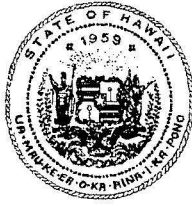


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No. _____

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2998 HD1
RELATING TO SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION

by
Clayton A. Frank, Director
Department of Public Safety

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

Thursday, February 21, 2008, 4:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

Representative Oshiro, Representative Lee, and Members of the Committee:

The purpose of House Bill 2998 HD1 is to establish a working group to determine what changes to Hawaii laws are necessary for Hawaii to comply with the federal Adam Walsh Act.

The Department of Public Safety supports the intent of House Bill 2998 HD1 but believes this measure is unnecessary and is concerned that general fund appropriations will displace the priorities listed in the Executive Supplemental Budget. As an alternative to establishing a working group and appropriating funds, the matter should be referred to the state's Sex Offender Management Team (SOMT), a committee established by H.R.S. 353-E in 1992. The SOMT membership already consists of the agencies proposed by HB 2998 HD1 in addition to federal probation, the Honolulu prosecutor's office, and private sector agencies, and been working with the subject matter and the Adam Walsh

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Act for several years. Thus, this team is very familiar not only with the subject matter, but with the intrinsic difficulties involved in implementation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of this bill.