



THE SENATE  
THE TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2017

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & LABOR  
Senator Gilbert S C Keith-Agaran, Chair

1/1/2017  
Rm. 016, 9:15 AM

SB 1298  
Relating to Residence Requirement for Appointed Officers

Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of this Committee, my name is Max Sword, Chair of the Honolulu Police Commission (Commission), here on behalf of the Commission in support of SB 1298.

Today starts the official retirement of Chief Louis Kealoha and also officially kicks off the start of our search for a new Chief for the Honolulu Police Department.

In our search for a new Chief, we would like to extend our search beyond the State for the best candidate that we can find. Having the restriction of a one-year residence requirement, will limit that ability.

To avoid the same situation as has happened at the State level where Governor Ige was not able to appoint his choice for the Labor Director and at the County level where Mayor Caldwell had to make an exception for his choice of the EMS Director, I would like to offer an amendment.

Delete language as follows:

~~...shall be citizens of the United States [and residents of the State for at least one year immediately preceding their appointment; provided that the foregoing one year residency requirement may be waived by the appointing authority when the appointive officer is {required};~~

~~— (1) Required to have highly specialized or scientific knowledge and training and a qualified applicant who is a resident for at least one year is not available to fill the position[.];~~

~~or~~

~~— (2) Employed as the head of a county police department.~~

With that change you cover all levels of government.

Thank you again for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

# SHOPO



**PRESIDENT**  
Tenari R. Ma'afala

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
Malcolm Lutu

**TREASURER**  
James "Kimo" Smith

**SECRETARY**  
Michael Cusumano

**DIRECTORS AT LARGE**  
Don Faumuina  
John Haina  
Erik Iinuma

**HONOLULU CHAPTER CHAIR**  
Robert Cavaco

**HAWAII CHAPTER CHAIR**  
Darren Horio

**KAUAI CHAPTER CHAIR**  
Jesse Guirao

**MAUI CHAPTER CHAIR**  
Barry Aoki

**Main Office & Honolulu Chapter**  
1717 Hoe Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819-3125  
Ph: (808) 847-4676 "84 SHOPO"  
(800) 590-4676 Toll Free  
Fax: (808) 841-4818

**Hawaii Chapter Office**  
688 Kino'ole Street, Room 220 B  
Hilo, Hawaii 96720  
Ph: (808) 934-8405  
Fax: (808) 934-8210


**Maui Chapter Office**  
1887 Wili Pa Loop, Suite #2  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793  
Ph: (808) 242-6129  
Fax: (808) 242-9519

**Kauai Chapter Office**  
4264 Rice Street, Lihue  
Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 1708  
Lihue, Hawaii 96766  
Ph: (808) 246-8911

**TO:** The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Vice-Chair  
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

**FROM:** Tenari Ma'afala, President   
State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers

**DATE:** March 1, 2017

**SUBJECT:** Testimony on S.B. No. 1298, Relating to Residence  
Requirements For Appointed Officers

**DECISION MAKING:** Wednesday, March 1, 2017  
9:15 a.m. Conference Room 016

This bill authorizes applicants for Police Chief, of the county police departments, that have not been residents of Hawaii for at least one year immediately preceding appointment. The State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers opposes this bill.

This bill amends Hawaii Revised Statutes section 78-1 which currently provides an exception from the one-year residency requirement for applicants who have "highly specialized or scientific knowledge" when there are no qualified applicants with a one-year residency.

As you know, the current Police Chief of the Honolulu Police Department retired on February 28, 2017. There have always been many qualified applicants for the job of Police Chief. Not only have there been qualified applicants, but the Honolulu Police Department has had excellent chiefs. To name a few, Chief Frances Keala, Chief Douglas Gibb, Chief Michael Nakamura, and Chief Lee Donohue. They all came from within the department. They have been strong leaders that were well-connected to the community.

Authorizing applicants that have not been residents for one year creates a steep learning curve of Hawaii's culture, and also of Honolulu's policing needs and strengths. It takes time to build working relationships with other departments, agencies, and to create relationships with community groups.

Further, a new hire from outside of the Honolulu Police Department will not know the strengths and weaknesses of individual personnel in the department, nor its structure and processes.

SHOPO opposes this bill and asks that you consider the Honolulu Police Department's long history of excellent police chiefs that were appointed from within the department.

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1298 on Mar 1, 2017 09:15AM  
**Date:** Friday, February 24, 2017 9:15:27 AM

---

**SB1298**

Submitted on: 2/24/2017

Testimony for JDL on Mar 1, 2017 09:15AM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachel L. Kailianu	Individual	Oppose	Yes

Comments: The police chief should know the county/area in which he will take a high position in. This is not the old West, where they brought in a Maverick to shape up a town. Please stop taking short cuts, putting bandages on sweltering problems and heal, repair or complete huli what is to much, much better.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**From:** [mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov)  
**To:** [JDLTestimony](#)  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for SB1298 on Mar 1, 2017 09:15AM  
**Date:** Friday, February 24, 2017 8:55:42 AM

---

**SB1298**

Submitted on: 2/24/2017

Testimony for JDL on Mar 1, 2017 09:15AM in Conference Room 016

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Victor K. Ramos	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I am in strong opposition to this bill. Hawaii has many qualified individuals. Therefore, this recommendation is not needed. More importantly, no one is holding the Police Commissioners accountable for their selection of the Chief of Police. Why not look there first!

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)