

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 09 2018

RE: S.B. No. 2347  
S.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2018  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and  
Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 2347 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO POLICE DEPARTMENTS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to specify that  
citizen complaints against a police officer that involve  
allegations of domestic violence against a family or household  
member by the police officer shall not be required to be filed as  
notarized or sworn to by the complainant.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from three individuals. Your Committee received testimony in  
opposition to this measure from the Department of the Prosecuting  
Attorney, County of Maui; and two individuals.

Your Committee finds that curtailing domestic violence is  
important for the health, safety, and welfare of citizens and that  
a vital part of reducing domestic violence is ensuring that those  
reporting acts of domestic violence feel secure and confident in  
coming forward with complaints. The potential for chilling the  
voices of those wishing to report acts of domestic violence is  
particularly high when those reports complain of acts of domestic  
violence perpetrated by a police officer against a family or  
household member. Accordingly, this measure allows an individual  
to make a complaint against a police officer alleging an act of



domestic violence against a family or household member without being required to swear to or make the complaint in writing.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting an effective date of January 1, 2050, to encourage further discussion; and
- (2) Making a technical, nonsubstantive amendment for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2347, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2347, S.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Judiciary.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Public Safety,  
Intergovernmental, and Military  
Affairs,



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CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, Chair



