SB 777

RELATING TO THE IMPERSONATION OF A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.

Provides additional acts that qualify as impersonation of a law enforcement officer in the first degree.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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OUR REFERENCE

LH-NTK

January 31, 2013

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair and Members Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs State Senate Hawaii State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Espero and Members:

Subject:

Senate Bill No. 777, Relating to the Impersonation of a Law Enforcement

Officer

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

The Honolulu Police Department will support Senate Bill No. 777, once clear definitions are added for "harmful or offensive contact" and "immediate show of force."

The Honolulu Police Department has investigated several cases involving invasion types of robberies in which the suspect(s) pretended to be law enforcement officers with a legitimate law enforcement purpose.

Currently, these cases are classified as Robbery in the Second Degree and Impersonating a Police Officer in the Second Degree (misdemeanor) when no firearm is used by the suspect(s). The passage of this bill would allow a person(s) committing an invasion type of robbery while pretending to be a law enforcement officer without a firearm to be charged with Impersonating Law Enforcement Officer in the First Degree, which is a class C felony.

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair Page 2 January 31, 2013

The Honolulu Police Department urges you to support Senate Bill No. 777, Relating to the Impersonation of a Law Enforcement Officer.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

LESTER HITE, Captain

Criminal Investigation Division

APPROVED:

LOUIS M. KEALOHA

Chief of Police



Hawaii Rifle Association

State Affiliate of the National Rifle Association Founded in 1857 January 30, 2013

Testimony on SB 777 IN SUPPORT PSM, Jan, 31, 2013

Honorable Chair, Vice Chair, and Members

HRA supports this bill to add additional acts that qualify as impersonation of a law enforcement officer.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on behalf of HRA.

Dr Maxwell Cooper Legislative Liason