

# Legislative Activism

# OFFICIAL HANDBOOK



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# Introduction

**Last updated:** 2025

*To our knowledge, the information in this handbook was accurate at the time of creation.*

*However, the information and links should be checked and updated before each year's legislative session.*

The purpose of this handbook is to equip the community with the skills and resources necessary to become active voices for Liberty in Hawaii's legislative process. The involvement of individuals, members, and organizations is a crucial weapon against tyrannical and oppressive restrictions and regulations. You can make a huge impact on decisions in the legislature by simply making your voice heard in the fight for liberty.

Feel free to contact [lphisecretary@gmail.com](mailto:lphisecretary@gmail.com) for inquiries and support.

The current version of this book is for public dissemination and may be shared, reproduced, and used by the public.

# Chapter 1: The Legislative Landscape in Hawaii

## 1.1 Structure of the Hawaii Legislature

The Hawaii Legislature is a bicameral body, consisting of two chambers: the Senate and the House of Representatives.

**Senate:** Comprised of 25 members, the Senate represents larger districts and is responsible for reviewing legislation, approving appointments, and providing oversight of state government functions. Senators serve four-year terms.

**House of Representatives:** This chamber consists of 51 members who represent smaller districts. The House is responsible for initiating revenue bills and has the power to impeach state officials. Representatives serve two-year terms.

Both chambers meet annually and work together to draft, debate, and pass legislation.

### **Key Roles: Legislators, Committees, and Staff**

**Legislators,** including Senators and Representatives, are elected officials who propose, debate, and vote on legislation. They serve as advocates for their constituents, addressing community concerns and interests.

**Committees:** Each chamber has several committees that focus on specific areas such as health, education, and finance. Committees review bills, hold hearings, and make recommendations to the full chamber. This is where most of the detailed legislative work takes place.

**Staff:** Legislative staff members, including legislative aides and analysts, support lawmakers by assisting with research, drafting legislation, and managing communications. They are essential for the smooth operation of the legislative process.

## 1.2 Understanding Legislative Terms

**Chamber:** One of the two houses in a bicameral legislature. The Hawaii legislature consists of the House and Senate as distinct chambers. Each chamber has its own rules and functions, and both must approve legislation before it hits the governor's desk to become law.

**Bills:** Proposed laws that can be introduced in either chamber. Bills must go through a series of reviews, debates, and votes before becoming law.

**Resolutions:** Formal expressions of opinion or intent by the legislature. Resolutions can be concurrent (supporting action by both chambers) or simple (addressing one chamber), but they do not have the force of law.

**Amendments:** Changes or additions proposed to bills during the legislative process. Amendments can be made in committee or on the floor of the chamber. It is also not uncommon for amendments to take place in the final deliberation phase.

**Committees:** Groups of legislators assigned specific responsibilities. Committees play a crucial role in the legislative process by reviewing bills, conducting hearings, and making recommendations.

**Committee Report:** a document prepared by a legislative committee that summarizes its findings, discussions, and recommendations regarding a specific bill or issue. It includes details about the committee's review process, any amendments made to the bill, and the committee's vote on whether to advance the bill to the full legislative chamber.

**Sunset:** A provision in a law that sets an expiration date for that law unless further action is taken to extend it.

Sunset clauses are used to ensure that legislation is periodically reviewed and assessed for its effectiveness, allowing lawmakers to determine whether the law should continue, be amended, or be allowed to expire.

## 1.3 Legislative Session Timeline

### **Hawaii's Biennial (Two-Year) Legislative Cycle:**

Hawaii operates on a single two-year biennial session. A bill introduced every odd-numbered year does not die at the end of that year. Instead, any bill that passed at least one chamber in the first year automatically carries over to the even-numbered year in the exact same form, version, and committee it previously reached. No reintroduction is required.

Bills that never received a hearing, were deferred, or were indefinitely postponed do not carry over and are dead.

This means approximately 3,800–4,000 bills will already be alive when the 2026 session opens on January 15.

The 2026 legislative session opens on January 21st. You can view Hawaii's official legislative timeline here:

<https://www.hawaiifreepress.com/Portals/0/Article%20Attachments/Article%20Attachments%202025/2026%20Legislative%20Timetable.pdf>



The legislative session in Hawaii follows a structured timeline that includes several key dates and milestones, each reflecting the progress and status of bills as they move through the legislative process.

The session typically begins in January with an opening day ceremony where the Governor delivers the State of the State address, outlining their priorities. Following this, bills must be introduced within a specified timeframe, usually within the first few weeks of the session. This initial phase sets the stage for the legislative agenda.

After bills are introduced, committees hold hearings to discuss and review proposed legislation. Public testimony is accepted during these hearings, allowing community members to voice their opinions and provide input. Understanding the status of bills highlights how they are being received and their potential for advancement.

**Possible bill statuses include:**

**Introduced:** The bill has been formally presented but has not yet been reviewed. Testimony at this stage can influence initial perceptions and discussions.

**In Committee:** The bill is being reviewed by a committee. This is a critical time for public testimony, as opinions expressed can shape amendments and recommendations.

**Awaiting Floor Action:** The bill has passed out of committee and is awaiting debate and vote in the full chamber. Testimony may still be relevant.

**Passed:** The bill has been approved by one chamber and is sent to the other chamber for consideration. Supporters can continue advocacy efforts to ensure it moves forward.

**Rejected:** The bill has not passed and will not advance in its current form.

**Awaiting Gubernatorial Action:** The bill has passed both chambers and is waiting for the Governor’s approval or veto. Alternatively, the status may read something like, “sent to the governor for approval/signature”.

**Crossover Deadline:** is the date by which bills must pass out of one chamber to be considered by the other chamber. It also has the potential to “die” if the other chamber does not pick it up.

In the last two weeks of the session, committees engage in **Final Deliberations** on bills without the need for public hearings. During this period, they finalize recommendations based on previous testimonies and discussions, often referencing committee reports that summarize findings and proposed amendments. While the formal testimonies are closed by this point, calls and emails can still be sent to individual representatives and/or the governor’s office.

Bills that pass through both chambers then proceed to **Final Reading**, where they are sent for last votes before being sent to the Governor.

The session typically concludes in May, after which any bills not passed will need to be reintroduced in the next session.

## Chapter 2: Identifying Bill Proposals

### 2.1 Core Libertarian & Constitutional Values

At the heart of both libertarian philosophy and the U.S. Constitution are several key values that guide our evaluation of legislative proposals. Understanding these principles is crucial for identifying bills that align with libertarian ideals and constitutional law:

**Individual Liberty:** We hold that individuals have the right to make their own choices regarding their lives, bodies, and property without coercive interference from the government. This principle is enshrined in the Bill of Rights, which protects freedoms such as speech, religion, and assembly.

**Limited Government:** We advocate for a government that operates within a framework of minimal intervention in the lives of citizens. The Constitution establishes a system of checks and balances designed to limit governmental power and protect individual rights.

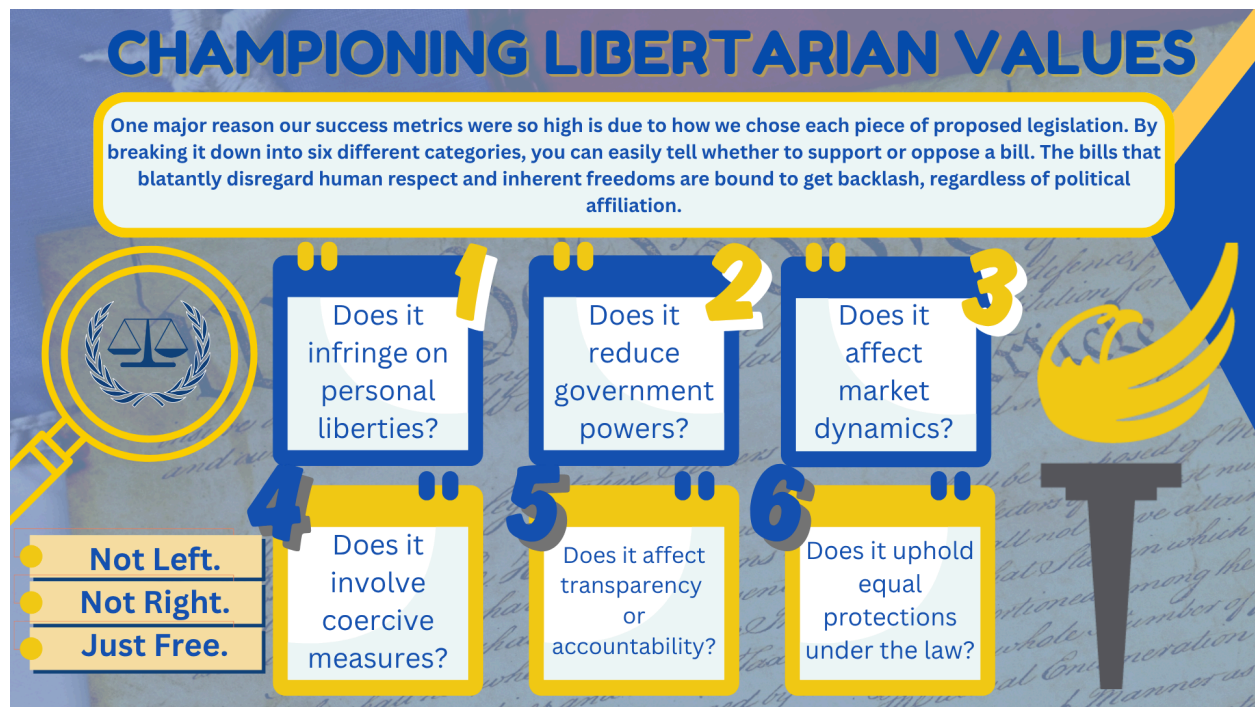
**Free Markets:** We support economic systems that promote voluntary exchanges and competition, fostering innovation and prosperity. The constitutional framework encourages free enterprise, as seen in the Commerce Clause.



**Non-Aggression:** We uphold the principle that individuals should not initiate force against others. We promote peaceful and voluntary interactions. This principle aligns with the constitutional guarantee of due process and the prohibition of unjustified government coercion.

**Rule of Law:** We assert that laws apply equally to all individuals, protecting citizens from arbitrary government actions. This principle is foundational to the Constitution, which requires that laws be clear, public, and consistent.

## 2.2 Criteria for Selecting Beforeosals



Always read bill proposals carefully and entirely. The summaries often simplify complex language and leave out important details that affect how the legislation is understood and applied. While a summary might highlight the intended benefits of a bill, it can overlook potential downsides or specific provisions that could violate individual rights or increase government power. They may even be so simplified as to be deceitful or misleading. By reading the actual text of the bill closely, you can discover important nuances, assess the true impact of the legislation, and make informed decisions about whether it aligns with core values.

When evaluating bill proposals, use the following set of criteria that aligns with both libertarian principles and constitutional values. When assessing a bill, consider the following questions:

- Does the bill enhance or infringe upon personal liberties? How does it impact freedoms related to speech, privacy, and personal choices as outlined in the Bill of Rights?

- Does the bill propose an expansion of government powers, or does it seek to reduce them? In what ways does it limit governmental authority and promote decentralization, in line with the Tenth Amendment's emphasis on states' rights?
- What effect does the bill have on market dynamics? Does it promote free enterprise and competition, or does it impose regulations that could stifle innovation?
- Does the bill involve the use of coercive measures? How does it align with the non-aggression principle, particularly regarding punitive actions against individuals or businesses for victimless activities?
- Does the bill adhere to principles of transparency, equality, and fairness? Are there any arbitrary distinctions that might violate equal protection under the law?

Below are some examples of definitive issues we would support or oppose:

**Support:**

**Criminal Justice Reform:** Bills aimed at completely decriminalizing certain activities that do not harm others align with libertarian values of personal autonomy and reduced government intervention, while also addressing injustices in the legal system.

**Example:** We had several bills in 2025 that seemed at first glance to achieve this, but in fact did the opposite. These included cannabis reform, midwifery licensures, and the “illegal fireworks task force”. These were all to hit sunset without interference from the legislature, so whatever “rights” they claimed were small in comparison to the option of letting it hit sunset for full deregulation.

**Tax Reduction Proposals:** Legislation that seeks to lower or eliminate taxes promotes limited government and economic freedom, reflecting the constitutional goal of protecting property rights.

**Example:** In 2025, we supported a bill that removed school impact fees, saving homeowners and land developers from tax burdens.

**Oppose:**

**Increased Surveillance Measures:** Bills that expand government surveillance capabilities infringe upon individual privacy rights and personal freedoms, violating Fourth Amendment protections against unreasonable searches and seizures.



Example: In 2025, we opposed a bill to allow the “Illegal Fireworks Task Force” the ability to implement drone surveillance measures to catch people using fireworks.

**Mandatory Vaccination Laws:** Legislation that requires vaccinations (especially without exemptions) for personal belief or health reasons contradicts the principle of individual choice and bodily autonomy, as well as the constitutional right to make personal medical decisions.

Example: In 2025, we opposed a bill that would have removed religious exemptions for vaccinations in Hawaii public schools.

## Chapter 3: Bill Tracking

The “Measure Tracking” feature offered on the Legislature’s website allows you to create lists of measures you’re interested in and easily view the status of numerous measures at one time. It’s also a great tool for sharing information.

1. Go to the [Legislature’s website](#)
2. Click on “Log In” (upper right corner), and enter your email address and password.
3. Click on “Measure Tracking” or select it using the drop-down menu under the “Participate” tab.
4. First, you’ll need to create a list. You can name it anything — just enter the name in the box on the left and then click on “Create List.”
5. The name you chose will appear below the box. You can create more than one list, but for most people, one list works just fine. Now, next to your list name, click on “Show List.” Your list name now appears in the right column. Your list is empty, so you’ll want to add measures to it.
6. In the box in the right column, enter a measure number in the space provided and click on “Add a Measure.” Repeat the process until you’ve added whatever you’d like to follow. You may add as many measures as you like. Don’t include periods, spaces, or draft numbers. If you’d like to add a batch of measures, just type them in one after another and separate the measure numbers by a comma. (Option: You can “Add Notes” for any measures on your list to personalize or annotate your report. The notes will appear as a column of the report.
7. To create your report, click on “Generate Report.” The report provides a wealth of information. It shows you the measure’s description, the latest status, and the date it occurred. The .pdf symbol on the left opens the latest version of the measure, and the measure number itself links to the measure’s status page. You can sort the report by the column headers — just click a column header to change the order the measures appear. This function is especially helpful to find which items have seen activity since you last

viewed the report (double-click on the “Current Status” header to bring the most recent activity to the top) or to list the measures in numerical order (click on the “Measure” column header). (Tip: If you’d like to print the report or save it as a .pdf, use the landscape orientation for best results. Reports can also be exported in Excel or database formats.)

8. Check your measure tracking list often to stay on top of things. Just “Log In,” select “Measure Tracking” under the “Participate” tab, then “Show List” and “Generate Report.” As the session progresses, you can easily add or delete measures from your list.
9. When searching for measures to put on your list, keep an eye out for “companions” (same measure content introduced or offered in a different chamber) and measures that are similar.
10. The measure status is never going to say, “this bill is dead” (the closest you’ll get is the measure being “deferred” or “held” with no future date provided). The Public Access Room (PAR) website has, under its “Current Legislature” tab, the legislative calendar and a “Which Deadlines Apply to My Bill?” chart. These can help you understand the deadlines.
11. Set the spreadsheet to “anyone with the link can view to keep everyone on track. This will need to be updated weekly throughout the session. It can be pinned to the top of the Facebook page as well as posted when updates are made.

The Libertarian Party of Hawaii will also maintain and share their own master list members can access throughout the session.

## Chapter 4: Working Drafts and Reports

4.1



### Creating and Utilizing a Legislative Notes Document

This starting document is basically the drop-all spot for studying and note-taking. Potential initiatives are placed in a running list with any research, questions, or notes being added as necessary. Depending on how many bill proposals and volunteers you have, you may want to divide responsibilities within this document as well.

### 4.2 Legislative Tracking Report Working Draft

Once a proposal has been reviewed and further actions determined, the hyperlinked bill number, LPHI stance, and customized summary is placed into the Legislative Tracking Report. When blog posts are published, they are hyperlinked as well.

The bill statuses should be updated on a regular basis by a designated Activist (usually weekly). This working draft is turned into a pdf and disseminated as a report every 2-4 weeks (depending on the frequency of updates and additions).

As an example, you can find the 2025 legislative tracking report in the Appendix of this handbook.

## 4.3 Blogging

Blogging is a very useful tool for engaging the community and raising awareness about issues aligned with libertarian values. By sharing insights and updates, we encourage active participation among community members. Using the blog feature frequently also significantly boosts LPHI’s website traffic and visibility.

Content submissions to the website can be sent to [lphisecretary@gmail.com](mailto:lphisecretary@gmail.com). We welcome diverse perspectives and contributions that enrich our discussions.

### New Injustices for Hawaii’s Pretrial System

[HB127](#) proposes changes to the pretrial release system in Hawaii. It aims to set bail based on a defendant’s financial capabilities.



To maximize impact, consider the following tips:

**Introduction:** A strong introduction will draw the reader in. You want it to get directly to the point.

**Incorporate Relevant Current Events:** Connect the content to recent developments that impact individual liberties.

**Use Data:** Support arguments with relevant statistics and/or research to enhance credibility.

**Relevant Links:** Provide additional resources for readers to explore topics in more depth. Hyperlink any outside sources you used or context useful to the reader.

**Conclusion:** Summarize key points and reiterate the importance of individual accountability and limited government intervention.

Our blogging efforts **should reflect libertarian principles**, emphasizing personal responsibility, individual liberty, and minimal state interference. Content that aligns with these values will resonate more deeply with our audience and inspire meaningful dialogue.

Opinion pieces are welcomed as well, but may be published with and “opinion” disclaimer. We accept a wide range of opinions so long as the content does not go against libertarian principles.

A call to action with the bill links and resources for testimonies will be added by a website admin before publishing.

## Chapter 5: Testifying as the Libertarian Party of Hawaii

### 5.1 The Importance of Party Testimony in Representing Libertarian Values

When individuals take the time to submit their testimonies, they get to express their opinions while representing the collective voice of the Libertarian Party. This participation is vital in promoting Party principles and positively affecting the community.

Unfortunately, many people do not follow through on submitting testimony or contacting their representatives. This creates a major opportunity for those who do engage. Your voice can stand out in a crowded field, making it easier to influence decision-makers toward policies that uphold our values.

By participating in the process, you help ensure that freedom-driven perspectives are heard and considered in the legislative arena. This can enable a culture of liberty and accountability in governance. Your testimony can inspire others to join the cause, amplify the Libertarian message and reinforce the importance of individual freedoms in Hawaii.

### 5.2 Preparing Your Testimony

Before submitting testimony, it's you need to make certain you have thoroughly researched the bills in question. Read and understand their provisions, potential impacts, and how they align or conflict with libertarian principles.

Ensure your testimony upholds party principles by crafting a unified message. Focus on key themes such as individual liberty, personal responsibility, and limited government intervention. This coherence strengthens your testimony and makes it more persuasive to decision-makers.

Always try to write your testimony in advance for the bills on your tracking list, and have it ready for any hearings that pop up. For certain topics, consider using bulk testimonies. These can be applied to multiple bills when the underlying issue remains consistent. For instance, Second Amendment rights can be defended in both gun restriction and licensing bills using the same testimony. This approach saves time and reinforces your stance on critical issues across various legislative proposals. These can also be used as template testimonies for activists to copy, paste, and reword before submissions.

LPHI testimonies from previous sessions can be found in the appendix of this handbook under "Written Testimony Samples"..

## 5.3 Testifying Guidelines

This section covers the basic overview of how to testify in hearings. You can also check out the Appendices for further guidance.

### **In-Person Guidelines**

When attending legislative hearings in person, be aware of the following:

- Arrive early to allow time for security checks and to familiarize yourself with the hearing room.
- Sign in at the registration table to indicate your intention to testify.
- Keep your testimony concise, typically limited to 2-3 minutes. Focus on key points that align with libertarian values.
- Maintain a professional demeanor and show respect to legislators and other attendees throughout your testimony.

### **Written Testimony**

1. Log in to your account.
2. Find the bill you want to testify on in Measure Tracking or click "Submit Testimony" if there is an open hearing for testimony.
3. Fill out the form with your comments and position (support, oppose, or comments only).
4. Attach any supporting documents if necessary and submit.
5. Written testimony submitted by the 24-hour deadline will be posted online prior to the convening of the public hearing.
6. Written testimony received after the 24-hour deadline will be posted to the Capitol website within 24 hours after the hearing has adjourned and may be marked as "Late".

This useful YouTube video shows [How to Submit Testimony](#) on the Legislature Page.

Here are more useful [Tips on Testimony](#) from the Legislative Reference Bureau.

Keep your testimony concise and focused on how the legislation impacts you or your community. For submitting written testimony, follow these guidelines:

- Use a clear and professional format, including your name, LPHI contact information, and the bill number you are addressing.
- Use Libertarian branding/headers.
- Clearly state your position near the top. Putting “opposition” or “support” near the beginning in bold is a good practice.
- Provide supporting arguments. Use data or anecdotes to illustrate your points, emphasizing how they relate to personal freedom and limited government. If you are



planning on reading your written testimony as well, you'll want to ensure it fits within the 2-3 minute time allotment, but the written version can be as long or as short as necessary.

- Submit your written testimony through the designated channels, ensuring it is sent before the deadline for the specific hearing. You will not necessarily have much of a heads-up, so it is ideal to have it ready to go ahead of time.

### **Utilizing Online Platforms for Virtual Testimony**

Many hearings in Hawaii offer virtual testimony options. Here's how to effectively participate online:

- Familiarize yourself with the online platform used for virtual hearings.
- Register for the hearing in advance through the legislative website to indicate your intention to testify.
- Prepare your testimony just as you would for in-person submissions, keeping it concise and focused.
- Engage respectfully, using the platform's features (like raising your hand) to indicate your desire to speak.

## **Chapter 6: Building Community Engagement**

Community engagement is essential for the success of various activism campaigns. Grassroots mobilization empowers individuals to advocate for local change.

### **Recruitment Strategies**

- Join or help to lead LPHI petition drives: These are issue-based initiatives we want to move forward. You can use a preset or create your own based on current events.
- Distribute materials that educate community members about the bills and their significance: Print handouts or use social media, website, and YouTube to spread the messages.
- Host informational events to attract supporters and inform them about ongoing campaigns and organize discussions to gather feedback and encourage dialogue on important issues.
- Provide workshops on effective advocacy techniques, including communication with representatives. Pre-session workshops based on previous sessions are a great way to go.
- Collaborate with local organizations and community groups to enhance reach and resource sharing.

### **Communication Channels**

- Use the provided sign-up sheets to gather contact information from supporters (See Appendices).
- Progress or related articles or posts on issues and initiatives can be sent to [lphisecretary@gmail.com](mailto:lphisecretary@gmail.com).
- Utilize social media platforms to share updates, success stories, and calls to action for various campaigns.
- Engage your contact list with updates on campaigns and opportunities for action, such as contacting representatives or signing petitions.

## Appendices

### A. Print-Outs

1. [Tabling Printables](#)
2. [Defend Hawaii](#)
3. [End Judicial Immunity](#)

### B. Written Testimony Samples

Below you will see samples of written testimony as well as links to oral examples. You will notice we encourage individuality and even impassioned testimony while maintaining respect toward Representatives and Senators. They were submitted with LPHI credentials and letterheads.

#### **1. ON FIREWORKS PROHIBITION**

Hawaii Representatives & Senators:

On behalf of the Libertarian Party of Hawaii, I am writing to express our strong opposition to any prohibitions and enforcement measures targeting fireworks. We believe Hawaiians have the right to pursue and engage in any activities that bring them joy and fulfillment.

Fireworks prohibitions and regulations infringe upon the freedom of our citizens to partake in this time-honored custom, diminishing the spirit of celebration and unity that fireworks bring.

Implementing strict enforcement measures to crack down on fireworks usage would only serve to burden law enforcement resources, and divert needed attention away from more pressing issues. Prohibitions and heavy enforcement will lead to unnecessary conflict between police and citizens, eroding trust and creating an atmosphere of fear and animosity. Causing harm against another person is already illegal, and crimes can already be prosecuted without these new tyrannical enforcement measures.

The Libertarian Party of Hawaii stands firm in our support of individual freedom and opposes any measures that encroach upon our citizens' rights.

In Freedom,

Abbra Green

Executive Secretary, Libertarian Party of Hawaii

[lphisecretary@gmail.com](mailto:lphisecretary@gmail.com)

## **2. ON MIDWIFERY REGULATIONS**

Hawaii Representatives & Senators:

The Libertarian Party of Hawaii is urging lawmakers to refrain from continuing the regulations for midwives and birthing practitioners in Hawaii. By maintaining licensing requirements instead of letting them hit the sunset provision (expiration), these measures prolong the regulatory framework that limits individuals' autonomy and stifles the natural flow of market dynamics in the midwifery field.

**Read closely:** These measures are cleverly worded to make the reader think they're doing us a favor by adding more provisions for midwifery and homebirth licensure. The reality is that if this bill and others like it are turned down, the regulatory framework will expire per “sunset laws”.

**Let's be clear:** The Libertarian Party of Hawaii supports all freedom in birthing options including pale keiki, lola, and samba - as well as any birth-related service providers of their choosing. These choices are sacred and inherent in women's rights. Parents and families must have the freedom to choose how they journey through their birthing experience without concern for burdensome regulations or mandates of any kind. We do not need a “home birth task force”; we need to recognize the right of a mother to make her own healthcare choices.

The legislature's own quoted research condemns them at the beginning of [HB1328](#):

*“The legislature recognizes that, for many people, decisions about pregnancy and birth are informed by their personal or community history and culture and are experiences of great social, cultural, and spiritual significance. For many people, pregnancy and birth are not primarily medical events.”*

From research highlighted by the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and in the White House Blueprint for Addressing the Maternal Health Crisis (June 2022):

*“... legal access to culturally responsive care of the birthing person's choosing, including traditional practices of that person's culture, is strongly correlated with increased safety and well-being.”*

Extending the licensure program welcomes more government interference in private healthcare practices and decisions. These bills would block Hawaii's ability to transition to a deregulated environment that prioritizes individual freedom of choice and a competitive market driven by consumer demand rather than bureaucratic mandates.

The Libertarian Party of Hawaii opposes these measures and urges representatives to take a freedom-centered approach that prioritizes the woman's right to liberally choose all aspects of how she cares for her and her family.

Abbra Green | The Libertarian Party of Hawaii Secretary | [LPHIsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:LPHIsecretary@gmail.com)

### **3. On Parental Rights**

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

I strongly oppose SB1150 due to its overreach into parental rights, legal jurisdiction, and due process. This bill undermines the principles of family autonomy, disrupts established legal frameworks for child custody, and creates significant risks for both families and the state of Hawai'i.

SB1150 reclassifies parental refusal to provide "gender-affirming care" as medical neglect, equating it with child abuse. This diminishes parental discretion in medical decision-making and allows courts to override parental authority even in the absence of demonstrable harm. Furthermore, by permitting non-parents to seek emergency jurisdiction over minors, **the bill undermines due process by limiting parental ability to contest custody decisions.** Family autonomy must be preserved, and parents should not be excluded from critical medical decisions affecting their children.

SB1150 alters the Uniform Child-Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act (UCCJEA) by granting Hawai'i courts expanded emergency jurisdiction over out-of-state minors brought to the

state for medical procedures. This **creates a legal loophole that could incentivize individuals—including non-relatives—to transport minors across state lines without parental consent, circumventing existing custody agreements and state laws.**

Additionally, the bill prevents cooperation with extradition requests related to custody disputes, **effectively designating Hawai'i as a legal sanctuary for those seeking to remove children from parental custody without legal consequence.** This departure from national legal norms could jeopardize Hawai'i's ability to enforce its own custody rulings in other states.

By weakening legal protections against unauthorized custody transfers, **SB1150 creates vulnerabilities that could be exploited by bad actors,** including those with coercive or harmful intentions. The bill provides no clear safeguards to ensure that minors transported across state lines for medical procedures are acting of their own free will or receiving appropriate medical oversight.

Furthermore, the bill's confidentiality provisions limit parental access to medical records, obstructing their ability to ensure their child's well-being. This **lack of transparency conflicts with well-established legal principles that recognize parental rights in medical decision-making and child welfare.**

SB1150's unilateral approach to custody and medical jurisdiction could have unintended consequences for Hawai'i's legal standing. If the state refuses to return minors to their legal guardians in other jurisdictions, it risks undermining reciprocity under the UCCJEA, which could hinder Hawai'i's ability to reclaim its own children in future custody disputes. The bill also raises constitutional concerns, as it **may conflict with the Full Faith and Credit Clause, which requires states to recognize and enforce each other's legal judgments.**

SB1150 goes beyond protecting children—it disrupts legal norms, erodes parental rights, and creates significant risks for families and the state's legal framework. Instead of advancing policies that weaken custody protections and parental involvement, the legislature should focus on solutions that prioritize both child welfare and due process.

I urge you to vote **NO** on SB1150 to protect family integrity, uphold legal consistency, and ensure child safety under a fair and balanced legal framework.



Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Zehr

### C. List of Resources

1. [Hawaii State Constitution](#)
2. [United States Constitution](#)
3. [Libertarian Party of Hawaii Platform](#)
4. [Libertarian National Platform](#)
5. [LPHI Actionable Legislative Steps](#)
6. [Hawaii State Legislature](#)
7. [Hawaii Revised Statutes](#)
8. [A Citizen's Guide to Participating in the Legislative Process](#)
9. [How to Set up a Measure Tracking Report](#)
10. [Libertarian Party of Hawaii Legislative Tracking Report 2025](#)

### D. Contact Information for Key Legislative Offices

1. [Hawaii State Legislature Contact Page](#)
2. [House of Representatives](#)
3. [Senate](#)
4. [Governor's Office](#)