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THE HONORABLE CLAYTON HEE, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Twenty-sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2012
State of Hawai'i

March 29, 2012

RE: H.B. 1791; RELATING TO HOMICIDE.

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, City and County of Honolulu, submits the following testimony in support of H.B. 1791.

The purpose of this bill is to clarify that anyone convicted of manslaughter as the result of a operating a motor vehicle, shall have their drivers license revoked for up to ten years. In addition, anyone convicted of negligent homicide in the first or second degree shall have their drivers license revoked for us to five years. H.B. 1791 also clarifies that probation is an applicable sentencing alternative for manslaughter, and gives the court discretion to impose up to two years of of imprisonment, as a condition of probation.

These changes would provide guidance to our courts when sentencing defendants convicted of manslaughter, and address questions that have arisen in prior cases.

For the reasons noted above, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu supports H.B. 1791. Thank for you the opportunity to testify on this matter.