

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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**THE HONORABLE SYLVIA LUKE, CHAIR**  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**  
**Twenty-Seventh State Legislature**  
**Regular Session of 2014**  
**State of Hawai`i**

February 19, 2014

**RE: H.B. 2080, H.D. 1; RELATING TO THEFT OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES.**

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and members of the House Committee on Finance, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu submits the following comments **in support of H.B. 2080, H.D. 1 with suggested amendments.**

H.B. 2080, H.D. 1 broadens the offense of Theft in the Second Degree to include theft of personal electronic devices that may be used to store or retrieve personal information.

**We recommend deleting the language on p. 3 lines 3-4: “Of any computer capable of storing or retrieving personal information” and on lines 6-8: “Personal information’ has the same meaning as in section 487D-1. This language is unnecessary because the “Computer” definition has “storage functions.”**

Because thieves target computer devices to gain access to private and financial information that can cause much damage to an individual, we are in strong support of this measure. Thank you hearing our **suggested amendment in support of H.B. 2080, H.D. 1.**



**Office of the Public Defender  
State of Hawaii  
Timothy Ho, Chief Deputy Public Defender**



**Testimony of the Office of the Public Defender,  
State of Hawaii to the House Committee on Finance**

February 19, 2014, 3:00 p.m.

H.B. No. 2080, HD1: RELATING TO THEFT OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC  
DEVICES

Chair Luke and Members of the Committee:

This measure will make the theft of a computer other electronic devices capable of storing or retrieving personal information a class C felony.

This measure is unnecessary, because the vast majority of personal electronic devices mentioned in this bill are valued at more than three hundred dollars, the theft of which constitutes theft in the second degree, a class C felony.

We understand this committee's concern about personal information falling into the wrong hands. However, the unauthorized possession of confidential personal information is already prohibited, as a class C felony (§708-839.55, H.R.S.).

The Office of the Public Defender opposes H.B. No. 2080, HD1. Thank you for the opportunity to be heard on this matter.