

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ALII PLACE
1060 RICHARDS STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 547-7400 • FAX: (808) 547-7515

KEITH M. KANESHIRO
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



CHASID M. SAPOLU
FIRST DEPUTY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

THE HONORABLE BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2018
State of Hawai'i

March 13, 2018

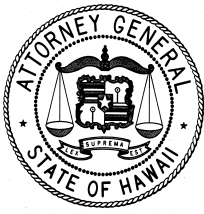
RE: H.B. 1770, H.D. 1; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU.

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Rhoads, and members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu ("Department") submits the following testimony in strong support of H.B. 1770, H.D. 1. This bill is part of the Department's 2018 legislative package.

Pursuant to legislation passed in 1979, and codified as Sections 845-1, 845-2, and 845-3, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, the Career Criminal Prosecution program was created because a disproportionate amount of serious crimes are committed by a relatively small number of multiple- and repeat-felony offenders, commonly known as "career criminals." In response, the State created the Career Criminal Prosecution program, which it originally funded annually.

The requested funding is greatly needed to continue operating our Career Criminal Prosecution unit at its current capacity and caseload, essentially maintaining positions that are currently filled. Money spent on this unit is an efficient use of resources, as it provides citizens with swift and effective justice, reducing heavy caseloads and long court delays. With your support, the Department will have the tools necessary to protect our public from career criminals. The current balance needed to maintain this program at its current level of operation within our Department is \$493,818.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu strongly supports the passage of H.B. 1770, H.D. 1, which will provide the funding needed to provide this important state-mandated service to our community. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE, 2018**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 1770, H.D. 1, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

DATE: Tuesday, March 13, 2018

TIME: 9:30 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 016

TESTIFIER(S): Russell A. Suzuki, First Deputy Attorney General, or
Julie Ebato, Crime Prevention and Justice Assistance Division
Administrator

Chair Taniguchi and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General supports this measure, provided that its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our Executive budget. This bill would provide funds for services that are provided by the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu to help fulfill the requirements of chapter 845, "Career Criminals," Hawaii Revised Statutes.

The Legislature established the Career Criminal Prosecution (CCP) program because it found that a substantial and disproportionate amount of serious crime is committed by a relatively small number of multiple and repeat felony offenders, commonly known as career criminals. The Legislature's intent was to support increased efforts by prosecuting attorneys' offices to prosecute career criminals. By their nature, CCP cases are often labor intensive and require experienced and well-trained deputy prosecutors. Since fiscal year 2007-2008, funding for the CCP program has been reduced, which has resulted in positions being held vacant. This funding request is needed to staff the CCP program so that the prosecution of career criminals can be pursued to the greatest extent.

We respectfully ask the Committee to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

HB-1770-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2018 9:20:47 AM

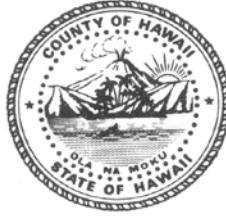
Testimony for JDC on 3/13/2018 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for OCC Legislative Priorities Committee, Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	No

Comments:

MITCHELL D. ROTH
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

DALE A. ROSS
FIRST DEPUTY
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



655 KĪLAUEA AVENUE
HILO, HAWAII 96720
PH: (808) 961-0466
FAX: (808) 961-8908
(808) 934-3403
(808) 934-3503

WEST HAWAII UNIT
81-980 HALEKĪ'I ST, SUITE 150
KEALAKEKUA, HAWAII 96750
PH: (808) 322-2552
FAX: (808) 322-6584

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 1770 HD1

A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY OF
THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Sen. Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Sen. Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 13, 2018, 9:30 A.M.
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

Honorable Chair Taniguchi, Vice-Chair Rhoads, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary, the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai'i submits the following testimony in **STRONG SUPPORT** of House Bill No. 1770 HD1.

This measure appropriates moneys to the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu for the Career Criminal Prosecution (CCP) Unit.

The CCP program was created because a disproportionate amount of serious crimes are committed against the public by a relatively small number of multiple and repeat-felony offenders, commonly known as "career criminals." Money spent on this unit is an efficient use of resources, in terms of providing citizens with swift and effective justice, and by reducing heavy caseloads and long court delays.

State law mandates that certain qualifying defendants be prosecuted under the CCP program (HRS Chapter 845). In order to avoid the unfunded mandate prohibition provided by the Hawai'i State Constitution, it was the practice for the State to provide funding for these services. Having this funding will enable, equip and enhance staff with the necessary tools and skills needed to effectively deal with complex situations of CCP.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai'i **STRONGLY SUPPORTS** the passage of House Bill No. 1770 HD1. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

LATE

HB-1770-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/12/2018 4:49:58 PM

Testimony for JDC on 3/13/2018 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard K. Minatoya	Testifying for Maui Department of the Prosecuting Attorney	Support	No

Comments:

The Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui, SUPPORTS HB 1770, HD 1 - Making an Appropriation to the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu. This measure will appropriate funds for the career criminal prosecution program. The career criminal prosecution program was enacted by the legislature and mandated to the counties. This measure will make up the shortfall between the current appropriated amount and the actual cost incurred by the City and County of Honolulu. The Department requests that this measure be PASSED.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide this testimony.