POLICE DEPARTMENT

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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PAUL D PUTZULU KARLA GODSEY DEPUTY CHIEFS

MUFI HANNEMANN MAYOR

OUR REFERENCE SD-TA



April 6, 2009

The Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair and Members Committee on Finance House of Representatives State Capitol Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Oshiro and Members:

Subject: Senate Bill No. 1058, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, Relating to Controlled Substances

I am Susan Dowsett, major of the Narcotics/Vice Division of the Honolulu Police Department, City and County of Honolulu.

The Honolulu Police Department opposes Senate Bill No. 1058, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, Relating to Controlled Substances.

The bill defines "minor drug possession offenders" as persons charged with a class B or C felony drug possession offense. The bill also defines "diversion" as placement of the offender into drug treatment in lieu of charging the offender or allowing the offender to plead to a misdemeanor offense and be placed in treatment.

We oppose the bill because persons who possess enough illegal drugs to be charged with a class B or C felony drug offense have committed a serious crime. These criminals should not be considered as "minor drug possession offenders." In addition, the criminal justice system currently provides several diversion programs to class B and class C drug offenders, including Drug Court and first-time drug offender sentencing. This can result in probation, treatment, and the possible expungement of the conviction record.

The Honorable Marcus R. Oshiro, Chair and Members Page 2 April 6, 2009

The Honolulu Police Department urges you to oppose Senate Bill No. 1058, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, Relating to Controlled Substances.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

SUSAN DOWSETT, Major Narcotics/Vice Division

APPROVED:

for.

BOISSE P. CORREA

Chief of Police

FINTestimony

From: ∂ent: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Monday, April 06, 2009 5:00 PM

To: Cc: FINTestimony thirr33@gmail.com

Subject:

Testimony for SB1058 on 4/6/2009 4:00:00 PM

Testimony for FIN 4/6/2009 4:00:00 PM SB1058

Conference room: 308

Testifier position: support Testifier will be present: Yes Submitted by: Arvid Youngquist

Organization: Individual

Address: Phone:

E-mail: thirr33@gmail.com Submitted on: 4/6/2009

Comments:

LATE TESTIMONY

Chair Marcus R. Oshiro Vice Chair Marilyn B. Lee The Right Honorable Members of the House Committee on Finance

My name is Arvid Youngquist.

'hank you for letting me submit written testimony in support of SB 1058 SD2 HD1 Relating to Controlled Substances.

This will require strong language. To ask for an exception to enforcement practices will jeopardize law enforcement officials, therefore, a provision should be included to indemnify them if they are cited by federal prosecutors.

Mahalo.

Arvid T. Youngquist Liliha Resident

