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TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2772 HD2
RELATING TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING

by

Pamela Ferguson-Brey, Executive Director
Crime Victim Compensation Commission

House Committee on Finance
Representative Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair
Representative Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair

Monday, February 25, 2008; 11:15 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

Good morning Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee and Members of the House Committee on Finance. Thank you for providing the Crime Victim Compensation Commission (the "Commission") with the opportunity to testify before you today. The Commission **supports** the passage of House Bill 2772 HD2. This bill extends the sunset date for the Hawaii Anti-Trafficking Task Force to 2010; adds additional members to the Task Force, including the Commission; and makes an appropriation to fund the activities of the Task Force.

The Commission was established in 1967 to mitigate the suffering and financial impact experienced by victims of violent crime by providing compensation to pay unreimbursed crime-related expenses. Many victims of violent crime could not afford to pay their medical bills, receive needed mental health or rehabilitative services, or bury a loved one if compensation were not available from the Commission.

In 2006 the legislature established the Hawaii Anti-Trafficking Task Force (HATTF II) to investigate ways to combat human trafficking, to prepare a social service needs

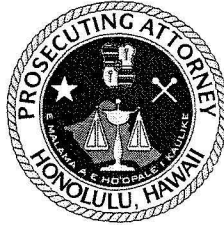
assessment of human trafficking victims, to collect data, to draft legislation to reduce human trafficking, and to look at the social service needs of human trafficking victims. The Commission attended a number of the Task Force meetings and provided its members with input regarding the eligibility of human trafficking victims for crime victim compensation.

While the Task Force made significant progress towards achieving its legislative mandate, the sunset date for the Task Force should be extended to allow the Task Force to complete the analysis of the needs assessment, and to draft legislation to improve the provision of services to human trafficking victims.

Thank you for providing the Commission with the opportunity to testify in support of House Bill 2772 HD2.

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**HONORABLE MARILYN LEE, VICE CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

**TWENTY-FOURTH STATE LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2008**

**HEARING: Monday, February 25, 2008
11:15 A.M., Conference Room 308**

RE: HOUSE BILL 2772, H.D. 2, RELATING TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Good morning Chair Oshiro, and Vice Chair Lee and members of the Finance Committee, the Department of Prosecuting Attorney provides the following testimony **in support of H.B. 2772, H.D. 2**, which proposes to extend the sunset date for the Hawaii Anti-Trafficking Task Force established by Act 260 of 2006, to amend the list of Task Force members, and provide an appropriation to underwrite the cost of activities carried out by the Task Force.

As a participant in the Act 260 Task Force we have diligently pursued the development of the necessary support services for victims' services to meet the diverse needs of the victims of human trafficking as well as participated in the development of a comprehensive consensus proposal for a criminal statute address the crime of human trafficking in Hawaii. We believe that this Task Force has the promoted a positive and productive effort by the diverse interests concerned about this issue in resolving the personal and social devastation created by this insidious offense. Our Department stands ready to continue its full and meaningful participation in the Task Force and supports the inclusion of the additional members, as proposed in this bill. The proposed new members will be able to assist in the critical task of crafting legislation that will address the extensive service needs of the victims of human trafficking. The extension of the sunset date for the Task Force to June 30, 2010 will also facilitate the accomplishment of this

task. Similarly the appropriation incorporated into the H.B. 2772 will permit the full participation of Neighbor Island members by underwriting the cost of their travel expenses.

In summary, **we are strongly in favor of H.B. 2772, H.D. 2**, with our proposed amendments, and recommend your favorable consideration.

Thank you for your time and consideration.



TO: Marcus Oshiro, Chair
Marilyn Lee, Vice Chair
Members of the Finance Committee

FR: Nanci Kreidman, M.A.

RE: HB 2772

Aloha, and thank you for scheduling HB 2772 for hearing. We are in support of this measure to extend the sunset date for the Anti-Trafficking Task Force.

Our agency has served on the task force and put forth our best efforts to address the issues that came before us. Much has been accomplished and there is still more to be done. This bill would give the task force the time to complete their very important work.

Thank you for inviting community testimony on this important issue.