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HR8

Submitted on: 2/5/2016

Testimony for PBS on Feb 11, 2016 10:00AM in Conference Room 309

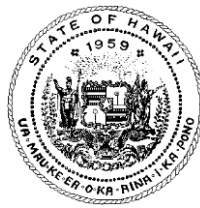
Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Alan Urasaki	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: As an employee at the Federal Detention Center, I oppose this resolution.

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LATE

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 31
AND HOUSE RESOLUTION 8
REQUESTING HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO ASSIST
THE STATE IN NEGOTIATING WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR THE
ACQUISITION OF THE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, HONOLULU

By
Nolan P. Espinda, Director

House Committee on Public Safety
Representative Gregg Takayama, Chair
Representative Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 11, 2016; 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

Chair Takayama, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) **supports** House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 31 and House Resolution (HR) 8.

HCR 31/HR 8 request Hawaii's congressional delegation to assist the State in negotiating with the federal government for the acquisition of the Federal Detention Center, Honolulu (FDC). Acquisition of FDC would provide much needed relief to Hawaii's overcrowded facilities with its 1,200 beds to house Hawaii inmates and detainees.

Since 2001, PSD has leased bed space at FDC to house pretrial and sentenced misdemeanants and currently is allowed to house up to 550 male and female inmates. FDC currently operates well below its capacity of 1,200 beds, with approximately 400 federal inmates and 181 Hawaii inmates. If the State acquired the FDC, PSD could maximize use of the facility while allowing for the continued housing of federal pre-trial detainees and federal inmates serving brief sentences at no cost to the federal Bureau of Prisons.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.