

SB2416

RELATING TO LASER  
DEVICES

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



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

February 11, 2016  
Time: 3:00 PM  
State Capitol, Room 229

**S.B. 2416  
RELATING TO LASER DEVICES**

Senate Committee(s) on Transportation and Energy &  
Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** S.B. 2416 relating to laser devices.

Lasers directed at aircraft present a considerable problem in Hawaii and may have serious safety consequences.

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  
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IN REPLY REFER TO:

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OUR REFERENCE MT-MM

February 11, 2016

The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Transportation and Energy  
The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental,  
and Military Affairs  
State Senate  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Inouye and Nishihara and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 2416, Relating to Laser Devices

I am Mark E. K. Thompson, Captain of the Specialized Services Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports Senate Bill No. 2416, Relating to Laser Devices.


This is a pervasive problem nationwide, and we must be proactive in our efforts to protect the lives of those in the air as well as those on the ground. A laser light could definitely affect or injure the pilot of an aircraft and put their life and the lives of those onboard at risk. Establishing the offense of Directing Lasers at Aircraft a class c felony and/or misdemeanor promotes safety for the flight crew and the public and serves as a deterrent.

The HPD urges you to support Senate Bill No. 2416, Relating to Laser Devices. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

  
Mark E. K. Thompson, Captain  
Specialized Services Division

APPROVED:

  
Louis M. Kealoha  
Chief of Police