

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY
1177 Alakea Street, First Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

BERT Y. MATSUOKA
CHAIR

LATE JOYCE K. MATSUMORI-HOSHIJO
MICHAEL A. TOWN
ANNELLE C. AMARAL
FITUINA F. TUA
MEMBERS

TOMMY JOHNSON
ADMINISTRATOR

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 668
RELATING TO THE REGISTRY OF CLEAN AND SOBER HOMES

By
Tommy Johnson, Administrator
Hawaii Paroling Authority

Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

AND

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair
Senator Maile, S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Friday, February 12, 2016; 9:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

Chair Baker, Chair Keith Agaran and Members of both Committees:

The Hawaii Paroling Authority (HPA) strongly supports Senate Bill 668, which seeks to provide immunity from liability to the Department of Health, its employees, agents, and volunteers for operating the clean and sober homes registry. The clean and sober homes registry is critical to the State's efforts in assisting persons recovering from substance abuse to have a safe, clean, and sober environment that supports their recovery.

The HPA firmly believes that immunity is needed for the Department of Health, its employees, agents, and volunteers operating the clean and sober homes registry in to ensure their efforts are not hindered by threats of litigation, which would have a chilling effect on the State's efforts in this area. The HPA supervises approximately 1,500 convicted felons on parole statewide and many of these individuals are in need of a place to reside that is safe, clean, and a sober environment which supports their recovery. The registry is critically important and the requested immunity should be provided.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 668.