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PRESENTATION OF THE OFFICE OF CONSUMER PROTECTION

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TO THE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE & CONSUMER PROTECTION

THE TWENTY-SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION OF 2014

FEBRUARY 4, 2014 9:00 AM

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF S. B. 2386, RELATING TO SALES ADVERTISEMENTS FOR STOLEN PROPERTY.

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR, AND TO THE HONORABLE BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, VICE CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

The Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Office of Consumer Protection ("OCP") appreciates the opportunity to appear today in support of S. B. 2386, Relating to Sales Advertisements for Stolen Property. My name is Bruce B. Kim and I am the Executive Director of OCP.

S. B. 2386 would criminalize the advertisement of stolen property, making the advertisement for the sale of said stolen property equivalent ". . . the same grade as the theft of the property advertised for sale," and allows for a defense of being unaware of the property's stolen nature.

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OCP has no criminal enforcement authority over stolen property, and our support is premised on the additional protection this legislation would afford to consumers against purchasing stolen goods, and the attendant legal complications that may follow.

Thank you for the opportunity to support S. B. 2386. I would be happy to answer any questions members of the committee may have.