

SB226



46-063 Emepela Pl. #U101 Kaneohe, HI 96744 · (808) 679-7454 · Kris Coffield · Co-founder/Legislative Director

**TESTIMONY FOR SENATE BILL 226, SENATE DRAFT 1, RELATING TO
PROSTITUTION**

**Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Hon. Clayton Hee, Chair
Hon. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair**

**Friday, February 24, 2012, 11:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 016**

Honorable Chair Hee and committee members:

I am Kris Coffield, representing the IMUAlliance, a nonpartisan political advocacy organization that currently boasts over 150 local members. On behalf of our members, we offer this testimony in support of, with proposed amendments for SB 226, SD1, relating to prostitution.

The IMUAlliance lauds the State Legislature's efforts, last session, to curb sex trafficking and promotion of prostitution. At the same time, we call upon lawmakers to continue the fight against sex trafficking by hearing and advancing bills that combat perpetrators' demand for victims. To that end, the IMUAlliance strongly supports the enactment of "impoundment" legislation authorizing county law enforcement officials to impound vehicles used in the solicitation of street prostitution in specially designated zones.

That said, we feel that the measure would be strengthened by revising Section 1, subsection (1) to read: "In addition to any other penalty that may be provided under this part, **for a person who is arrested for paying, agreeing to pay, or offering to pay a fee to another person to engage in sexual conduct** under section 712-1200, promoting prostitution in the first degree under section 712-1202, promoting prostitution in the second degree under section 712-1203, street solicitation of prostitution in designated areas under section 712-1207, or solicitation of prostitution near schools or public parks under section 712-1209, the arresting officer may..." thereby applying the newly created impoundment provision specifically to those who further demand for prostitution, i.e. johns. Additionally, we encourage you to double the fine affiliated with violations of first degree promoting prostitution under HRS §712-1202 (coercion of prostitution or prostitution of a minor) by deleting "promoting prostitution in the second degree under section 712-1202" from the list of offenses enumerated in Section 1, subsection (3)(b), and adding a subsection (4), to read as follows:

“(4) In addition to any other fines that may be imposed for a conviction of committing the offense of promoting prostitution in the first degree under section 712-1202, the court shall impose an additional fine of \$2,000, which shall be distributed as follows:

(a) \$1,000 shall be deposited into the domestic violence and sexual assault special fund under section 321-1.3, for programs and services under the fund as well as to provide counseling to victims of domestic violence or sexual assault; and

(b) \$1,000 shall be deposited into the general fund of the county in which the arrest occurred.”

Again, the IMUAlliance thanks you for your hard work to stem sex trafficking on our shores. Room for improvement remains, however, and we feel that the measure in question will consecrate last year's momentum into a concerted movement. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Sincerely,
Kris Coffield
Legislative Director
IMUAlliance

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [JDLTestimony](#)
Cc: tanalee05@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for SB226 on 2/24/2012 11:30:00 AM
Date: Thursday, February 23, 2012 10:54:06 AM

Testimony for JDL 2/24/2012 11:30:00 AM SB226

Conference room: 016
Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: Yes
Submitted by: Tana-Lee Rebhan-Kang
Organization: Individual
E-mail: tanalee05@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/23/2012

Comments:

This is a small but important step toward holding johns accountable. Decreasing the demand helps to decrease the supply.