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TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2385, HOUSE DRAFT 2, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO THE UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT

by

Nolan P. Espinda, Director

Senate Committee on Judiciary
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
Senator Karl Rhoads, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 29, 2018; 9:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

Chair Taniguchi, Vice Chair Rhoads, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) **supports** House Bill (HB) 2385, House Draft (HD) 2, Senate Draft (SD) 1, which updates chapter 329 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to: 1) incorporate amendments made to the federal Controlled Substances Act, and 2) include emergency scheduling and temporary designation as required under section 329-11, HRS.

First, section 329-11, HRS, provides that if a substance is added, deleted, or rescheduled under federal law, then PSD shall recommend to the Legislature that a corresponding change in Hawaii law be made. As such, PSD supports HB 2385, HD 2, SD 1, which proposes to amend subsection 329-14(f) and (g), HRS, and subsection 329-16(g), HRS, to reflect the additions made to the federal law.

To avoid the nullification of the controlled substances that were emergency scheduled or temporarily designated during the past year, PSD supports the passage of HB 2385, HD 2, SD 1. This measure mirrors recent changes to the federal Controlled Substances Act, thereby eliminating differences between federal and state law.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.