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House of Representatives
The Twenty-Sixth Legislature
Regular Session of 2012
Committee on Transportation
Rep. Joseph M. Souki, Chair
Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Vice Chair

RE: House Bill 2253 (Relating to Public Order)

Honorable Chair Souki and Vice Chair Ichiyama:

The Kauai Police Department (KPD) offers this testimony today in support of House Bill 2253 (Relating to Public Order). The legislation would create a new, class-C felony offense (Resisting an Order to Stop Motor Vehicle in the First Degree) applying to situations where an individual resists an order by law enforcement to stop his or her vehicle, and that failure results in serious bodily injury or death to another individual. The current Resisting Order to Stop Motor Vehicle statute would be maintained as a misdemeanor offense and would apply to situations where no death or serious bodily injury results.

KPD believes that it is appropriate and desirable to distinguish the two offenses from one another, and would be in harmony with other provisions of the Hawaii Revised Statutes that impose a harsher penalty upon criminals whose dangerous acts result in death or serious bodily injury to others.

Therefore, we humbly urge your honorable committee to support House Bill 2253.

Mahalo,

Mark M. Begley

Acting Deputy Chief