



ALAN M. ARAKAWA
MAYOR

OUR REFERENCE
YOUR REFERENCE

POLICE DEPARTMENT

COUNTY OF MAUI

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February 12, 2018



TIVOLI S. FAAUMU
CHIEF OF POLICE

DEAN M. RICKARD
DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara Chair
And Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
And Members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land

The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
And Members of the Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy

The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
And Members of the Committee on Judiciary

The Senate
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

RE: Senate Bill No. 2947, RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

Dear Chair Nishihara, Chair Rhoads, Chair Inouye, Chair Taniguchi, and Members of the Committees:

The Maui Police Department OPPOSES the passage of S.B. No. 2947.

The passage of this bill would mandate law enforcement agencies to release names of disciplined officers to the public upon the second offense within five (5) years.

The Circuit Court is already weighing an officer's privacy interests, in the disclosure of disciplinary matters, against public interest. HRS 92F-14 protects an officer's significant privacy interests, as well as the UIPA, to an extent. Officers are consistently placed in the public's eye and always subject to their purview. This bill will only rouse the public's scrutiny and curiosity of an officer into his private life as a citizen.

It does not appear there will be a significant increase to public safety by the passage of this bill. There could be a significant decrease for an officer's safety in his/her private life should this bill be passed. Nor will this bill create a significant impact on government transparency.

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The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara Chair
The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
The Honorable Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair
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The Chiefs of each county and their staff strive to ensure the highest standards of professionalism and accountability of their officers. It is agreed that misconduct sheds a negative cloud upon the departments although accounts for only a minute percentage of the law enforcement community in the State of Hawaii. These few incidents, sensationalized by media outlets, should not be the driving force, especially as the issue of privacy versus public interests is still at bay.

The Maui Police Department asks that you OPPOSE the passage of S.B. No. 2497 and requests that this bill be held in committee.

Sincerely,



TIVOLI S. FAAUMU
Chief of Police



Feb. 12, 2018

Sens. Clarence Nishihara, Lorraine Inouye, Karl Rhoads
Senate Committees on Public Safety, Water and Land, Transportation
State Capitol
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: SB 2947

Sens. Nishihara, Inouye, Rhoads and Committee Members:

We support this bill, which would allow explicit disclosure of the name of a police officer suspended for the second time within five years.

We ask that the names of disciplined police officers be made public as are the identities of other disciplined public employees but recognize this as a first step.

Such openness is warranted for officers who must be accountable to the public because of their powers.

Sincerely,

Stirling Morita
President, Hawaii Chapter SPJ