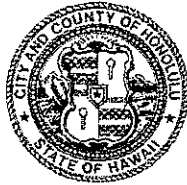


POLICE DEPARTMENT  
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MUFI HANNEMANN  
MAYOR



BOISSE P. CORREA  
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PAUL D. PUTZULU  
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DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE MH-LE

March 11, 2008

The Honorable Suzanne Chun Oakland, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Human Services & Public Housing  
The Senate  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Chun Oakland and Members:

Subject: House Bill No. 1984, H.D. 1, Relating to Public Housing

I am Major Bart Huber of District 2 (Wahiawa) of the Honolulu Police Department, City and County of Honolulu. The Honolulu Police Department (HPD) opposes House Bill No. 1984, H.D. 1, which seeks to add public sidewalks and common areas within public housing projects to the areas where consuming liquor is prohibited.

It will likely result in the HPD being tasked with responding to all state public housing areas within the county. In the Kalihi area alone, there are 16 public housing projects. Without providing additional staffing to the HPD, passage of this bill will significantly impact our ability to provide timely response. Additionally, the HPD is chronically short-staffed and is currently experiencing a 10% vacancy rate for police officers.

The HPD, being the largest law enforcement agency in the state, is constantly tasked with more and more duties that actually fall under the jurisdiction of state or private entities. While we understand that this bill is intended to control illegal drinking in public housing projects, we feel that the current housing administrative rules, if enforced, are adequate. Tasking a city agency with enforcement would not be appropriate.

We ask that you oppose the passage of House Bill No. 1984, H.D. 1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Michael P. Semakris in black ink.

FOR BART HUBER, Major  
District 2

APPROVED:

Handwritten signature of Boisse P. Correa in black ink.

BOISSE P. CORREA  
Chief of Police

*Serving and Protecting With Aloha*