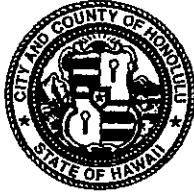


POLICE DEPARTMENT  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE CO-JM

February 10, 2011

The Honorable Angus L. K. McKelvey, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Economic Revitalization and  
Business  
House of Representatives  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair McKelvey and Members:

Subject: House Bill No. 98, Relating to Tobacco

I am Janna Mizuo, Major of the Community Affairs Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.


The HPD supports House Bill No. 98. This bill clarifies and amends the law to say that it shall be unlawful for a minor to purchase, possess, or use any tobacco product. It also further clarifies the conditions where a minor may be in possession of tobacco products without violating the law.

The HPD has worked in partnership with the State Department of Health's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division and the University of Hawaii Cancer Center by conducting tobacco compliance checks on retailers who sell tobacco to minors in the community.

The health and welfare of our youth is an utmost concern for the HPD. We need to send a strong message to minors that purchasing, possessing or using tobacco in any form is not condoned. We believe that a stiffer penalty assessed to the minor would prevent future behavior.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

  
LOUIS M. KEALOHA  
Chief of Police

Sincerely,

  
JANNA MIZUO, Major  
Community Affairs Division

*Serving and Protecting With Aloha*