

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 529-3111 · INTERNET: www.honolulu-pd.org

LATE TESTIMONY

KIRK W. CALDWELL
MAYOR



LOUIS M. KEALOHA
CHIEF

DAVE M. KAJIHIRO
MARIE A. McCAULEY
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE JI-TA

February 15, 2013

The Honorable Clayton Hee, Chair
and Members
Committee on Judiciary and Labor
State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Hee and Members:

Subject: Senate Bill No. 192, Relating to Prostitution

I am Jerry Inouye, Captain of the Narcotics/Vice Division of the Honolulu Police Department, City and County of Honolulu.

The Honolulu Police Department supports Senate Bill No. 192, Relating to Prostitution.

Since children are vulnerable and deserve additional protection, it is reasonable to strengthen statutes and penalties for crimes that exploit our youth. We also recognize that the victims of such cases experience intense physical and mental trauma. Extending the statute of limitations from two to six years would allow them greater time to get assistance without relinquishing their right to seek justice.

The additional changes amending the State's forfeiture and sexual offender registry laws would ensure that the registry remains consistent with current statutes. This sends a strong message to individuals willing to engage in prostitution activity.

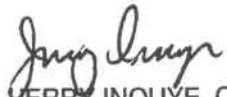
We urge you to support Senate Bill No. 192, Relating to Prostitution.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:


LOUIS M. KEALOHA
Chief of Police

Sincerely,


JERRY INOUYE, Captain
Narcotics/Vice Division

February 15th 2013

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr.
Senator Sam Slom
Senator Mike Gabbard

NOTICE OF HEARING

Date: Friday, February 15, 2013
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Place: Conference Room 016
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

RE: Testimony **IN SUPPORT** of SB192

Makes solicitation of a minor for prostitution a crime. Increases the statute of limitations to bring a cause of action for coercion into prostitution from two to six years. Clarifies the minimum and maximum fine for a person convicted of committing the offense of prostitution. Adds the offenses of solicitation of a minor for prostitution, habitual solicitation of prostitution, and solicitation of prostitution near schools and public parks under the State's forfeiture laws. Amends the definition of "sexual offense" under the sexual offender registry laws to include acts that consist of the solicitation of a minor who is less than eighteen years of age for prostitution.

Dear Committee and Judiciary and Labor:

I, Brittani M. Williams am a Master of Social Work student at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa who is strongly in support of SB192. Currently, penalties regarding prostitution are considered a misdemeanor in the State of Hawai'i. Increasing penalties for customers who engage in prostitution or sex trafficking with minors is a necessary step toward holding criminals accountable for inhumane crimes. It is my obligation to speak on behalf of those who cannot speak for themselves due to societal circumstances, fear of their lives, and community predispositions.

Prostitution is a controversial problem that involves complex interests, values, and issues in the community at large. Individuals involved in prostitution and or are sex trafficked are often times the ones being criminalized while their pimps identity go unknown. It is important to note that victims of underage prostitution are put into circumstances where they live in fear of their lives. Also, those who engage in selling individuals for sex, control almost every part of their victim's life. Victims are not free to leave and they are not making any money.

A story featured in the Hawaii Reporter describes a 16 year old local high school student who was kidnapped and forced by a pimp to work on the streets of Chinatown and Waikiki as a prostitute. She described the humiliating experience and the fear of leaving her pimp since he threatened to kill her and her family. This is just one of many stories of minors who are victimized by these violent individuals.

Criminalizing an individual for purchasing a person for sex has the potential to not only reduce recidivism rates but also violence toward prostituted or trafficked persons, especially minors. In Hawai'i, there are no known severe penalties for patrons of prostitution and sex trafficking. Patrons need to be held accountable to the public. Awareness is key, the community needs to know of the pervasiveness of this problem and criminals should fear real consequences for selling humans for financial gain. These individuals have real problems and dismissing their actions by giving them a misdemeanor does no justice. They should be required to attend a treatment or counseling program for a longer period of time to effectively treat their violent and deviant behavioral disorders.

It is time to help end the fight against modern day slavery.

Thank you for reading,

Sincerely,

Brittani M. Williams
MSW Student
Myron B. Thompson School of Social Work
University of Hawai'i at Manoa

Thursday February 14, 2013

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR
Senator Clayton Hee, Chair
Senator Maile S. L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr.
Senator Sam Slom
Senator Mike Gabbard

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Friday, February 15, 2013

TIME: 10:00 a.m.

PLACE: Conference Room 016
State Capitol
415 South Beretania St.

RE: TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB192

RELATING TO PROSTITUTION

Makes solicitation of a minor for prostitution a crime. Increases the statute of limitations to bring a cause of action for coercion into prostitution from two to six years. Clarifies the minimum and maximum fine for a person convicted of committing the offense of prostitution. Adds the offenses of solicitation of a minor for prostitution, habitual solicitation of prostitution, and solicitation of prostitution near schools and public parks under the State's forfeiture laws. Amends the definition of "sexual offense" under the sexual offender registry laws to include acts that consist of the solicitation of a minor who is less than eighteen years of age for prostitution.

Dear Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

As a student of Social Work at Hawaii Pacific University and a resident of Oahu Senate District 10, I submit this testimony in support of SB192.

Shared Hope International has conducted a study evaluating states on legislation that must exist to, "effectively respond to the crime of domestic minor sex trafficking."¹ Hawaii received the grade of "F" and the report stated, "Hawaii has not enacted a sex trafficking law and lacks laws to penalize and deter buyers from purchasing sex acts with minors."²

The Pacific Alliance to Stop Slavery (PASS) is a Hawaii based not-for-profit that works directly with survivors of Human-Trafficking. As an organization that works with victims fist hand, I trust and support their advocacy for this bill.

¹ Shared Hope International <http://sharedhope.org/what-we-do/bring-justice/state-by-state-grades/>

² Shared Hope International, Hawaii Report Card http://sharedhope.org/PICframe2/reportcards/PIC_RC_2012_HI.pdf

As a student of Social Work, I believe it is my role to advocate for the voiceless in our community. I appeal to you to increase consequences and address issues that relate to the victimization of women and children in Hawaii.

Thank you for your service.

Tara M. Becker
Hawaii Pacific University – Masters in Social Work Program
Oahu Senate District 10

hee2 - Kathleen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
 Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2013 5:45 PM
 To: JDLTestimony
 Cc: Hodges4joy@gmail.com
 Subject: Submitted testimony for SB192 on Feb 15, 2013 10:00AM

SB192

Submitted on: 2/14/2013
 Testimony for JDL on Feb 15, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
D. Kalena Hodges	Individual	Support	No

Comments: In Support of SB192 End Demand I have worked as a faith based victim advocate in Hawaii with several underage trafficking victims and numerous adult victims that all began as child trafficking victims. All of these individuals without exception would be considered by those in society without a clear understanding of domestic human trafficking, as prostitutes. It can be confusing to identify as victims girls that present themselves in a brazen and willing manner to prostitution. To one without understanding they would seem complicit. However, when one spends quality time with and builds trust with these girls the honest answers will reveal that these girls have been in the simplest and gentlest of terms "tricked," duped into believing that this was their lot in life. That a life of servicing men sexually was all that they were going to be successful at. And in the most brutal of terms and equally honest they are "tortured." Attacked from every angle by sex traffickers aka "pimps." They are Physically beaten, threatened, emotionally, and psychologically tormented and ultimately manipulated into bringing in cash for these "evil ruthless businessman." We are talking about young girls suffering unthinkable trauma and further victimized by a culture and society that holds them as responsible coconspirators with their predators. Without question or need for discussion adults that profit from or enable a child under 18years of age to engage in sexual acts, are sex predators and should be judicially addressed as such. The fact that a business enterprise was in the works does in now way negate the perversion. Society must begin to help these children heal by at the very least defining their trauma as an illegal act. I fully support SB192 and ask you to do your part to be a voice for the children and pass this bill. Mahalo, D. Kalena Hodges

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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hee2 - Kathleen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2013 6:06 PM
To: JDLTestimony
Cc: utahsmiller@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB192 on Feb 15, 2013 10:00AM

SB192

Submitted on: 2/14/2013

Testimony for JDL on Feb 15, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sandy Miller	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Soliciting a child for prostitution is a serious sex crime and should be prosecuted to the fullest extent.

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LATE TESTIMONY

TO: Clayton Hee, Chair

Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Friday, February 15, 2013

10:00 AM, Conference Room 016

Senator Hee, Senator Shimabukuro, and the Committee on Judiciary and Labor:

I am strongly in support of this bill. I have 15-year old sister whom I love dearly, and it would be absolutely heartbreaking if she were to be coerced into the sex trade. It would devastate her physically, mentally, and spiritually. Not only would it ruin her, such treatment also would deeply grieve and hurt the rest of the family.

Because of my relationship with her, I sympathize strongly with girls her age who are trapped in prostitution. They are not only abused physically. Being treated like a piece of property to be sold and exploited at will degrades any confidence or self-worth they possess. God has created all humans in His image, and He does not make junk. Everyone is precious in His eyes. Because of this, nothing can justify treatment that says, "You are nothing, and deserve nothing." Thank you for considering laws that will protect Hawaii's most vulnerable, and further punish those who believe these precious and valuable children do not deserve to be treated like people. Thank you for your consideration.

Kina Poulos

LATE TESTIMONY

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Friday, February 15, 2013

Testimony supporting the intent of SB 192, 194 relating to prostitution

Chair Hee, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and members of the Committee:

As an active supporter of PASS, Courage Worldwide, Shared Hope International, and a volunteer for the Courage House Hawaii Project I am in strong support of SB 192 and 194, which will strengthen Hawaii's ability to combat domestic minor sex trafficking. Hawaii is recognized worldwide as a place of beauty, a refuge even. Unfortunately for countless children living in this state, Hawaii is not a refuge, but a place where they are sexually exploited repeatedly while their abusers prosper from their abuse. Nowhere, under any circumstances, should the sexual exploitation of a child be acceptable. SB 192 and SB 194 are critical in our fight to stop this horrific crime that is all too common within our community in Hawaii. Please help us stop this, far too many of our children have been harmed but it's not too late to make a difference. Pass these bills and strengthen the safety net for past, present, and future victims of sexual exploitation.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kimberly Carson

Courage House Project Volunteer

hee2 - Kathleen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2013 3:33 PM
To: JDLTestimony
Cc: lchang79@yahoo.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB192 on Feb 15, 2013 10:00AM*

SB192

Submitted on: 2/14/2013

Testimony for JDL on Feb 15, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lindsay Forester	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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hee2 - Kathleen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2013 3:36 PM
To: JDLTestimony
Cc: iansoutpost@hotmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB192 on Feb 15, 2013 10:00AM*

SB192

Submitted on: 2/14/2013

Testimony for JDL on Feb 15, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ian Forester	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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hee2 - Kathleen

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Thursday, February 14, 2013 11:46 AM
To: JDLTestimony
Cc: tanalee05@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB192 on Feb 15, 2013 10:00AM

SB192

Submitted on: 2/14/2013

Testimony for JDL on Feb 15, 2013 10:00AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tana-Lee Rebhan-Kang	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments: I support this bill particularly as it relates to an increase in statute of limitations to bring a cause of action for coercion into prostitution. Although there are also male victims of prostitution, for simplicity I will use pronouns referring only to females. Both mental, emotional and physical restraints can retard a victim's ability to report her experience. Mentally, we have an innate "power" to block the memory of traumatic events. Emotionally, the victim is dealing with issues of (false) guilt and shame, as well as fear for the people who have been threatened if she attempts to escape or report the coercion. In some cases, the victim will come to believe that her pimp actually loves her, and she loves him. Until she can understand that she has been used and abused, she may not be willing to report her pimp. Physically, once the victim has been rescued or has escaped her pimp, she remains under the threat of retaliation where she may be brought back under her pimp's control, sold to another pimp, beaten, killed, or all of the above. She needs to be able to hide in a protective place until it appears safe to pursue a "normal" life. The process of achieving (abstracted) normality can easily take years. Please be a part of the solution by passing this bill.

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