

Hawai`i State Association of Counties (HSAC)

Counties of Kaua`i, Maui, Hawai`i and City & County of Honolulu

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February 3, 2017

TO: The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy

FROM: Stacy Crivello
HSAC President

SUBJECT: **HEARING OF FEBRUARY 6, 2017; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 456, RELATING TO IDENTIFICATION CARDS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of the Hawaii State Association of Counties in **support** of this measure. The purpose of this measure is to authorize the state Department of Transportation to include information about a person's disability on the person's driver's license or civil identification card as an option.

This measure is included in the 2017 Hawaii State Association of Counties Legislative Package. Therefore, I submit this testimony on HSAC's behalf.

HSAC **supports** this measure for the following reasons:

1. The intent of this measure is to help those with disabilities by giving them the **option** to include their disability on their I.D.
2. As not all disabilities are readily apparent, such as those related to mental health, this measure would allow a person with a disability to nonverbally communicate any special needs to police and other public-safety personnel, which would be of particular help during an emergency.
3. An identification card clearly indicating a person's disability would allow the person better access to certain eligible public services, such as special transportation and seating for persons with disabilities at public events.

Mahalo for your consideration.

HSAC:FY2017:17Testimony:SB456a_mkz