



SB2197

Measure Title:	RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.
Report Title:	Law Enforcement Officers; Grievances; Reports to Legislature; State Agencies; County Police Departments
Description:	Requires all state departments, state agencies, and county police departments employing law enforcement officers to report annually to the legislature on specified information concerning firings, forced resignations, alleged criminal activity, grievances, and incidents of a sexual nature.
Companion:	
Package:	None
Current Referral:	PSM/GVO, JDL/WAM
Introducer(s):	ESPERO, BAKER, KIM, NISHIHARA, L. THIELEN, Shimabukuro

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



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

NOLAN P. ESPINDA
DIRECTOR

Cathy Ross
Deputy Director
Administration

Jodie F. Maesaka-Hirata
Deputy Director
Corrections

Shawn H. Tsuha
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2197
RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

By

Nolan P. Espinda, Director

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair
Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Government Operations
Senator Donna Mercado Kim, Chair
Senator Les Ihara, Jr., Vice Chair

Thursday, February 4, 2016; 2:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Espero, and Members of the Committee:
Chair Kim, Vice Chair Ihara, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) **supports** Senate Bill (SB) 2197, which would develop an annual reporting to the Legislature of the statistics related to a termination, resignation, and crimes committed by a sheriff or deputy sheriff.

PSD would like to encourage your Committees to seek equity among all state and county law enforcement entities; therefore, any exceptions from current statutes such as HRS §92F-14(b)(4)(B)(v): "The disciplinary action ... provided that this subparagraph (B) shall not apply to a county police department officer except in a case which results in the discharge of the officer", would also be amended to be applicable to sheriffs and deputy sheriffs.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

KEKOA W. KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY. T. PEARSON, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

**Testimony of
SUZANNE D. CASE
Chairperson**

**Before the Senate Committees on
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
and
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

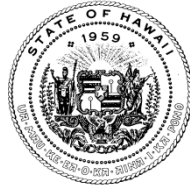
**Thursday, February 4, 2015
2:15 PM
State Capitol, Conference Room 229**

**In consideration of
SENATE BILL 2197
RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY**

Senate Bill 2197 proposes to require State agencies, including the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to report annually to the legislature on specified information concerning firings, forced resignations, alleged criminal activity, grievances, and incidents of a sexual nature involving its law enforcement officers. **The Department supports this measure.**

The Department holds its law enforcement officers to high standards of conduct, both in their professional and personal lives. The Department believes that this measure is important in promoting transparency and sustaining the confidence and trust of the public in its law enforcement officers.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

February 4, 2016
Time 2:15 PM
State Capitol, Room 229

S.B. 2197
RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

Senate Committee(s) on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
& on Government Operations

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports with reservations** S.B. No. 2197.

DOT has concerns with privacy issues, as well as collective bargaining requirements, regarding the use of employment and personnel information, as it pertains to alleged misconduct.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Testimony by:
FORD N. FUCHIGAMI
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
JADE T. BUTAY
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN
DARRELL T. YOUNG

IN REPLY REFER TO:

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [PSMTestimony](#)
Cc: blawaiianlvr@icloud.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2197 on Feb 4, 2016 14:15PM
Date: Monday, February 01, 2016 10:24:24 PM

SB2197

Submitted on: 2/1/2016

Testimony for PSM/GVO on Feb 4, 2016 14:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Ho'omana Pono, LLC.	Support	No

Comments: We STRONGLY SUPPORT this bill, because it supports Governor Ige's own mission & vision for the future of the government to be Honed, Trustworthy & Accountable. Governor Ige also said we must learn from our past. Well, without oversight & accountability to the public in which they were hired to SERVE, corruption within the rank & file of the police force is great. We know of the "Blue Code", which commits officers to not inform on other officers, or face dire consequences as being a rat. This measure, helps to reign in control from an organization that's proven to be above the Law in the past. NO ONE IS ABOVE THE LAW!

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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Committee: Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
Committee on Government Operations
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, February 04, 2016, 2:15 p.m.
Place: Room 229
Re: Testimony of the ACLU of Hawaii in Support of S.B. 2197, Relating to Public Safety

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Kim, and Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs and the Committee on Government Operations:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii (“ACLU of Hawaii”) writes in support of S.B. 2197, which provides for improved reporting to the Legislature on information concerning law enforcement misconduct.

This bill, if enacted, would increase law enforcement transparency and accountability, and thereby help to improve the public’s trust of our police officers. Law enforcement officers should be responsive to the community they serve, and should not be able to shield unlawful behavior from public scrutiny.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Mandy Finlay
Advocacy Coordinator
ACLU of Hawaii

The mission of the ACLU of Hawaii is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawaii fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawaii is a non-partisan and private non-profit organization that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds. The ACLU of Hawaii has been serving Hawaii for over 45 years.

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii
P.O. Box 3410
Honolulu, Hawaii'i 96801
T: 808-522-5900
F: 808-522-5909
E: office@acluhawaii.org
www.acluhawaii.org

hscadv



HAWAII STATE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

February 3, 2016

To: Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

From: Michelle Rocca, Training and Technical Assistance Director
Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Re: Testimony in Support of SB 2197 Relating to Law Enforcement

Good afternoon Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Espero, and members of the committee. On behalf of the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence we thank you for the opportunity to share our testimony in **support of SB 2197** relating to law enforcement

System accountability and transparency to the public is paramount to overall community perception of the law enforcement system. SB 2197 will ensure that departments and agencies of the state will submit formal documentation of the disciplinary action taken towards an officer, incidents in which an officer is allegedly involved with conduct of a criminal nature, and grievances filed against an officer. HSCADV supports and encourages this effort to increase the accountability of all departments that serve the public as we believe that increased transparency encourages consistently ethical and appropriate responses to the incidents of misconduct and contributes to the integrity of the standards we hold for those we trust to protect and serve this community.

Thank you for your consideration and for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [PSMTestimony](#)
Cc: barbarapolk@hawaiiantel.net
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2197 on Feb 4, 2016 14:15PM
Date: Wednesday, February 03, 2016 2:12:11 PM

SB2197

Submitted on: 2/3/2016

Testimony for PSM/GVO on Feb 4, 2016 14:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Polk	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I urge your support for SB2197 because it spells out clearly what is to be reported to the legislature. I would also ask that this information be posted publicly, to allow easy access to the reports.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [PSMTestimony](#)
Cc: hawaiiifishingfanatic@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2197 on Feb 4, 2016 14:15PM
Date: Thursday, February 04, 2016 1:48:35 AM

SB2197

Submitted on: 2/4/2016

Testimony for PSM/GVO on Feb 4, 2016 14:15PM in Conference Room 414

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Don Aweau	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Important to island communities to be able to understand and trust in their law enforcement agencies disciplinary process. A matter of great transparency since law enforcement officers are held to a higher standard and are looked upon as protectors and keepers of the public's trust. Mahalo.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [PSMTestimony](#)
Cc: lynneronderko@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2197 on Feb 4, 2016 14:15PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 02, 2016 7:41:06 AM

SB2197

Submitted on: 2/2/2016

Testimony for PSM/GVO on Feb 4, 2016 14:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lynn Onderko	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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