

LATE TESTIMONY



Committee: Committee on Public Safety & Military Affairs
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, February 2, 2012, 9:00 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 309
Re: Testimony of the ACLU of Hawaii in Support of and with Comments to H.B. 2515, Relating to Crime

Dear Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee on Public Safety & Military Affairs:

The ACLU of Hawaii generally supports HB 2515 and the other proposals submitted as part of the Justice Reinvestment initiative. However, we respectfully suggest that the threshold for Felony Theft ought to be increased above \$750, to at least \$1,000. Other states (including, we believe, Texas) have set the threshold at or above \$1,000, and we do not believe that this higher threshold has had an impact on public safety.

The mission of the ACLU of Hawaii is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawaii fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawaii is a non-partisan and private non-profit organization that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds. The ACLU of Hawaii has been serving Hawaii for over 45 years.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Daniel M. Gluck
Senior Staff Attorney
ACLU of Hawaii

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii
P.O. Box 3410
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96801
T: 808.522-5900
F: 808.522-5909
E: office@acluhawaii.org
www.acluhawaii.org