

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

CLAYTON A. FRANK
DIRECTOR

DAVID F. FESTERLING
Deputy Director
Administration

TOMMY JOHNSON
Deputy Director
Corrections

JAMES L. PROPOTNICK
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _____

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1912
RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY**

by
Clayton A. Frank, Director
Department of Public Safety

House Committee on Public Safety
Representative Faye P. Hanohano, Chair
Representative Henry J.C. Aquino, Vice Chair

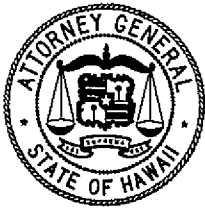
Thursday, January 28, 2010; 9:45AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

Representative Hanohano, Representative Aquino, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) opposes House Bill 1912 that proposes to transfer the functions, authority, and obligations of the Sheriffs to the Department of the Attorney General. The Sheriff's Division of PSD currently utilizes the administrative functions of the department, including but not limited to, human resource, administrative, and payroll functions. If the Sheriffs were to be transferred to the Attorney General's department, there would have to be an increase in administrative staffing in that department to handle the additional 350 employees.

There is no gain to be accomplished by this transfer, and only additional staffing requirements in the Attorney General's Office, which would be difficult to accomplish during the current economic situation. Therefore, PSD strongly opposes this measure due to its impact on the priorities set forth in the Executive Supplemental Budget for Fiscal Year 2010-2011.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
TWENTY-FIFTH LEGISLATURE, 2010**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 1912, RELATING TO SHERIFFS.

BEFORE THE:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

DATE: Thursday, January 28, 2010 **TIME:** 9:45 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 309

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

Chair Hanohano and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General opposes this bill.

This bill would transfer the functions, authority, and obligations exercised by the Department of Public Safety related to the Office of Sheriff to the Department of the Attorney General.

The process of implementing such a transfer would consume an enormous amount of staff time and resources, and divert staff away from current duties that are essential to this department's operations.

Additionally, such a transfer would cause a dramatic increase in the number of employees in this department (an increase of approximately fifty percent), and would therefore require a commensurate increase in administrative staff in this department to handle personnel and fiscal matters related to the additional employees.

In light of the State's current fiscal condition, such a transfer should not be considered at this time.

We respectfully urge the Committee to hold this bill.