COURTS.

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2025**

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

As **Chair of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i**, I write today in **strong support** of **SCR158**, a resolution urging the President of the United States and all members of current and future administrations to comply with the laws of our nation, including lawful orders issued by U.S. courts.

The **rule of law is the foundation of our democracy**. The principle that **no one is above the law**—not even a former president or their administration—is essential to upholding justice, fairness, and accountability. The separation of powers ensures that an independent judiciary serves as a check on executive overreach, preventing tyranny and safeguarding the rights of all Americans.

Recent efforts to disregard lawful court orders are deeply alarming. If those in power can simply ignore judicial rulings, the fundamental **checks and balances** that protect our democracy are at risk. This is not a partisan issue—it is about defending the integrity of our legal system and ensuring that our government remains accountable to the people.

To demonstrate the urgency of this issue, the Democratic Party of Hawai'i circulated a **petition in support of SCR158**, gathering **135 signatures** from concerned citizens who stand with us in defense of the rule of law. This overwhelming response makes it clear: **the people of Hawai'i demand accountability**.

I urge this committee to **pass SCR158** and send a strong message: **Hawai'i stands firmly in support of the rule of law**.

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Derek Turbin
Chair, Democratic Party of Hawai'i.
Western Region Chair, ASDC.

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 6:33:03 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John & Rita Shockley	Testifying for Free Access Coalition	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha!

We cannot afford one person or one group to take control of the democratic republic by ignoring the Judicial System.



Environmental Caucus of The Democratic Party of Hawai'i

April 1, 2025

To: Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary

Date: Wednesday, April 2, 2025, **Time:** 9:30 a.m.

Place: Conference Room 016 and Videoconference

From: Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

Subject: Testimony in Support of SCR158, Proposed SD1- Urging the U.S. President to abide by the U.S. Laws, including orders issued by U.S. Courts

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee,

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly supports **SCR158, Proposed SD1**, which urges the President of the United States and all members of any current and future administration to abide by the laws of the United States, including by complying with orders issued by United States courts.

This resolution reinforces a foundational principle of American democracy: adherence to the rule of law. It is essential to ensure that all branches of government, including the Executive Branch, uphold legal processes and court decisions, which serve as vital safeguards of constitutional rights and the balance of power.

Supporting Arguments:

- **Preserving Democratic Integrity:**
 - The rule of law is a cornerstone of democratic governance, ensuring accountability and equal justice for all. Compliance with court orders is imperative to maintaining public trust in the legal system and safeguarding the integrity of our institutions.
- **Protecting Constitutional Rights:**
 - U.S. courts play a critical role in protecting the rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution. Noncompliance with court orders undermines these protections and threatens the stability of our legal framework.

- **Preventing Environmental Harm:**

- Environmental protections often hinge on enforcement of court rulings that hold polluters accountable and safeguard natural resources. This resolution aligns with the Environmental Caucus's mission to ensure that such rulings are upheld and implemented effectively.

- **Strengthening Checks and Balances:**

- The separation of powers is a fundamental principle of American governance. By urging compliance with court orders, this resolution reinforces the judiciary's ability to serve as a check on executive authority and prevent overreach.

Conclusion:

The Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i strongly supports **SCR158, Proposed SD1** as a necessary measure to uphold the rule of law, protect constitutional rights, and ensure accountability in governance. We urge the Committee to pass this resolution to reaffirm the importance of legal compliance and safeguard the foundations of our democracy.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of this resolution.

Respectfully Submitted,

Melodie Aduja Alan Burdick

Co-Chairs, Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

SCR-158

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 8:57:46 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
amy agbayani	Testifying for Hawai'i Friends of Civil Rights	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Testimony in stron support of proposed SD 1.

Testimony submitted by: Amy Agbayani, co-chair Hawai,i Friends of Civil Rights.

I respectfully urge you to support SCR 158 proposed SD1. The proposed SD! provides clear and compelling information and analysis for the need and requirement that every person in our nation is subject to the Constitution and to our nation's laws. Recent actions and statements by the President violate the laws and the authority of Congress and the Judiciary. Of grave concern is the President's attacks and refusal to comply with court orders and congressional approved funding and programs. We urge the President and his administration comply with orders issued by the US Courts. Many individuals are communities are being harmed by the President's actions and disregard for the rule of law.

There are many vulnerable communities in our state that need protection. The Presidentt must comply with court orders.

Mahalo for your support of the proposed SD 1.

Amy Agbayani, co-chair Hawai,i Friends of Civil Rights.



1200 Ala Kapuna Street • Honolulu, Hawai'i 96819
Tel: (808) 833-2711 • Fax: (808) 839-7106 • Web: www.hsta.org

Osa Tui, Jr.
President
Logan Okita
Vice President
Cheney Kaku
Secretary-Treasurer
Ann Mahi
Executive Director

TESTIMONY TO THE HAWAI'I SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Item: SCR158, Proposed SD1

Position: Support

Hearing: Wednesday, April 2, 2025, 9:30 am, Room 016

Submitter: Osa Tui, Jr., President - Hawai'i State Teachers Association

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and members of the committee,

The Hawai'i State Teachers Association (HSTA) supports SCR158, proposed SD1 which urges the President of the United States, and all members of any current and future administration, to abide by the laws of the United States of America, including by complying with orders issued by the United States courts.

Our nation currently faces significant federal uncertainty and a likely constitutional crisis as government officials, including those at the highest levels, disregard the very laws and judicial orders they are sworn to uphold. The refusal to comply with lawful court orders undermines the fundamental principle of "a government of laws, not of men" established by our founding fathers. This disregard for the rule of law and the coequal judicial branch creates instability and erodes the checks and balances essential to our democracy.

As educators, HSTA members teach the principles of the U.S. Constitution, the separation of powers, and the importance of the rule of law daily in classrooms across Hawai'i. Students are instructed that every person is subject to the law and that the President has a sacred duty to

ensure laws are faithfully executed. It is difficult to reinforce these foundational civic lessons when actions contradict them at the highest levels of government. Allowing any official, regardless of position, to ignore laws or court orders sets a dangerous precedent and abandons the bedrock principles of our nation.

As such, HSTA urges the passage of SCR158, proposed SD1 to affirm the critical importance of abiding by the laws of the United States, complying with judicial orders and upholding the constitutional framework that teachers work to instill in our next generation.

Mahalo.

LATE



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

Testimony of Liza Ryan-Gill
In SUPPORT of SCR158
COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Senator Rhoads, Chair
Senator Gabbard, Vice Chair

Hearing Date: APRIL 2, 2025

Dear Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

The Hawaii Coalition for Immigrant Rights, representing more than 30 immigrant-serving and led organizations across the islands, is in strong support of this resolution. As we seek to meet the many needs of the thousands of Hawaii residents that have been impacted by the actions of the federal government- we have struggled to keep our communities informed on what is real and what is a false assertion by the President that they should disregard.

As flights of Venezuelan detainees were ordered to return to the US and did not do so, we continue to wrestle with explaining these actions and preparing folks for what the federal government might do- legal or illegal.

These actions, blatantly flouting court rulings, do not engender confidence in the communities we serve and make them even more fearful to come forward, report crimes, and seek the help they need to make us all safer.

Many immigrants and migrants have fled their countries due to tyrannical leaders, sham judicial proceedings, and lack of free speech. They came to the U.S. to enjoy those freedoms they were denied in their homeland. We certainly hope that we can continue to live up to those expectations.

Mahalo nunui,

HCIR Leadership



TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SCR158

LATE

Wednesday, April 2, 2025, 9:30 AM
Conference Room 016 & Videoconference
State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary

From: Abby Simmons (she/her)
Chair, Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

Re: Testimony in Strong Support of SCR158 – URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND ALL MEMBERS OF ANY CURRENT AND FUTURE ADMINISTRATION, TO ABIDE BY THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INCLUDING BY COMPLYING WITH ORDERS ISSUED BY THE UNITED STATES COURTS

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Abby Simmons, and I am the Chair of the Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i. I am writing in ****strong support**** of SCR158, which urges the President of the United States and all members of any current and future administration to abide by the laws of the United States, including by complying with orders issued by the United States courts.

As a Caucus that fights for equality, justice, and adherence to the rule of law, we recognize that a healthy democracy requires respect for our Constitution and the judicial branch's role in interpreting and enforcing the law. The principle that no one—not even the President—is above the law is foundational to our republic.

The refusal by any President or administration to comply with lawful court orders is a dangerous erosion of our constitutional system. It not only undermines the authority of the courts, but threatens the very idea of equal justice under law. This resolution reinforces the core values that protect our freedoms: checks and balances, the separation of powers, and the integrity of our judiciary. We deeply appreciate the Senate's leadership in asserting that compliance with lawful judicial orders is not optional—it is a constitutional obligation. I respectfully urge the Committee to pass SCR158 and send a strong message that Hawai'i stands firmly for democracy, the rule of law, and the rights of all people. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Abby Simmons (she/her)
Chair, Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

LATE



April 1, 2025

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: SCR158 - URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND ALL MEMBERS OF ANY CURRENT AND FUTURE ADMINISTRATION, TO ABIDE BY THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INCLUDING BY COMPLYING WITH ORDERS ISSUED BY THE UNITED STATES COURTS:

**Hearing: April 2, 2025, 9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 016**

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard and Members of the Committee:

Hawaii Women Lawyers ("HWL") **strongly supports SCR 185 Proposed SD1**. This resolution proposes to urge the President of the United States, and all members of any current and future administration to abide by the laws of the United States of America, including by complying with orders issued by the United States courts.

Hawaii Women Lawyers is a lawyer's trade organization that aims to improve the lives and careers of women in all aspects of the legal profession, influence the future of the legal profession, and enhance the status of women and promote equal opportunities for all.

Hawaii Women Lawyers is dedicated to promoting justice and equality, advancing opportunities for women, and advocating for the fair application of the law. HWL recognizes that adherence to the rule of law is fundamental to maintaining public trust in government, protecting civil rights, and ensuring a functioning democracy.

In our ongoing efforts to protect the rights of women, we also recognize the necessity of maintaining strong, fair and transparent legal processes. We stand firmly in support of a legal framework where fairness and accountability are central, and where everyone – regardless of gender, race or socioeconomic status – has equal access to justice.

It is in this spirit that HWL has joined with other bar organizations across the country in support of the rule of law, rejecting efforts to undermine the court system. As legal professionals, we uphold the principles that no individual is above the law and that laws must be applied fairly, transparently, and consistently. When government leaders fail to

comply with legal obligations, it undermines the integrity of our institutions and threatens the rights of individuals, particularly those who are vulnerable or marginalized.

In recent times, we have seen challenges to the rule of law at the highest levels of government, including instances of executive overreach, disregard for judicial decisions, and efforts to weaken fundamental legal protections. These actions set a dangerous precedent and erode the democratic principles upon which our country was founded.

This resolution sends a clear message that the State of Hawaii expects those at the highest levels of government to respect the Constitution, abide by the rule of law and uphold their duty to govern within our established legal framework.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of SCR 158.



Fujiwara & Rosenbaum, LLC

*Alahea Corporate Tower
1100 Alahea St., Fl. 20, Suite B
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813*

LATE

April 2, 2025

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

Re: **S.C.R.158 (Proposed SD1):** URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND ALL MEMBERS OF ANY CURRENT AND FUTURE ADMINISTRATION, TO ABIDE BY THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INCLUDING BY COMPLYING WITH ORDERS ISSUED BY THE UNITED STATES COURTS. (Proposed SD1), **STRONG SUPPORT**
Hearing: Wednesday, April 2, 2025, 9:30 a.m. Conf. Rm. 016

Dear Chair Rhoads, Vice-Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committee:

The Rule of Law.

Where has it gone? It is unbelievable that that we are now having to urge the President of the United States, and all members of any current and future administration to abide by the laws of the United States, including by complying with orders issued by the United States courts.

To say that their "unprecedented actions" are unauthorized by law, arbitrary and capricious, and motivated by unconstitutional animus is an understatement. This Trump nightmare brought to us by Project 2025 is instituting a new normal: the judiciary becoming powerless to order any relief for those who should be protected under the U.S. Constitution. If that's true, the laws are meaningless—all of them—because Trump and his goons can do whatever they want, wherever they want, whenever they want, and no court can do anything about it once it's done.

As former federal Judge Paul Grimm succinctly stated: "Without those checks and balances, we don't have the rule of law. No right of any individual in this country is safe".

My family has long understood the price of freedom—not in the abstract, but in blood and courage. My maternal grandfather was born and raised in St. Nolf, a small town in Brittany, France. During the Second World War, members of my family were part of the French Resistance. They risked everything—confronting the Gestapo, operating in secrecy, enduring fear and uncertainty—because they refused to live under tyranny.

Last June, I traveled to Normandy for the anniversary of the D-Day invasion. Standing on those beaches, looking up at the German fortifications that still scar the cliffs, I was struck by the sheer audacity and bravery of the Allied forces. Our soldiers were mowed down in waves, and yet they kept advancing. The cost was staggering—but they knew what was at stake. The world was teetering on the edge of permanent despotism.

That Allied victory was only possible because of the combined courage of the American, British, and Canadian troops *and* the resistance movements throughout occupied Europe—including families like mine in Brittany. Their sacrifices spared us from 79 years of fascist rule.

Today, I testify not only as a citizen or as a civil rights attorney, but as a descendant of people who faced down fascism and paid the price. The atmosphere we are living in now—the growing authoritarianism, the assault on truth, the scapegoating of the vulnerable—bears a disturbing

resemblance to the 1930s in Germany. History does not repeat itself exactly, but it rhymes. And I recognize the tune.

We must not allow complacency to become complicity. What we do now—what *you* do as legislators—will determine whether this democracy holds. My family didn't stand down then. I won't stand down now nor we all those in Hawai'i who care about living under the rights provided by not only our federal constitution but also under our Hawai'i constitution.ⁱ

Conclusion

With this history embedded in our minds and now facing these simply horrific violations of our U.S. Constitution, our law firm **strongly supports the Proposed SD1**, urging the Judiciary Committee to approve it.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Elizabeth Jubin Fujiwara

ⁱ See, e.g., **State of Hawai'i v. Christopher L. Wilson**, 154 Hawai'i 8, 543 P.3d 440 (2024.) Justice Eddison emphasized that State constitutions provide a "double security" for the people's liberty. The Federalist No. 51, at 321 (James Madison) ...Per the Constitution's design, the Hawai'i Constitution supplies an *additional* guarantee of individual rights. See, e.g., **State v. Tanaka**, 67 Haw. 658, 661, 701 P.2d 1274, 1276 (1985) ("We have not hesitated in the past to extend the protections of the Hawai'i **Bill of Rights** beyond those of textually parallel provisions in the Federal **Bill of Rights** when logic and a sound regard for the purposes of those protections have so warranted.").

ⁱ My law firm has fought for civil rights and specialized in employment law as plaintiffs' attorneys since 1986.

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/28/2025 10:56:32 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
B.A. McClintock	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this important bill. Mahalo.

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/29/2025 1:06:21 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Olderr	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I hope you support this resolution

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/29/2025 1:31:57 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jen	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

WHEREAS, every eligible person should be able to register to vote, their civic duty should override any slight convenience for doing so. Motor-voter or universal voter registration has been proven to be an opportunity to register people who are ineligible to vote.

In·el·i·gi·ble

/,in'eləjəb(ə)l/

adjective

1. legally or officially unable to be considered for a position or benefit: "they were ineligible for jury duty"

Whereas I move away from Hawaii for 10 years, someone was voting in each election in my name.

Whereas, I did not register, but was automatically registered when I renewed my driver's licens. SOMEONE WAS VOTING ALL OF THAT TIME IN MY NAME.

WHEREAS, as a result of bloated voter roll, voter turnout looks like only a fraction of eligible voters are coming out to vote.

Whereas, hawaii never takes voters of the voter rolls, when voter move or die the state must scrub the entire voter roll and start over.

Whereas, it is almost guarenteed that voters who have moved or died will not register to vote. The mild inconvenience of registering and proving one's eligibility to vote outweighs the terrible inconvenience having puppets selected, not elected to "represent" the People of Hawaii.

Whereas puppets do not follow the will of the People, but rather follow their puppet-masters (W.E.F. and United Nations, demons behind Agenda 30, etc). Puppets submit unconstitutional bills, a highly treasonous act, IMHO.

Whereas the World Economic Forum wants the world controlled by them, but for now they just control YOU, the puppets.

Whereas, the self-named elites want people of the world to own nothing and be happy, and YOU, the puppets, are helping them.

WEF wants “large scale” agriculture which everyone knows is terrible for the environment.

WEF suggests people will want new [food] alternatives [such as] soya products, or perhaps insects or artificial meat. Artificial meat? Meat made from dead human slug? (no doubt political enemies). Soya? like soy that turns men into women with a load of estrogens? men that act like women? Men that can not fight nor protect? Sounds about right. (taken from <https://www.weforum.org/stories/2016/11/what-will-we-eat-in-2030/>)

Whereas another working group that does not consider the last several years of the testimonies of People attending the Election Commission meetings is a waste of time. It is just optics of looking like you, the puppets, are doing something about the problem, but really are just ignoring the will of the People.

Therefore, the puppets should resign, ask for forgiveness and make Reparations to we the People whom you have harmed.

Climate "Change" Crisis is a HOX AND YOU ALL ARE FULL OF SHIT.

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/29/2025 2:01:19 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dara Yatsushiro	Individual	Comments	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm VERY confused by this proposal... Unless my public education has misled and misinformed me (which could very well be the case) I thought a sitting/elected President *oversaw* the three branches of Government, to mean that there is no higher authority or office above a sitting/elected President, so how can a court or judge make a sitting/elected President subject to them? That makes no sense if a judge or a court is higher in authority than an elected/sitting President cause some judges are appointed instead of elected - and aren't THEY subject to a sitting/elected President? Not sure what to say about this...

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/29/2025 3:07:52 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lorna Takehara Strand	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I write in strong support of SCR 158 PROPOSED v.3 URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND HIS CABINET MEMBERS TO FOLLOW ALL LAWFUL ORDERS OF THE UNITED STATES COURTS.

In order to preserve our Democracy, all branches of government must adhere to their rightful responsibilities. It is essential that the judiciary process remains fair, ethical, and respected. As such, the president of the United States and members of his Cabinet must adhere to the lawful orders of the United States Courts.

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/30/2025 8:07:05 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gil Keith-Agaran	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair; Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice-Chair, and members of the committee:

I support this strong and proper expression of our legislature in supporting the rule of law in the proposed draft of SCR 158.

Our system of government is based on separating powers among three co-equal and independent branches of government. Each branch checks the other two to prevent any one branch from becoming too powerful.

From the earliest days of his second term, the President has sought to control federal spending without Congress, stopping payments or canceling numerous grants and loans authorized by the legislative branch. This action violated the U.S. Constitution's core separation of powers, as well as the Impoundment Act (enacted when former President Richard Nixon attempted similarly usurpation of the Congress' power of the purse). The administration has also sought to unilaterally shut down Congressionally-created agencies, including the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the world's largest humanitarian organization, and has moved to hamstring the U.S. Department of Education. The administration has effectively shuttered the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, created after the 2008 financial crash to protect consumers from financial fraud. Scientists, researchers and universities across the country have seen funds cut off vital and unfinished studies and research.

State attorneys general, public employees, and nonprofits have petitioned federal courts, and judges have almost uniformly blocked the executive's attempts to usurp legislative power. A key underpinning of the U.S. rule of law is the executive branch's commitment to respect Congress's power of the purse—the legislative branch has the sole authority to pass laws that determine where and how federal dollars should be spent. Similarly, the executive branch must also respect the judiciary's legal decisions, and not cherry-pick which rulings it will follow.

It's fundamental to our constitution and the rule of law that people must follow court orders. The President and his administration are no different. Since at least the Civil War, Presidents have complained about court rulings but have followed them. As U.S. Chief Justice John Roberts recently reminded, whatever debates there might be about the powers of the three branches of the

federal government, if someone doesn't like a lower court ruling, the remedy is to appeal it — NOT ignore it, intentionally disobey it, slow-walk compliance, or attempt to intimidate or threaten the judge (by impeachment or bodily harm) who made the decision.

Please adopt this resolution.

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 9:37:07 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this concurrent resolution one thousand percent. Unfortunately, it has come to this. Felon-in-Chief, self presumed emperor/king, Donald Trump, believes he is above the law. If a judge rules against him, the judge should be impeached. He believes there is no judicial system, our third branch of government, when it disagrees with him. He is again talking about running for president in 2028, which is not permitted by the U.S. Constitution.

He wants to annex/take militarily control of/ etc. Greenland, which is part of Denmark, a NATO ally. He has concocted his own version of 1800's manifest destiny, wants Canada as the 51st state. Calls its leader governor. Greenland/Denmark/and/or Canada, none of whom are amused by the deranged, irrational Trump, should seize Mar a Lago, confiscate all the security papers which are illegally hidden there, in bathrooms, closets, all around the place, and then go after all his assets on the globe. Maybe that he will understand. Or maybe not. He doesn't understand why people globally are going after Tesla because of the actions of his billionaire benefactor Elon Musk. He has no compassion. He still insists Ukraine started the war with Russia, not the other way around.

Trump's lawlessness must be stopped. He must account for his peccadilloes. Hopefully this will be the first in many actions by governments, local and national, worldwide. Starting now. We will not survive another day week, month of this, let alone almost four more years. I wake up every day fearing what that day's news will bring.

Please move this resolution forward, post haste.

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 4:50:43 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
wilfredo tungol	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Members of the Committee:

As an American citizen, I strongly support SCR 158 to make it known to the Trump administration that what they are doing is illegal, reprehensible and borders on treasonous. As an immigrant to this country, I am particularly concern with Trump's effort to end birthright citizenship of children born to undocumented parents in the United States. There is already a precedent on this matter that dates back more than 100 years ago where a Chinese who was born in the US challenge his deportation under the exclusion provision of the Chinese Exclusion Act (which has since been repealed).

Mahalo,

Wilfredo Tungol

Pearl City, Hawaii

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 5:43:40 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Patricia Blair	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

No one is above the law in America.

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 6:00:05 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rosemary Craven	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge the committee to pass SCR158 and send a clear message that the rule of law must be respected. Our democracy depends on it. I believe the rule of law is a cornerstone of our democracy. The principle that no one is above the law, including the President and his administration, is essential for maintaining a just and equitable society,

Sincerrely, Rosemary Craven

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 6:06:03 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Braja RuthAnne Tarletz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am writing as a concerned citizen, and as a member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, to express my strong support for SCR158, a resolution urging the President of the United States and all members of current and future administrations to abide by the laws of the United States, including compliance with orders issued by U.S. courts.

I believe that the rule of law is a cornerstone of our democracy. The principle that no one is above the law, including the President and his administration, is essential for maintaining a just and equitable society. The separation of powers, with an independent judiciary and an independent congress as checks on the executive branch, is vital to prevent tyranny and protect our constitutional rights. The recent actions of the executive branch in disregarding lawful court orders are deeply concerning. These actions undermine the integrity of our legal system and set a dangerous precedent. If the President can simply ignore court rulings, then our system of checks and balances is rendered meaningless, and the rights of all citizens are at risk.

Further, other actions of the executive are undermining the functions of congress. I am appalled at what has passed for respect of our Constitution, the members of congress, and the rule of law.

Personally, as a woman, a Jew, a retired person living on Social Security, SSI, and Food Stamps, and a person depending on Medicare/Medicaid for my wellness needs, I am scared. At 78 I do not have many prospects if I lose all of that.

I urge the committee to pass SCR158 and send a clear message that the rule of law must be respected. Our democracy depends on it!

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Braja RuthAnne Tarletz

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 6:58:14 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Amanda C.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am writing as a longtime resident of Hawai'i, and as a member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, to express my strong support for SCR158, a resolution urging the President of the United States and all members of current and future administrations to abide by the laws of the United States, including compliance with orders issued by U.S. courts.

I believe that that no one is above the law, including the President and his administration. The rule of law is essential for maintaining a just and equitable democracy. The recent actions of the executive branch in disregarding lawful court orders are unjust and tyrannical. These actions undermine the integrity of the legal system and set a dangerous precedent for the future, putting democracy and the rights of all citizens at risk.

I urge the committee to pass SCR158 and send a clear message that the rule of law must be respected. Our democracy depends on it!

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Amanda C.

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 7:39:07 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tim Huycke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SCR158.

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 7:42:20 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daniel R Freund	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Committee Members,

For the reasons set forth in the text of Sen. Rhodes' proposed alternative language for SCR 1 (recognizing the importance of the courts as a co-equal branch of our government), I urge you to support that proposal.

- Dan Freund, Kapaa

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 7:44:48 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sean Nagamatsu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am writing as a concerned citizen, a father, a husband, a cousin, a sibling, and a son, and Also as a member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, to express my strong support for SCR158, a resolution urging the President of the United States and all members of current and future administrations to abide by the laws of the United States, including compliance with orders issued by U.S. courts.

I believe that the rule of law is a cornerstone of our democracy. The principle that no one is above the law, including the President and his administration, is essential for maintaining a just and equitable society. The separation of powers, with an independent judiciary as a check on the executive branch, is vital to prevent imbalance and protect our constitutional rights. The recent actions of the executive branch in disregarding lawful court orders are deeply concerning. These actions undermine the integrity of our legal system and set a dangerous precedent. If the President can simply ignore court rulings, then our system of checks and balances is rendered meaningless, and the rights of all citizens are at risk.

I urge the committee to pass SCR158 and send a clear message that the rule of law must be respected. Our democracy depends on it!

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sean

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 8:01:41 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
tia pearson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is about safeguarding the rule of law, protecting our constitutional rights, and ensuring that our government remains accountable to the people. We cannot allow the executive branch to disregard court orders and erode the system of checks and balances that protects us all.

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 8:35:17 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SCR158, SD1, URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND ALL MEMBERS OF ANY CURRENT AND FUTURE ADMINISTRATION, TO ABIDE BY THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INCLUDING BY COMPLYING WITH ORDERS ISSUED BY THE UNITED STATES COURTS. Please pass the resolution as amended.

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 8:41:21 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
joan conway	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in full support of this bill.

April 2, 2025

To: Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair and
Members of the Committee on Judiciary

From: Jeanne Y. Ohta

RE: SCR 158 Proposed SD1

POSITION: STRONG SUPPORT

I write in strong support of SCR 158 Proposed SD1 that urges the President of the United States and all members of the current and future administrations to abide by the laws of the United States, including compliance with orders issued by courts of the United States.

I also write to express my concern and outrage that President Donald Trump has invoked the Alien Enemies Act of 1798 that was used to illegally imprison 31,000 Japanese, German, and Italian nationals during WWII. That action was later expanded through Executive Order 9066 leading to the incarceration of over 125,000 people of Japanese ancestry. I fear that the Venezuelan immigrant community is now being targeted through the unlawful use and expansion of the Alien Enemies Act. It was unlawful and racist during WWII and remains so today. A strong democracy learns from the mistakes of the past. The current administration has dragged us backward.

Furthermore, the Trump administration appears to be ignoring the order of the Federal District Court judge blocking deportations demonstrating a total disregard for lawful court orders.

A cornerstone of our democracy is the separation of powers, where an independent judiciary is a check on the executive branch, meant to prevent tyranny and to protect our constitutional rights.

I respectfully urge the committee to pass SCR 158 Proposed SD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of this measure.

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 9:24:20 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Stephanie Austin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing as a concerned citizen, and as a member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, to express my strong support for SCR158, a resolution urging the President of the United States and all members of current and future administrations to abide by the laws of the United States, including, and especially - compliance with orders issued by U.S. courts.

I believe that the rule of law is a cornerstone of our democracy. The principle that no one is above the law, including the President and his administration, is essential for maintaining a just and equitable society. The separation of powers, with an independent judiciary as a check on the executive branch, is vital to prevent tyranny and protect our constitutional rights. The recent actions of the executive branch in disregarding lawful court orders are deeply concerning. These actions undermine the integrity of our legal system and set a dangerous precedent. If the President can simply ignore court rulings, then our system of checks and balances is rendered meaningless, and the rights of all citizens are at risk.

I urge the committee to pass SCR158 and send a clear message that the rule of law must be respected. Our democracy depends on it!

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration.

This is so VERY IMPORTANT!

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 9:32:04 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Priscilla Stuckey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am writing as a concerned citizen, and as a member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, to express my strong support for SCR158, a resolution urging the President of the United States and all members of current and future administrations to abide by the laws of the United States and to comply with orders issued by U.S. courts.

The rule of law is a cornerstone of our democracy. No one is above the law, including the President and his administration. A just and equitable society rests on these principles. The separation of powers, with an independent judiciary as a check on the executive branch, is vital to prevent tyranny and protect our constitutional rights.

The executive branch is showing horrifying disregard for the rule of law in defying lawful court orders. These actions undermine the integrity of our legal system and set a dangerous precedent. If the President simply ignores court rulings, then our system of checks and balances is rendered meaningless, and the rights of all citizens are at risk.

I urge the committee to pass SCR158 and send a clear message that the rule of law must be respected. Our democracy depends on it!

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Priscilla Stuckey, Kihei HI

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am writing as a concerned citizen, and as a member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, to express my strong support for SCR158, a resolution urging the President of the United States and all members of current and future administrations to abide by the laws of the United States, including compliance with orders issued by U.S. courts.

I believe that the rule of law is a cornerstone of our democracy. The principle that no one is above the law, including the President and his administration, is essential for maintaining a just and equitable society. The separation of powers, with an independent judiciary as a check on the executive branch, is vital to prevent tyranny and protect our constitutional rights. The recent actions of the executive branch in disregarding lawful court orders are deeply concerning. These actions undermine the integrity of our legal system and set a dangerous precedent. If the President can simply ignore court rulings, then our system of checks and balances is rendered meaningless, and the rights of all citizens are at risk.

I urge the committee to pass SCR158 and send a clear message that the rule of law must be respected. Our democracy depends on it!

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nancy K. Worth

nworth2000@yahoo.com

(808) 283-2294

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 9:36:52 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kenneth Peck	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

My name is Kenneth Peck, and I am writing in strong support of SCR158, which requests the Office of Elections to convene a working group to explore transitioning Hawai‘i’s automatic voter registration (AVR) system to an opt-out model.

As a committed advocate for civic engagement and a member of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i, I believe we have a responsibility to strengthen access to the ballot box. Hawai‘i’s historically low voter turnout is not a sign of apathy—it is a signal that our systems need to do more to meet people where they are. In the 2024 primary election, fewer than one-third of registered voters participated. That number demands our attention.

An opt-out AVR system shifts the burden from individuals to government agencies to ensure eligible voters are registered automatically unless they choose otherwise. This approach has proven successful in other states, leading to higher registration rates, reduced administrative errors, and greater participation—especially among younger, lower-income, and historically marginalized voters.

Establishing a thoughtful, collaborative working group with election officials and civic organizations is a wise and necessary step toward ensuring that our AVR policy works effectively for all. It is not just about policy—it is about inclusion, empowerment, and trust in our democracy.

I urge this committee to pass SCR158 and send a clear message that Hawai‘i is committed to a more accessible, equitable, and representative electoral system.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Peck

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am writing as a concerned citizen, and as a member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, to express my strong support for SCR158, a resolution urging the President of the United States and all members of current and future administrations to abide by the laws of the United States, including compliance with orders issued by U.S. courts.

I believe that the rule of law is a cornerstone of our democracy. The principle that no one is above the law, including the President and his administration, is essential for maintaining a just and equitable society. The separation of powers, with an independent judiciary as a check on the executive branch, is vital to prevent tyranny and protect our constitutional rights. The recent actions of the executive branch in disregarding lawful court orders are deeply concerning. These actions undermine the integrity of our legal system and set a dangerous precedent. If the President can simply ignore court rulings, then our system of checks and balances is rendered meaningless, and the rights of all citizens are at risk.

I urge the committee to pass SCR158 and send a clear message that the rule of law must be respected. Our democracy depends on it!

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration.

Sincerely,

William E. Worth

wworth18@yahoo.com

(808) 359-0865

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 10:29:49 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bronson K. Silva	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am writing as a concerned citizen, and as a member of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i, to express my strong support for SCR158, a resolution urging the President of the United States and all members of current and future administrations to abide by the laws of the United States, including compliance with orders issued by U.S. courts.

I believe that the rule of law is a cornerstone of our democracy. The principle that no one is above the law, including the President and his administration, is essential for maintaining a just and equitable society. The separation of powers, with an independent judiciary as a check on the executive branch, is vital to prevent tyranny and protect our constitutional rights. The recent actions of the executive branch in disregarding lawful court orders are deeply concerning. These actions undermine the integrity of our legal system and set a dangerous precedent. If the President can simply ignore court rulings, then our system of checks and balances is rendered meaningless, and the rights of all citizens are at risk.

I urge the committee to pass SCR158 and send a clear message that the rule of law must be respected. Our democracy depends on it!

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration.

Bronson K. Silva

SCR-158

Submitted on: 3/31/2025 11:41:20 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elton Fukumoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Mike Gabbard, and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

I write in support of SCR158 SD1 Proposed.

As Senators, you believe that your job is to craft bills through the legislative process that eventually become Acts or statutes, that is, law. The Executive Branch then executes or follows those statutes, and the Judicial Branch interprets them.

If the Executive Branch ignores statutes or exceeds what the Constitution permits, then the Judicial Branch may weigh in on what the Executive can and cannot do. If the Executive should ignore Judicial orders, then our system of government will break down. What you are doing as legislators would be meaningless if the Executive could ignore statutes and the Judiciary.

I still believe we live in a constitutional democracy with representative government which derives its just powers from the consent of the governed (to paraphrase our Declaration of Independence.)

This resolution urges all parties to behave properly so that we still live in a constitutional democracy and not something short of that.

Elton Fukumoto

Manoa

SCR-158

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 12:18:31 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynn Otaguro	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SCR No. 158 SD 1 proposed.

The rule of law, that all people and institutions are accountable and subject to the same law, is a longstanding foundation of our country. That we are a government of laws and not of men, that no man is above the law, means that we are not subject to the whims or arbitrary decisions of a few, powerful men, but we can each rely on a system that is applied, fairly and without favor, to all.

With that, the President and their administration, are subject to the laws and to the lawful orders of courts, and must obey them. Anything less is an affront to our Constitution and to the people of our country, and a violation of their oaths of office.

Please vote in favor of this proposed resolution on behalf of the people of the State of Hawai'i to share our commitment to the Constitution and our expectation that elected officials fulfill their commitments as well.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Lynn M. Otaguro

SCR-158

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 12:51:07 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Doug Pyle	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support the resolution even though it merely "urges" the President to abide by law and court rulings. The President in a tweet called himself a King, but the people elected no king, only a President. A President has the Constitutional duty to faithfully uphold the laws, which are enacted by Congress.

The resolution is needed to remind the President his power is defined and constrained in the Constitution - for the protection of the People and their democracy - by the longstanding separation of powers between Congress (to enact all national laws), the Courts (to interpret and rule on the validity of laws), and the President (to faithfully execute laws enacted by Congress consistent with the rulings of the Court).

The "whereas" clauses are well worded. The title and resolving clauses could be more strongly worded.

Needed amendments...

In title:

URGING REMINDING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND ALL MEMBERS OF ANY CURRENT AND FUTURE ADMINISTRATION, OF THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL DUTY TO ABIDE BY THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE THROUGH THEIR CONGRESS, INCLUDING BY COMPLYING WITH ORDERS ISSUED BY THE UNITED STATES COURTS

And similarly amend the Resolving Clause:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, the House of Representatives concurring, that the President of the United States, and all members of any current and future administration, are ~~urged~~ **reminded of their Constitutional duty, which requires them** to abide by the **democratically enacted** laws of the United States, including by complying with orders issued by the United States courts; and ...

Mere "urging" sounds like a suggestion, as we careen toward oligarchic dictatorship.

SCR-158

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 3:58:35 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
sharon Levine	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Good day,

I strongly support SCR 158.

all must follow the law even while they are dismantling it.

thank you,

sharon levine

SCR-158

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 5:35:02 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bradford Lum	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

My name is Kumu Brad lum

Our democracy is at risk and everything that we fought for. Please if you believe in the right to vote freely without MAGA interferences then please pass this bill into law.

mahalo

Kumu Bradford Lum

SCR-158

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 7:09:23 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Krista Cutter	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am writing to urge the committee to pass SCR158 and send a clear message that every citizen must respect the rule of law. Our democracy depends on it!

This resolution is about safeguarding the rule of law, protecting our constitutional rights, and ensuring that our government remains accountable to the people.

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Krista Cutter

SCR-158

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 7:11:50 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jean Toyama	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a citizen of the USA even the President of the USA must follow its laws of the Constitution. He should not need a civics lesson to know that the Executive branch is only one of 3 co-equal branches. Obey the Constitution, that is in the oath of office for the President of the United States

SCR-158

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 8:06:37 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jun Look	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As Mark Twain said: A patriot is someone who loves his country always, and its government some time (a paraphase). Our country is under assault . Our principles violated. It must stop. And the Legislative Branch is capable of stopping a lot of it. Do your job. Please

SCR-158

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 8:54:27 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Justin Hughey	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair,

I am in full support of this resolution!

mahalo, Justin Hughey co-leader Maui Indivisible

SCR-158

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 9:27:39 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Darlene Scancella	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a proud citizen of the united States I strongly support SCR158 in order to maintain the integrity of the office of the president and those working in conjunction with the president. Our democracy will be weakened if the laws are not obeyed by each and every elected official. The message to not only the citizens of United States, but to the world would be that our laws do not matter. They do matter and our laws are one of the greatest strengths of this nation.

LATE

SCR-158

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 9:33:37 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarah Simmons	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and esteemed committee members,

I write in strong support of the proposed amendment for SCR 158. In Hawai'i, our values show that we support the rule of law, we uphold justice, and we reject any attempt to undermine the very foundation of our government. For this country to continue, and to regain our strong position as a world leader and as a democracy to aspire to for other nations, we must always support the rule of law and we should never back down from this fight as that shows real strength of character - as a nation and as individuals. Please support this proposed Senate draft today.

Mahalo for you consideration,

Sarah Simmons

Volcano, HI

SCR-158

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 9:47:09 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Shay Chan Hodges	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am writing as a concerned citizen, and as a member of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i, to express my strong support for SCR158, a resolution urging the President of the United States and all members of current and future administrations to abide by the laws of the United States, including compliance with orders issued by U.S. courts.

I believe that the rule of law is a cornerstone of our democracy. The principle that no one is above the law, including the President and his administration, is essential for maintaining a just and equitable society. The separation of powers, with an independent judiciary as a check on the executive branch, is vital to prevent tyranny and protect our constitutional rights. The recent actions of the executive branch in disregarding lawful court orders are deeply concerning. These actions undermine the integrity of our legal system and set a dangerous precedent. If the President can simply ignore court rulings, then our system of checks and balances is rendered meaningless, and the rights of all citizens are at risk.

I urge the committee to pass SCR158 and send a clear message that the rule of law must be respected. Our democracy depends on it!

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Shay Chan Hodges

LATE

SCR-158

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 11:40:43 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Kuzmier	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, I am writing in support of this bill SCR158 because it should be a given de facto reality that doesn't require explanation. In a democratic republic such as ours, no one is supposed to be above the law, no matter how much money you have or how many followers you have on social media or anything else like that. No one branch is supposed to be in 'charge' of the other branches, especially the executive one as the whole reason why this country was founded was because they didn't want to live under monarchy, especially a tyrannical one with no recourse. The judicial branch AND the legislative branch are those checks on the executive. They are co-equal branches of the same federal head.

So yes, I am in support of the bill simply because I am for the principles of a democratic republic where there is supposed to be the most rights for the most amount of people. Mahalo.

LATE

SCR-158

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 11:48:02 AM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alyssa Masuda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am writing as a concerned citizen, and as a member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, to express my strong support for SCR158, a resolution urging the President of the United States and all members of current and future administrations to abide by the laws of the United States, including compliance with orders issued by U.S. courts.

I believe that the rule of law is a cornerstone of our democracy. The principle that no one is above the law, including the President and his administration, is essential for maintaining a just and equitable society. The separation of powers, with an independent judiciary as a check on the executive branch, is vital to prevent tyranny and protect our constitutional rights. The recent actions of the executive branch in disregarding lawful court orders are deeply concerning. These actions undermine the integrity of our legal system and set a dangerous precedent. If the President can simply ignore court rulings, then our system of checks and balances is rendered meaningless, and the rights of all citizens are at risk.

I urge the committee to pass SCR158 and send a clear message that the rule of law must be respected. Our democracy depends on it!

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Masuda

LATE

SCR-158

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 12:22:03 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tina Marie Even	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am writing as a concerned citizen, and as a member of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i, to express my strong support for SCR158, a resolution urging the President of the United States and all members of current and future administrations to abide by the laws of the United States, including compliance with orders issued by U.S. courts.

I believe that the rule of law is a cornerstone of our democracy. The principle that no one is above the law, including the President and his administration, is essential for maintaining a just and equitable society. The separation of powers, with an independent judiciary as a check on the executive branch, is vital to prevent tyranny and protect our constitutional rights. The recent actions of the executive branch in disregarding lawful court orders are deeply concerning. These actions undermine the integrity of our legal system and set a dangerous precedent. If the President can simply ignore court rulings, then our system of checks and balances is rendered meaningless, and the rights of all citizens are at risk.

I urge the committee to pass SCR158 and send a clear message that the rule of law must be respected. Our democracy depends on it!

Mahalo nui loa for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tina Marie Even

LATE

SCR-158

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 12:36:17 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dave Nagaji	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm writing in SUPPORT of SCR158, with the new language calling for the Trump administration to abide by the law with respect to the nation's Judiciary.

Our system of checks and balances is only useful when the law is actually followed. A sitting President defying court orders or impeaching judges who make rulings against him comes with serious consequences for our system of government. Please pass this resolution.

Thank you,

Dave Nagaji

LATE

SCR-158

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 1:27:01 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Anthony Makana Paris	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Testimony in Support of SCR158 Proposed SD1 (2025)

Hawaii State Senate - Judiciary Committee

Wednesday, April 2, 2025 - 9:30 AM

Aloha e Chair Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair Senator Mike Gabbard, and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

As I reflect on the principles that have guided the United States of America since its founding, I am compelled to express my strong support for Senate Concurrent Resolution 158 (SCR158). This resolution is a powerful affirmation of the rule of law and the separation of powers, which are the very foundations of the United States' system of government.

As a citizen of the United States and of our beloved Hawaii, I am deeply concerned about the repeated attacks on the judiciary and the refusal to comply with lawful court orders by the President and his administration. These actions undermine the delicate balance of power that the founding fathers of the United States so carefully crafted, and they threaten the very fabric of the system of government that has made the United States a beacon of freedom and justice for centuries.

The separation of powers is a fundamental principle that has allowed the United States to thrive for centuries. It is a system that is designed to prevent any one branch of government from becoming too powerful, and to ensure that each branch is held accountable for its actions. The judiciary, in particular, plays a critical role in checking the power of the executive and legislative branches, and in ensuring that the rule of law is upheld.

As I read through SCR158, I am struck by the clarity and conviction with which it affirms the importance of upholding the rule of law and the Constitution of the United States. The resolution quotes Republican leaders such as Senator Josh Hawley and Senator Lisa Murkowski, who have spoken out against the President's actions and emphasized the need for compliance with lawful court orders.

For me, this is not a partisan issue, but a matter of fundamental principle. As a citizen of the United States, I believe that it is essential to respect the rule of law and the separation of powers, and to hold elected officials accountable for their actions. The passage of SCR158 would send a clear message that the Hawaii State Senate values these principles and will not tolerate any attempts to undermine them.

I urge you to support SCR158, not just as a matter of policy, but as a matter of conscience. Let us stand together in defense of the rule of law and the separation of powers, and let us ensure that the United States remains a nation of laws, not of men, where the Constitution and the principles of justice and equality are upheld for all citizens.

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Me ke aloha,

Anthony Makana Paris

Kapolei, Hawaii

LATE

SCR-158

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 2:02:13 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mecca Monson-Gere	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please help strengthen our own Hawaii elections and keep the national chaos at bay. Vote in support of SCR158. Mahalo!

SCR-158

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 3:45:15 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alika Valdez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this for my community.

LATE

SCR-158

Submitted on: 4/1/2025 6:08:01 PM

Testimony for JDC on 4/2/2025 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tamra Hayden	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello Chair Rhoads and Members of the Judiciary Committee.

I am writing as a concerned citizen, and as a member of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, to express my strong support for SCR158, a resolution urging the President of the United States and all members of current and future administrations to abide by the laws of the United States, including compliance with orders issued by U.S. courts.

The rule of law is one of the few guardrails we have in this country. We have seen the current Administration test our constitution. I believe that the rule of law is a cornerstone of our democracy. The idea that no one is above the law, including the President and his administration, is essential for maintaining a just and equitable society. He has said on occasion that he could shoot someone on fifth Avenue in New York and get away with it. We saw SCOTUS give him more powers. I do not know if they thought he would go so far as to say recently that he and the Attorney General decide the law. Basically taking the judges including SCOTUS out of the picture. But here we are The separation of powers, with an independent judiciary as a check on the executive branch, is vital to prevent tyranny and protect our constitutional rights. The recent actions of the executive branch in disregarding lawful court orders are deeply concerning. These actions undermine the integrity of our legal system and set a dangerous precedent. If the President can simply ignore court rulings, then our system of checks and balances is rendered meaningless, and the rights of all citizens are at risk.

I urge the committee to pass SCR158 and send a clear message that the rule of law must be respected. Our democracy depends on it!or your consideration.

Thank you for your time