



LATE TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY OF THE STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE, 2008

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 3137, RELATING TO INVESTIGATORS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES.

BEFORE THE:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSING

DATE: Thursday, January 31, 2008 **TIME:** 8:40 AM

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 329
Deliver to: Committee Clerk, Room 326, 3 copies

TESTIFIER(S): Mark J. Bennett, Attorney General
or Jeffrey A. Keating, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Shimabukuro and Members of the Committee:

The Attorney General supports this bill Relating to Investigators of the Department of Human Services (DHS).

The bill would allow the DHS Director to appoint and commission an administrative investigator for the Office of Youth Services (OYS) and would allow the administrative investigator access to information necessary to investigate incidents at the Hawaii youth correctional facility (HYCF).

The Attorney General supports this bill because it will assist the State in complying with the settlement agreement between the State and the United States Department of Justice concerning conditions at the HYCF. Specifically, the bill will aid in the State's administrative investigation of incidents at the HYCF, e.g., use of force, staff-on-youth violence, serious youth-on-youth violence, inappropriate staff relationships with youth, sexual misconduct, and abusive institutional practices at the Hawaii youth correctional facility.

We respectfully request that this measure be passed.