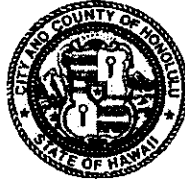


POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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OUR REFERENCE BN-NTK

February 9, 2012

The Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair
and Members
Committee on Human Services
House of Representatives
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair and Members:

Subject: House Bill No. 771, H.D. 1, Relating to Human Services

I am Britt Nishijo, Captain of the Criminal Investigation Division of the Honolulu Police Department, City and County of Honolulu.

The Honolulu Police Department opposes House Bill No. 771, H.D. 1, Relating to Human Services. Unlike the Maile Amber Alert Program that is used for criminal abductions of children in life-threatening situations, missing person cases are not criminal in nature. The Honolulu Police Department actively investigates cases when a senior citizen is reported missing who has Alzheimer's, dementia, or an impaired mental condition which poses a credible threat to the health and safety of the senior citizen. Because the jurisdiction of the Honolulu Police Department encompasses the entire island of Oahu, there are no interjurisdictional communication problems that have prompted similar legislation on the mainland.

Upon receiving the report, an All Points Bulletin (APB) is broadcast island-wide for the missing person. Investigators make contact with the family to obtain more detailed information and a photograph of the missing person. A flyer is created and distributed to The Bus, shopping centers, hotel security, the Sheriffs Department in the airport area, and all patrol districts. Investigators may utilize the police helicopter, tracking dogs, or trained search and rescue personnel to assist in the search if deemed necessary. Areas where the missing person is known to have lived or frequented in the past are also checked. Investigators work with the media to request the public's assistance to help locate these missing senior citizens. These measures have been very successful. In 2010, there were 64 reported Alzheimer's or dementia missing person cases; 64 were found.

Serving and Protecting With Aloha

The Honorable John M. Mizuno, Chair
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Passage of the Silver Alert for Missing Senior Citizens may confuse the public and may be detrimental to the existing Maile Amber Alert Program that is used in only the most severe criminal cases where children are kidnapped and are in immediate danger of death.

The Honolulu Police Department urges you to oppose House Bill No. 771, H.D.1, Relating to Human Services.

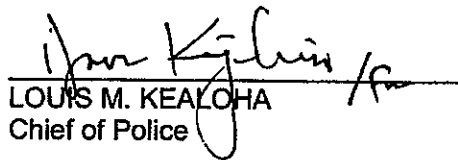
Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



BRITT NISHIJO, Captain
Criminal Investigation Division

APPROVED:



LOUIS M. KEALOHA
Chief of Police

Testimony for HUS 2/9/2012 8:30:00 AM HB771

Conference room: 329

Testifier position: Support

Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Scott Wall

Organization: Individual

E-mail: robertscottwall@yahoo.com

Submitted on: 2/7/2012

Comments: