



Maui Police Department

55 Mahalani Street
Wailuku, HI 96793



FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

DATE : 01 - 31 - 2008

LATE TESTIMONY
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TO :	SERGEANT-AT-ARMS
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FROM :	CHIEF OF POLICE THOMAS M. PHILLIPS
DIVISION/SECTION :	MAUI POLICE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE PHONE NO. :	808-244-6300
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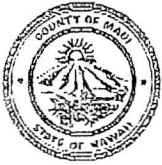
Contents : The Honorable Robert N. Herkes, Chair and Members of the
Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce

Comments : HB 2553, RELATING TO PAWNBROKERS AND SECONDHAND
DEALERS

February 4, 2008 (as of Status Report dated 1/30/08)

Please make the appropriate copies for distribution.

Mahalo!



CHARMAINE TAVARES
MAYOR

OUR REFERENCE
YOUR REFERENCE

POLICE DEPARTMENT COUNTY OF MAUI

55 MAHALANI STREET
WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793
(808) 244-6400
FAX (808) 244-6411
January 31, 2008



THOMAS M. PHILLIPS
CHIEF OF POLICE

GARY A. YABUTA
DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE

The Honorable Robert N. Herkes, Chair
And Members of the
Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
House of Representatives
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

LATE TESTIMONY

Dear Chair Herkes and Members of the Committee:

**SUBJECT: House Bill No. 2553, Relating to Pawnbrokers and
Secondhand Dealers**

I am Thomas M. Phillips, Chief of Police of the Maui County Police Department. We are supporting House Bill No. 2553, Relating to Pawnbrokers and Secondhand Dealers.

The purpose of this bill is to amend Section 486M-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, relating to record of transactions by requiring pawnbrokers and secondhand dealers to change the method they use to submit their daily recording of their transactions from a manual system to an electronic method with the use of the Internet or a computer disk.

Implementation of the amendment would allow the police to more efficiently file and track pawnshop transactions for the County of Maui. The ability to inspect and track transactions in a timely manner is extremely important in providing investigators with current information on items sold or pawned, thus providing investigators with the ability to locate stolen property before it is sold or destroyed. The present manual method of recovering pawn ticket data is a serious disadvantage to our investigators as sales area only held for thirty (30) days and pawns are held for only sixty (60) days. And often, the item is sold before the pawn ticket information is picked up.

Property crimes are often the most difficult to solve as most of these crimes occur at a time when no one is present to witness it. To be more proficient in solving property crime and locating and returning stolen property to its owners, the police need more help in identifying these perpetrators. The critical action in which we receive the transaction information can be the difference between a successful prosecution and recovery of stolen property or the loss of a person's property.

The Honorable Robert N. Herkes, Chair
And Members of the
Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce
January 31, 2008
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These amendments allow time for discussion so mutual agreement among the various police departments and the businesses affected by these changes can be attained. The implementation of this bill would be beneficial to the legitimate businesses and law-abiding residents of Hawaii.

The Maui County Police Department urges you to support House Bill No. 2553, Relating to Pawnbrokers and Secondhand Dealers.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Captain Danny Matsuura at (808) 244-6353.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



THOMAS M. PHILLIPS
Chief of Police