

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
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**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1886
RELATING TO CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES**

REPRESENTATIVE MARK M. NAKASHIMA, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Hearing Date: 2/3/2022

Room Number: CR325/Videoconference

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure will impact the priorities identified in the Governor’s
- 2 Executive Budget Request for the Department of Health’s (Department) appropriations and
- 3 personnel priorities.

- 4 **Department Testimony:** The Department supports this measure since it bans hemp products
- 5 containing Delta 8 tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), which are not approved by the U.S. Food and
- 6 Drug Administration (FDA) and may put consumers at risk. On September 21, 2021, the
- 7 Department issued “CDC Health Alert Network Health Advisory 451: Increases in Availability
- 8 of Cannabis Products Containing Delta-8 THC and Reported Cases of Adverse Events” to
- 9 Emergency Departments and Primary Care providers statewide of the increased availability of
- 10 cannabis products containing delta-8 THC and the potential for adverse events due to insufficient
- 11 labeling of products containing THC and cannabidiol (CBD).

- 12 In 2021, The American Association of Poison Control Centers (AAPCC) introduced a product
- 13 code specific to delta-8 THC into its National Poison Data System (NPDS), allowing for the
- 14 monitoring of delta-8 THC adverse events. From January 1 to July 31, 2021, 660 delta-8 THC
- 15 exposures were recorded with the new product code, and one additional case was recoded as a
- 16 delta-8 THC exposure from October 2020. Eighteen percent of exposures (119 of 661 cases)
- 17 required hospitalization, and 39% (258 of 661 cases) involved pediatric patients less than 18
- 18 years of age.

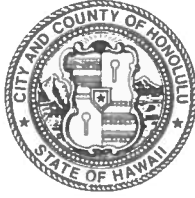
1 On September 14, 2021, FDA issued a Consumer Update “5 Things to Know about Delta-8
2 Tetrahydrocannabinol – Delta-8 THC”, alerting consumers to be aware that delta-8 THC products
3 have not been evaluated or approved by the FDA for safe use in any context. Delta-8 THC
4 products may be marketed in ways that put the public health at risk and should especially be kept
5 out of reach of children and pets.

6 **Offered Amendments:** None.

7 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR

RADE K. VANIC
INTERIM CHIEF

OUR REFERENCE TN-GK

February 3, 2022

The Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Chair
and Members
Committee on Judiciary
and Hawaiian Affairs
House of Representatives
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 325
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nakashima and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 1886, Relating to Controlled Substances

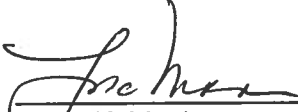
I am Captain Tate Nojima of the Narcotics/Vice Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports House Bill 1886, Relating to Controlled Substances.

Delta-8 tetrahydrocannabinol has not been evaluated or approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The FDA reports that products containing Delta-8 tetrahydrocannabinol are marketed in ways that put the public's health at risk. When ingested, Delta-8 tetrahydrocannabinol has been known to cause vomiting, hallucinations, difficulty breathing, loss of consciousness, and even coma. The FDA and poison control centers have reported an uptick in adverse events related to products containing Delta-8 tetrahydrocannabinol.

The HPD urges you to support House Bill No. 1886, Relating to Controlled Substances, and we thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:


for Rade K. Vanic
Interim Chief of Police

Sincerely,


Tate Nojima, Captain
Narcotics/Vice Division