

RES26-025

Testimony

MISC. COMM. 58

*PUBLIC SAFETY & ECONOMY (PSE)

***PUBLIC SAFETY & ECONOMY (PSE) Meeting**

Meeting Date: Feb 5, 2026 @ 01:00 PM

Support: 4

Oppose: 3

I wish to comment: 21

Name: Elizabeth Lockard	Email: eslockard@gmail.com	Zip: 96825-2304
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Feb 3, 2026 @ 12:21 PM

Testimony:

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION 26-25

1:00PM FEBRUARY 5, 2026

PUBLIC SAFETY AND ECONOMY COMMITTEE HEARING

Dear Public Safety and Economy Committee Members:

RE: COMMENTS ON RESOLUTION 26-25 – LACK OF SPECIFIC POLICIES FAILS TO PROTECT OAHU RESIDENTS

Resolution 26-25 commends the Honolulu Police Department and its leadership for adopting clear policies that ensure transparency and accountability while maintaining public safety. However, while Resolution 26-25 commends the existence of “clear policies”, it fails to include specific policies which ensure transparency and accountability. As such, this resolution fails to meet the demands of the times we now live in.

The horrific violence in Minneapolis and across the continent of ICE and the Department of Homeland Security is well known. However, the same acts of violence and cruelty are happening in the City and County of Honolulu as well as across the state. The fear among health care and agricultural workers, students, visitor industry workforce is palpable as is the anger of residents who are looking to elected officials to take action.

It is essential to have appropriate policies in place that both protect public safety and promote transparency. These policies must also be relevant, timely, and clearly communicated to the public.

Twice the Honolulu City Council has had the opportunity to take timely action and establish clear policy guidelines relevant to the national situation and twice has failed to do so:

- In 2019 Bill 31 emphasized public safety for all residents and the importance of trust and cooperation between HPD and the community, including immigrants. The bill was never heard by a committee.
- In 2024, in response to national turmoil and documented violations of constitutional protections in multiple states and jurisdictions, Resolution 25-301 was introduced and contained powerful and specific clear language calling for the affirmation of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, as well as Article I, Section 5 of the Hawai’i State Constitution. Once again in 2024, language calling for clarity and affirmation of these policies was removed.

Therefore, because in its current form Resolution 26-25 fails to protect the residents of this island, the request is that the Resolution be amended to ensure that it contains those clear policies, expectations, and operating procedures required to protect all the residents of the City and County of Honolulu.

Name: Lisa Gibson	Email: lisahgibson@gmail.com	Zip: 96817-1432
Representing: Indivisible Hawaii	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Feb 3, 2026 @ 12:23 PM

Testimony:

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL

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Mahalo,

Lisa Gibson

Member Indivisible Honolulu and

Group Leader - Indivisible Hawaii Statewide Network

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Marguerite Koster	makoster26@gmail.com	96814
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	I wish to comment	Feb 3, 2026 @ 02:08 PM

Testimony:

Dear Public Safety and Economy Committee Members:

RE: COMMENTS ON RESOLUTION 26-25 – LACK OF SPECIFIC POLICIES FAILS TO PROTECT OAHU RESIDENTS

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Respectfully,
Marguerite Koster
Kaka'ako

Name: Steven Singer	Email: singer808@gmail.com	Zip: 96825
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 3, 2026 @ 02:08 PM

Testimony:

Dear Public Safety and Economy Committee Members:

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Mahalo,
Steven Singer

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Jay Henderson	jayhenderson43@gmail.com	96815
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Support	Feb 3, 2026 @ 04:12 PM

Testimony:

Dear Public Safety and Economy Committee Members:

RE: COMMENTS ON RESOLUTION 26-25 – LACK OF SPECIFIC POLICIES FAILS TO PROTECT OAHU RESIDENTS

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Name: Liane Briggs	Email: lianebriggs@yahoo.com	Zip: 96744
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Feb 3, 2026 @ 05:49 PM

Testimony:

Reading Resolution 26-25 in detail, it seems to me that the City Council is commending HPD for policies that are already in place. The resolution doesn't go far enough to meet the current moment that is taking place in cities across the country. ICE has revealed its hand, tactics that it will use to detain people, including breaking car windows, spraying chemicals into peoples' faces at close range, shooting Americans, and more. C&C of Honolulu must prepare now for ICE tactics that I believe will someday come to Honolulu. I respectfully request: the call for the vote on Resolution 26-25 be withdrawn and the Resolution be amended to protect all residents of the City and County of Honolulu from the abuses of ICE. Thank you for listening to my concerns.

Name: Darryl Nordstrom	Email: daigoro@hawaii.rr.com	Zip: 96822
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 3, 2026 @ 05:57 PM

Testimony:

Aloha Public Safety and Economy Committee Members,

Our community and country are in a dark period of history and we must all do what we can to preserve all the is great about our community and country. Thus I strongly support this resolution to help protect all of us.

Resolution 26-25 commends the Honolulu Police Department and its leadership for adopting clear policies that ensure transparency and accountability while maintaining public safety. However, while the resolution praises the existence of "clear policies," it fails to identify or require the specific policies necessary to ensure transparency, accountability, and the protection of civil rights.

The violence and abuses associated with ICE and the Department of Homeland Security are well documented nationally, and similar acts are occurring here in the City and County of Honolulu. Fear among healthcare workers, agricultural workers, students, and members of the visitor industry is palpable, as is the frustration of residents seeking leadership and action from elected officials.

This is not the first missed opportunity for the Council to act:

In 2019, Bill 31 sought to limit HPD’s enforcement of federal immigration laws and emphasized trust between law enforcement and immigrant communities. The bill was never heard.

In 2024, Resolution 25-301 called for the affirmation of constitutional protections under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments and the Hawai’i State Constitution. Key language was removed before passage.

Clear, transparent, and enforceable policies must be established before a crisis occurs — not after. In its current form, Resolution 26-25 does not adequately protect the residents of this island.

Therefore, I respectfully request that Resolution 26-25 be amended to include clear policies, expectations, and operating procedures that ensure public safety, transparency, accountability, and the protection of civil rights for all residents of the City and County of Honolulu.

I am tired of spending time and energy to push back against Trump and the cruel corrupt people around him that are destroying all that is good in our country and the world. But I continue my efforts because it is necessary. I hope someday soon that I will no longer have to spend time and energy to protect our community and country from this nightmare and refocus my time and energies on other activities that help make our community and world a better place.

Mahalo for your time and efforts.

Darryl

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Sara Wood	alohasarawood@gmail.com	96734
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	Oppose	Feb 3, 2026 @ 07:18 PM

Testimony:

Dear Public Safety and Economy Committee Members:

RE: COMMENTS ON RESOLUTION 26-25 – LACK OF SPECIFIC POLICIES FAIL TO PROTECT OAHU RESIDENTS

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The horrific violence in Minneapolis and across the continent from ICE and the DHS is well known. Acts of violence and cruelty are also happening across our state. The fear among health care and agricultural workers, students, the visitor industry workforce, and residents is palpable. We residents are looking to elected officials to take action. It is essential to have appropriate policies in place that both protect public safety and promote transparency. These policies must also be relevant, timely, and clearly communicated to the public.

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 - That the Mayor review all current and future agreements and memoranda with public and private partners to ensure constitutional rights and community values are protected.
 - That the Honolulu Police Department confine its powers, duties, and functions to matters within its original jurisdiction, pursuant to ROH Section 6-1604(a), and not engage in matters outside its authority or within the exclusive authority of others.

Therefore, because in its current form Resolution 26-25 fails to protect the residents of this island, the request is that the Resolution be amended to ensure that it contains those clear policies, expectations, and operating procedures required to protect all the residents of the City and County of Honolulu.

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Anne Towey	annetoweyjoyer@gmail.com	96734

Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Feb 3, 2026 @ 09:04 PM
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Testimony:

Dear Public Safety and Economy Committee Members:

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Mahalo,

Anne Towey Joyer

Name:

Max Towey

Email:

maxtowey@gmail.com

Zip:

96734

Representing:

Self

Position:

I wish to comment

Submitted:

Feb 3, 2026 @ 09:06 PM

Testimony:

Dear Public Safety and Economy Committee Members:

Resolution 26-25 commends the Honolulu Police Department and its leadership for adopting clear policies that ensure transparency and accountability while maintaining public safety. However, while Resolution 26-25 commends the existence of “clear policies” it fails to include specific policies which ensure transparency and accountability. As such, this resolution fails to meet the demands of the times we now live in.

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Mahalo,

Max Towey

Name:	Email:	Zip:
lois crozer	lbc@hawaiiantel.net	96734
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	I wish to comment	Feb 3, 2026 @ 09:15 PM

Testimony:

While Resolution 26-25 commends the existence of “clear policies” it fails to include specific policies which ensure transparency and accountability. As such, this resolution fails to meet the demands of the times we now live in. The horrific violence in Minneapolis and across the continent from ICE and the DHS is well known. Acts of violence and cruelty are also happening across our state. The fear among health care and agricultural workers, students, the visitor industry workforce, and residents is palpable. We residents are looking to elected officials to take action. It is essential to have appropriate policies in place that both protect public safety and promote transparency. These policies must also be relevant, timely, and clearly communicated to the public.

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- In 2024, in response to national turmoil and documented violations of constitutional protections in multiple states and jurisdictions, Resolution 25-301 was introduced and called for the affirmation of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, as well as Article I, Section 5 of the Hawai'i State Constitution. These provisions clearly stated that no individual shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law—a right that applies to all persons within the United States. Once again in 2024, language calling for clarity and affirmation of these policies was removed.

Through Resolution 25-301, the Council requested timely action and clear public statements relevant to the national situation. These requests were not mandates or legal directives, but included:

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Name: Beth Anderson	Email: bethkailua@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Feb 3, 2026 @ 09:33 PM

Testimony:

Aloha City Council Members,

After observing the tactics of ICE in our cities these past few month, including American citizens being shot and killed by ICE, then watching the ICE Hearings in Congress today, it is clear we are dealing with a lawless, out of control, often violent law enforcement arm of our current President's administration. It is essential that Honolulu prepares for what amounts to a terrorist organization patrolling our streets. This is a government police force that yanks people (mostly innocent people) out of their cars, places of work, out of their homes, and off of the street without warrants and hauls them off to detention centers without representation.

That said, I believe Resolution 26-25 fails to meet the demands of the times we live in now and critically needs amending. Everything possible needs to be done to prevent the horrific violence and cruelty we have witnessed in Minnesota and across the country from occurring here in Hawaii. We need very strong measures to protect the residents of this Island that are not part of Resolution 26-25. This is urgent. Acts of violence and cruelty by ICE have already occurred across our State. The fear among health care workers and agricultural workers, students, the visitor industry workforce, and residents is palpable. I went to a supportive rally/protest to support Rogerio Araujo. The love and sadness surrounding that situation, the loss Cheryl Bartlett, former Miss Hawaii, now living with disabilities, was experiencing at that rally, was heartbreaking. This person, her loving husband and caretaker she depended on, as did other family members, was not a criminal, but he was locked up across the street and probably not going to get out. Why? His arrest was not violent, but many have been. It is essential Honolulu has appropriate policies in place that both protect public safety and promote transparency. Twice the City Council has had an opportunity to take timely action and establish clear policy guidelines relevant to the degree of cruelty and lawlessness of the ICE situation, but twice has failed to do something. Please ensure a strong public policy that protects all the residents of the City and County of Honolulu is put in place and amend this Resolution in order to achieve that goal.

Thank you for considering my views and suggestions,

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Anderson

Name:

Peter Burns

Email:

peterwalkerburns@gmail.com

Zip:

96744

Representing:

Self

Position:

I wish to comment

Submitted:

Feb 4, 2026 @ 05:43 AM

Testimony:

Dear Public Safety and Economy Committee Members:

RE: COMMENTS ON RESOLUTION 26-25 – LACK OF SPECIFIC POLICIES FAIL TO PROTECT OAHU RESIDENTS

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Peter Burns

Kaneohe

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Jennifer Schember-Lang	jschember-lang@hotmail.com	96734
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	I wish to comment	Feb 4, 2026 @ 10:04 AM

Name:	Email:	Zip:
James Raymond	attyraymond@gmail.com	96734
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	I wish to comment	Feb 4, 2026 @ 10:56 AM

Testimony:

Dear Public Safety and Economy Committee Members:

I am a member of Indivisible Windward, but I comment as an individual.

RE: COMMENTS ON RESOLUTION 26-25 – LACK OF SPECIFIC POLICIES FAIL TO PROTECT OAHU RESIDENTS

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Name: Wendy Dame	Email: wedame@comcast.net	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Feb 4, 2026 @ 12:02 PM
Name: Samuel Mitchell	Email: 808Unionist@gmail.com	Zip: 96822
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Feb 4, 2026 @ 12:31 PM

Testimony:

My name is Samuel Mitchell and I am a long time member of the Makiki Neighborhood Board #10. I am concerned that in its current Resolution 26-25 fails to articulate the clear policies that ensure transparency and accountability for HPD while maintaining public safety and civil rights with regard to ICE. I request that the Resolution be amended to ensure that it contains those clear policies, expectations, and operating procedures required to protect all the residents of the City and County of Honolulu from the abuses of ICE. As a NARFE Hawaii (National Active & Retired Federal Employees & Machinists Union Local 1998 member) I've seen how the Trump administration has hurt are employees & the public so we need to prevent illegal arrests by ICE agents.

Samuel Mitchell
808Unionist@gmail.com

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Lee Friedman	ljfried@hawaii.edu	96826
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	I wish to comment	Feb 4, 2026 @ 12:33 PM
Testimony: Dear all, Resolution 26-25 praises the "clear policies" provided by the Honolulu Police Department for fostering an environment that focuses on transparency, accountability, and public safety. These are values that many in our community, including myself, share. However, the current form of this resolution does not specify which policies are being praised, and does not require any specific policies to be in place to ensure the aforementioned accountability, transparency, and public safety within the Honolulu Police Department. It is important for this resolution to include the specifics of clear, transparent, and enforceable policies to ensure the safety and civil rights of all residents, and provides a clear framework for our officers to have access to guidance. Without public, clear, and specific guidelines, this resolution provides commendation without future direction. I urge the Council to consider amending Resolution 26-25 to include clear policies, including operating procedures and specific actionable expectations, in order to ensure the protection of civil rights for all residents of the City and County of Honolulu. Mahalo for your time and collective effort on this resolution.		
Name:	Email:	Zip:
Chloe Wurr	cwurr.work@gmail.com	96822-2142
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	I wish to comment	Feb 4, 2026 @ 12:54 PM
Testimony: HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL Resolution 26-25 Public Safety and Economy Committee Thursday, February 5, 2026 — 1:00 PM Dear Public Safety and Economy Committee Members, RE: Resolution 26-25 — Lack of Specific Policies Fails to Protect O'ahu Residents		

Resolution 26-25 commends the Honolulu Police Department and its leadership for adopting clear policies that ensure transparency and accountability while maintaining public safety. However, while the resolution praises the existence of “clear policies,” it fails to identify or require the specific policies necessary to ensure transparency, accountability, and the protection of civil rights.

The violence and abuses associated with ICE and the Department of Homeland Security are well documented nationally, and similar acts are occurring here in the City and County of Honolulu. Fear among healthcare workers, agricultural workers, students, and members of the visitor industry is palpable, as is the frustration of residents seeking leadership and action from elected officials.

This is not the first missed opportunity for the Council to act:

In 2019, Bill 31 sought to limit HPD’s enforcement of federal immigration laws and emphasized trust between law enforcement and immigrant communities. The bill was never heard.

In 2024, Resolution 25-301 called for the affirmation of constitutional protections under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments and the Hawai’i State Constitution. Key language was removed before passage.

Clear, transparent, and enforceable policies must be established before a crisis occurs — not after. In its current form, Resolution 26-25 does not adequately protect the residents of this island.

Therefore, I respectfully request that Resolution 26-25 be amended to include clear policies, expectations, and operating procedures that ensure public safety, transparency, accountability, and the protection of civil rights for all residents of the City and County of Honolulu.

Specifically, ICE agents must wear body camera in all actions, they must wear identifying badges and NOT wear face coverings. All entry of private space must have a JUDICIAL warrant for entry. All constitutional protections must be observed.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify. Sincerely, Chloë Wurr

Name: Rachele McFarland	Email: rachelemcf@gmail.com	Zip: 96744
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Feb 4, 2026 @ 01:54 PM
Name: Beth Rasmussen	Email: bethlynras9@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Feb 4, 2026 @ 02:38 PM

Testimony:

We are living in very dangerous times. The Federal Govt is no longer a reliable partner in rule of law. Resolution 25-26 needs to be amended to CLEARLY state the role of HPD in regard to ICE operations. Unless we clearly define the role of HPD we can are not protecting the people of Hawaii nor HPD. Thank you, Beth Rasmussen

Name: Scott Lucas	Email: scottandbelinda.lucas@gmail.com	Zip: 96822
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 4, 2026 @ 03:50 PM

Testimony:

I was born and raised in Hawai'i. My wife was not. She was born in Honduras and at the age of five, she and her mother immigrated to the United States. They both were naturalized in 1989. My mother-in-law is a college educated and holds a degree in education. Prior to moving to the U.S. she was an elementary school teacher. Despite her certification, she was unable to secure work as a teacher. However, she proudly worked for the Los Angeles Unified School District for over twenty years. My wife also received a degree from the University of California Riverside and it wasn't too long after graduating from college that we met. In 2007 I convinced her to move back to my island home and we were married two years later. The following year we had our first son and then three years later we welcomed our second.

I've learned that Hawaiian values and Hispanic values are almost identical. One such value is the importance of family and the belief that families are stronger when they incorporate diversity. The saying "it takes a village" comes to mind. So, a year after having our first child, we asked my mother-in-law to forego her retirement plans and move to Hawai'i to live with us. We are typical a Hawaiian family as we are Hispanic family; we are truly an American family.

My wife and her mother have taken to this place. It is safe, it is familiar, it is where our sons are from. It is where they now call home. But with all that has been happening lately, they don't feel safe in their home. My sons don't feel safe. I don't feel safe.

Please, do all that you can to protect our community. Protect our family. Mahalo.

Name: James F. Cartwright	Email: jasfcartw@gmail.com	Zip: 96826
Representing: Self	Position: I wish to comment	Submitted: Feb 4, 2026 @ 05:36 PM

Name: Peggy Brandt	Email: PEGGY.BRANDT@GMAIL.COM	Zip: 96822
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Feb 4, 2026 @ 08:17 PM

Name: Jennifer Lane	Email: jenrlane@gmail.com	Zip: 96734
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:

Self	I wish to comment	Feb 4, 2026 @ 08:42 PM
Testimony: Dear Public Safety and Economy Committee Members: RE: COMMENTS ON RESOLUTION 26-25 – LACK OF SPECIFIC POLICIES FAIL TO PROTECT OAHU RESIDENTS Resolution 26-25 commends the Honolulu Police Department and its leadership for adopting clear policies that ensure transparency and accountability while maintaining public safety. However, while Resolution 26-25 commends the existence of “clear policies” it fails to include specific policies which ensure transparency and accountability. As such, this resolution fails to meet the demands of the times we now live in. The horrific violence in Minneapolis and across the continent from ICE and the DHS is well known. Acts of violence and cruelty are also happening across our state. The fear among health care and agricultural workers, students, the visitor industry workforce, and residents is palpable. We residents are looking to elected officials to take action. It is essential to have appropriate policies in place that both protect public safety and promote transparency. These policies must also be relevant, timely, and clearly communicated to the public. Twice the Honolulu City Council has had the opportunity to take timely action and establish clear policy guidelines relevant to the national situation and twice has failed to do so: · In 2019 Bill 31 emphasized public safety for all residents and the importance of trust and cooperation between HPD and the community, including immigrants. The bill was never heard by a committee. · In 2024, in response to national turmoil and documented violations of constitutional protections in multiple states and jurisdictions, Resolution 25-301 was introduced and called for the affirmation of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, as well as Article I, Section 5 of the Hawai'i State Constitution. Through Resolution 25-301, the Council requested timely action and clear public statements relevant to the national situation. These requests were not mandates or legal directives, but included: · That the Mayor review all current and future agreements and memoranda with public and private partners to ensure constitutional rights and community values are protected. · That the Honolulu Police Department confine its powers, duties, and functions to matters within its original jurisdiction, pursuant to ROH Section 6-1604(a), and not engage in matters outside its authority or within the exclusive authority of others. Therefore, because in its current form Resolution 26-25 fails to protect the residents of this island, the request is that the Resolution be amended to ensure that it contains those clear policies, expectations, and operating procedures required to protect all the residents of the City and County of Honolulu.		

Mahalo,

Jennifer Lane

Name:

Michael Liu

Email:

mliuastro@gmail.com

Zip:

96822-1362

Representing:

Self

Position:

Oppose

Submitted:

Feb 4, 2026 @ 10:35 PM

Testimony:

RE: Resolution 26-25 — Lack of Specific Policies Fails to Protect O’ahu Residents

Resolution 26-25 commends the Honolulu Police Department and its leadership for adopting clear policies that ensure transparency and accountability while maintaining public safety. However, while the resolution praises the existence of “clear policies,” it fails to identify or require the specific policies necessary to ensure transparency, accountability, and the protection of civil rights.

The violence and abuses associated with ICE and the Department of Homeland Security are well documented nationally, and similar acts are occurring here in the City and County of Honolulu. Fear among healthcare workers, agricultural workers, students, and members of the visitor industry is palpable, as is the frustration of residents seeking leadership and action from elected officials.

This is not the first missed opportunity for the Council to act:

In 2019, Bill 31 sought to limit HPD’s enforcement of federal immigration laws and emphasized trust between law enforcement and immigrant communities. The bill was never heard.

In 2024, Resolution 25-301 called for the affirmation of constitutional protections under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments and the Hawai’i State Constitution. Key language was removed before passage.

Clear, transparent, and enforceable policies must be established before a crisis occurs — not after. In its current form, Resolution 26-25 does not adequately protect the residents of this island.

Therefore, I respectfully request that Resolution 26-25 be amended to include clear policies, expectations, and operating procedures that ensure public safety, transparency, accountability, and the protection of civil rights for all residents of the City and County of Honolulu.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Name:	Email:	Zip:
Aria Juliet Castillo	ariajuliet@hapahi.org	96734
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	I wish to comment	Feb 5, 2026 @ 06:57 AM
Testimony: Aloha, I am submitting comments on Resolution 26-25. While the resolution commends HPD for having “clear policies” that ensure transparency and accountability, it does not identify what those policies are or require any specific, enforceable standards. The City Council has had prior opportunities to establish clear policy guidance. Bill 31 (2019) and Resolution 25-301 (2024) In both cases, meaningful language was either not advanced or it was removed. Commendation without clarity does not protect residents or officers. If the Council is going to praise “clear policies,” then the resolution should be amended to specify the policies being referenced and include clear expectations and operating procedures so residents can understand what HPD will and will not do, especially in high-risk situations involving civil rights and due process.		
Name:	Email:	Zip:
Robert Justice	robertjusticemd@gmail.com	96707
Representing:	Position:	Submitted:
Self	I wish to comment	Feb 5, 2026 @ 12:16 PM
Testimony: Dear Public Safety and Economy Committee Members: RE: COMMENTS ON RESOLUTION 26-25 – LACK OF SPECIFIC POLICIES FAILS TO PROTECT OAHU RESIDENTS Resolution 26-25 commends the Honolulu Police Department and its leadership for adopting clear policies that ensure transparency and accountability while maintaining public safety. However, while Resolution 26-25 commends the existence of “clear policies” it fails to include specific policies which ensure transparency and accountability. As such, this resolution fails to meet the demands of the times we now live in. The horrific violence in Minneapolis and across the continent of ICE and the Department of Homeland Security is well known. However, the same acts of violence and cruelty are happening in the City and County of Honolulu as well as across the state. The fear among health care and agricultural workers, students, visitor industry workforce is palpable as is the anger of residents who are looking to elected officials to take action.		

It is essential to have appropriate policies in place that both protect public safety and promote transparency. These policies must also be relevant, timely, and clearly communicated to the public.

Twice the Honolulu City Council has had the opportunity to take timely action and establish clear policy guidelines relevant to the national situation and twice has failed to do so:

- In 2019 Bill 31 emphasized public safety for all residents and the importance of trust and cooperation between HPD and the community, including immigrants. The bill was never heard by a committee.
- In 2024, in response to national turmoil and documented violations of constitutional protections in multiple states and jurisdictions, Resolution 25-301 was introduced and contained powerful and specific clear language calling for the affirmation of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, as well as Article I, Section 5 of the Hawai'i State Constitution. Once again in 2024, language calling for clarity and affirmation of these policies was removed.

Therefore, because in its current form Resolution 26-25 fails to protect the residents of this island, the request is that the Resolution be amended to ensure that it contains those clear policies, expectations, and operating procedures required to protect all the residents of the City and County of Honolulu.

February 4, 2026

Dear Public Safety and Economy Committee Members:

RE: COMMENTS ON RESOLUTION 26-25 – LACK OF SPECIFIC POLICIES FAIL TO PROTECT OAHU RESIDENTS

Resolution 26-25 commends the Honolulu Police Department and its leadership for adopting clear policies that ensure transparency and accountability while maintaining public safety. However, while Resolution 26-25 commends the existence of “clear policies” it fails to include specific policies which ensure transparency and accountability. This resolution fails to meet the demands of our current time and reality.

I was born and raised in Minnesota and lived half my life there before moving to Hawaii in 1988. Most of my family and many friends still reside in Minnesota and I hear from them on almost a daily basis. The horrific violence in Minneapolis, St. Paul and throughout Minnesota and across the continent from ICE and the DHS are well known and documented. **Acts of violence and cruelty are also happening across Hawaii.** The fear among health care and agricultural workers, students, the visitor industry workforce, and residents is palpable. As a resident of Hawaii, I have a reasonable expectation that elected officials will take action now! It is imperative that clear and appropriate policies be in place that both protect public safety and promote transparency. These policies must also be relevant, timely, and clearly communicated to the public.

I understand that twice the Honolulu City Council has had the opportunity to take timely action and establish clear policy guidelines relevant to the national situation and twice has failed to do so:

In 2019 Bill 31 emphasized public safety for all residents and the importance of trust and cooperation between HPD and the community, including immigrants. The bill was never heard by a committee.

In 2024, in response to national turmoil and documented violations of constitutional protections in multiple states and jurisdictions, [Resolution 25-301](#) was introduced and called for the affirmation of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, as well as Article I, Section 5 of the Hawaii State Constitution. Through [Resolution 25-301](#), the Council requested timely action and clear public statements relevant to the national situation. These requests were not mandates or legal directives, but included:

- That the Mayor review all current and future agreements and memoranda with public and private partners to ensure constitutional rights and community values are protected.
- That the Honolulu Police Department confine its powers, duties, and functions to matters within its original jurisdiction, pursuant to ROH Section 6-1604(a), and not engage in matters outside its authority or within the exclusive authority of others.

This is the time and now is the opportunity. Because Resolution 26-25 in its current form fails to protect the residents of this island, the Resolution MUST be amended to ensure that it contains those clear policies, expectations, and operating procedures required to protect all the residents of the City and County of Honolulu.

Please take this step now!

Respectfully submitted:

Jennifer Schember-Lang
935 Kamahele Place
Kailua, HI 96734

Dear Public Safety and Economy Committee Members:

RE: COMMENTS ON RESOLUTION 26-25 – LACK OF SPECIFIC POLICIES
FAIL TO PROTECT OAHU RESIDENTS

Resolution 26-25 commends the Honolulu Police Department and its leadership for adopting clear policies that ensure transparency and accountability while maintaining public safety. However, while Resolution 26-25 commends the existence of “clear policies” it fails to include specific policies which ensure transparency and accountability. As such, this resolution fails to meet the demands of the times we now live in.

The horrific violence in Minneapolis and across the continent from ICE and the DHS is well known. Acts of violence and cruelty are also happening across our state. The fear among health care and agricultural workers, students, the visitor industry workforce, and residents is palpable. We residents are looking to elected officials to act. It is essential to have appropriate policies in place that both protect public safety and promote transparency. These policies must also be relevant, timely, and clearly communicated to the public.

Twice the Honolulu City Council has had the opportunity to take timely action and establish clear policy guidelines relevant to the national situation and twice has failed to do so:

- In 2019 Bill 31 emphasized public safety for all residents and the importance of trust and cooperation between HPD and the community, including immigrants. The bill was never heard by a committee.
- In 2024, in response to national turmoil and documented violations of constitutional protections in multiple states and jurisdictions, [Resolution 25-301](#) was introduced and called for the affirmation of the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, as well as Article I, Section 5 of the Hawaii State Constitution. Through [Resolution 25-301](#), the Council requested timely action and clear public statements relevant to the national situation. These requests were not mandates or legal directives, but included:
 - That the Mayor review all current and future agreements and memoranda with public and private partners to ensure constitutional rights and community values are protected.
 - That the Honolulu Police Department confine its powers, duties, and functions to matters within its original jurisdiction, pursuant to ROH Section 6-1604(a), and not engage in matters outside its authority or within the exclusive authority of others.

Therefore, because in its current form Resolution 26-25 fails to protect the residents of this island, the request is that the Resolution be amended to ensure that it contains those clear policies, expectations, and operating procedures required to protect all the residents of the City and County of Honolulu.

RE: Online Comments on Resolution 26-25 - Lack of Specific Policies to Protect Residents

To: Esther Kia'aina, Vice Chair, Committee on Public Safety & Economy

From: Rachele McFarland
44-119B Kahinani Way
Kaneohe, HI 96744

Please refer to and adopt Resolution 25-301 and Section 92-3.7, into this current Resolution. They called for affirmation of the 5th and 14th amendments to the US Constitution including Article 1, Section of the Hawaii State Constitution.

This includes:

That the Mayor review all current and future agreements and ensure constitutional rights and community values are protected.

That the Honolulu City & County Police Department confine it's powers, duties, and functions to matters within their original jurisdiction, pursuant to ROH Section 6-1604(a), and not engage in situations or proceedings outside of their authority or within the exclusive authority of others.

We need to protect all the residents of the City and County of Honolulu by amending Resolution 26-25.

New resolutions are needed to address defending our democratic principles of the right to protest, free speech, due process, and safe election processes. We are in desperate need of honesty from law enforcement officers and the removal of all ICE agents. For example, we have been told that all ICE Agents would not be removed from Minneapolis, and now that only 700 would leave. What happened to their citizens request that ALL the ICE agents should leave immediately. The number of agents that are still there, outnumber local law enforcement.

We have a heroic war of resistance all over America right now. "We have eyes. Stop the lies." Now is the time to keep the ICE invasion force and Border Control out of Hawaii starting with our island. ICE's abuse of power and unconstitutional brutality should not be adopted in any form.

While we should express appreciation for our police officers there also needs to be sound restrictions to protect the citizens of our community. Although I cannot "support" or "oppose" the current amendment as written, this is an excellent opportunity to protect our rights by adopting previous Resolutions 25-301 and possibly Section 92-3.7.

City Council Member of District 3 & Chairperson, Esther Kia'aina, we need you to STAY STRONG NOW! This is the time to protect us and preserve our beautiful island. Please adopt Section 92-3.7 or amend it to fill this crucial need.

Mahalo and Warmest Aloha,

Rachele McFarland

Testimony to Scott Nishimoto, City Council, District 5

Aloha. My name is James F. Cartwright, living at 2525 Date Street in Mo‘ili‘il and thus I am represented specifically by Honolulu City Council Member Scott Nishimoto.

The violence and abuses associated with ICE on the mainland are well documented. We must prevent them from occurring on O‘ahu. Resolution 26-25 commends HPD for “adopting clear policies that ensure transparency and accountability.” However, in its current form, the resolution does not identify the policies nor does it even require these unspecified policies to be followed by visiting agents of the federal government.

I am requesting that Resolution 26-25 be amended to articulate clearly the policies, expectations, and operating procedures ICE and any other federal agents sent to Honolulu must follow to protect public safety, civil rights, and all residents of the City and County of Honolulu.

Thank you.

HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL
Resolution 26-25
Public Safety and Economy Committee
Thursday, February 5, 2026 — 1:00 PM

Dear Public Safety and Economy Committee Members,

RE: Resolution 26-25 — Lack of Specific Policies Fails to Protect O‘ahu Residents

I am writing to express dissent for the adoption of Resolution 26-25 in its current form.

Commending the Honolulu Police Department for adopting “clear policies” related to transparency and accountability when said policies are lacking many of the specific safeguards to ensure accountability, protect civil rights, or build public trust is disingenuous and dangerous.

Given the recent violence and abuses associated with ICE and the Border Patrol in Minnesota, it is time for the City and County of Honolulu to take the threat of these agencies seriously. A resolution that commends HPD for incomplete protections may offer extra ammunition to those who are in favor of a police state, so to speak.

Previous (missed) opportunities presented to the Council have provided examples that offer more specific and broadbased protections:

- In 2019, Bill 31 sought to limit HPD’s involvement in federal immigration enforcement and emphasized the importance of trust between law enforcement and immigrant communities. That bill was never heard.
- In 2024, Resolution 25-301 called for affirming constitutional protections under the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments and the Hawai‘i State Constitution. However, key language was removed before the resolution passed.

As written, **Resolution 26-25 does not adequately protect the people who live on this island.**

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Council to take the time to amend Resolution 26-25 to include clear policies, expectations, and operating procedures that actually ensure public safety, transparency, accountability, and the protection of civil rights for all residents of the City and County of Honolulu.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Peggy A. Brandt

Honolulu resident

