

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ALII PLACE
1060 RICHARDS STREET, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
AREA CODE 808 • 527-6494

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DOUGLAS S. CHIN
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THE HONORABLE JOSH GREEN, M.D., CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2008
State of Hawaii

February 8, 2008

RE: H.B. 2675; RELATING TO MEDICAL MARIJUANA.

Chair Green and members of the House Committee on Health, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu submits the following testimony in opposition to H.B. 2675.

The purpose of this bill is to add a new section to Chapter 329, Part IX, Hawaii Revised Statutes regarding the medical use of marijuana. The new section would require the state to accept certifications of medical marijuana use issued by another state to have the same validity and effect as written certifications issued here.

We oppose this bill due to the fact that certifications from other jurisdictions may permit use for under conditions not authorized by Hawaii's medical marijuana laws. If the patient had a condition which qualified for medical marijuana in the other jurisdiction but did not qualify here, would the out-of-state certification still be valid for use here under H.B. 2675? Or if the patient was permitted by the other jurisdiction to use a quantity of marijuana above what was permitted by Hawaii's law, would the out-of-state certification still be valid under H.B. 2675?

In addition, verification of the validity of the out-of-state certificate may be difficult. Written certificates issued in the state can be verified by calling the Department of Public Safety; however there may be difficulties in verifying whether a

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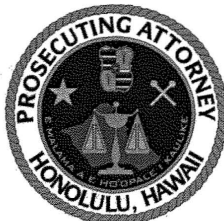
person who is found to possess marijuana does have a valid out-of-state certification.

For these reasons, we respectfully request that you hold H.B. 2675 and thank you for this opportunity to testify.

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