



*Homeland Security Investigations
Office of the Special Agent in Charge*

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
595 Ala Moana Blvd
Honolulu, HI 96813

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
HB 2171

Testimony of John F. Tobon
Special Agent in Charge
Homeland Security Investigations

February 1, 2022

ICE - Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) fully supports enactment of HB 2171.

HSI special agents work extensively with law enforcement officers of the State of Hawaii on investigations targeting transnational organized criminal (TOC) activity. The threat posed by TOCs operating within the state have evolved significantly over the last decade, this evolution necessitates the establishment of a new department of law enforcement to complement the work of the country departments. The stated goals of the new department are consistent with ongoing federal efforts.

We also support the establishment of a law enforcement training center where federal, state, and local law enforcement officers can maintain proficiency in the tactical, technical, and legal aspects of their duties. Increasing the quality of law enforcement personnel at all levels is critical to earning the trust and respect of the people whom we serve.



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 12:31:34 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Luaselau Fesili	Sheriff's Division	Support	No

Comments:

I Deputy Sheriff II Luaselau Fesili support Bill HB2171.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 12:39:31 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Koa Dobrowolsky	State of Hawaii Sheriff Division	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee:

I am Lanikoa Dobrowolsky, First Deputy of the Sheriff Division. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in SUPPORT of HB2171.

I fully support HB2171 and believe that consolidating the State Law Enforcement services under a single agency is long overdue. The consolidation will allow for streamlined command and control, increased accountability, consistent recruitment, training standardization, consistent operational procedures, and single agency policy oversight that will soon meet CALEA accreditation. Consolidation will also allow for ease in prosecution of criminal cases and the ability to deliver tailored manpower packages to the neighbor islands to assist in emergencies or critical incidents at the request of those county leaders. The creation of this agency will allow the State of Hawaii to have the ability to build out a state policing function in a manner that best serves its people and the needs of the State.

Over the past 30 years, the Hawaii State Legislature has ordered many studies and audits to address the deficiencies and inefficiencies of the Department of Public Safety. Every study conducted, leaned towards the conclusion that the current structure is cumbersome and difficult to manage at an executive level. Previous legislative proposals have recommended splitting the agency and consolidating state law enforcement functions under one department. Further, the legislative mandate to pursue CALEA accreditation and the great efforts of the **current** PSD administration to fulfill that mandate suggests that a single state LE agency that is CALEA accredited would be the best option and would serve the people in a manner that contemporary trends demand.

The problems plaguing law enforcement across the State reveals that consistently, agencies are suffering from shortages of qualified staff. Recruitment to fill vacancies is difficult, time consuming, and slow, often taking one year or longer. The merging of State Law Enforcement provides the ability to focus manpower towards problem areas and may afford co-response to calls for assistance with county police to help lighten the heavy burden placed upon them.

I would also like to take a moment to express my support for the creation of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. The proposed organizational chart creating a deputy director of Rehabilitation suggests a focused effort on rehabilitating the inmate population. I believe that

this effort has the possibility of lowering recidivism which may reduce law enforcement intervention in the future, save costs associated with continuing incarceration, and increase the safety of our residents and visitors alike.

I humbly request your support towards HB2171 and I'm optimistic and excited to see the great possibilities that this bill will afford the people of Hawaii.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lanikoa Dobrowolsky, First Deputy

State of Hawaii, Sheriff Division

FBINA256

Lanikoa.k.dobrowolsky@hawaii.gov

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:12:31 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Darryl Ng	Sheriff	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support HB 2171. It will greatly benefit the people of Hawaii and make for a more efficient Law Enforcement service for the public.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:19:02 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Lester Gantan	Sheriffs Airport Section	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:22:11 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Nalani Myers	Department of Public Safety	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill.

Nalani Myers, Staff Services Supervisor III, Sheriff Division

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 2:08:43 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Tory Guillermo	Sheriff Division - Kona Section	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 2:12:09 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Delsonlee Evangelista	Sheriff division Kona section	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel. Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 2:20:21 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Carlito Mateo	Kona Sheriff Division	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel. Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 2:34:31 PM

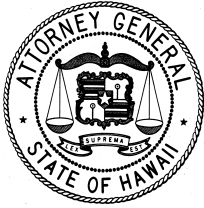
Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Wesley H Taketa	Kona Sheriffs Division	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE, 2022**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

H.B. NO. 2171, H.D. 2, RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

BEFORE THE:

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

DATE: Wednesday, March 2, 2022 **TIME:** 1:00 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 308, Via Videoconference

TESTIFIER(S): Holly T. Shikada, Attorney General, or
Craig Y. Iha, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Luke and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General supports this bill.

This bill separates the Department of Public Safety (DPS) into two discrete departments by establishing a new Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) to administer criminal law enforcement and investigations functions of the State, effective upon approval; and reestablishing DPS as an independent Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR) to administer the corrections, rehabilitation, and reentry of the inmate population, effective January 1, 2023. The bill transfers the law enforcement functions of DPS to DLE effective January 1, 2023. The bill also transfers the non-statutorily mandated investigative functions of the Department of the Attorney General's Investigations Division, the law enforcement functions of the Department of Transportation-Harbors, and the Office of Homeland Security from the Department of Defense to DLE, effective July 1, 2023. The bill further makes appropriations to DLE and DCR to carry out the purposes of the bill, and for the departments to become operational.

The bill also establishes a statewide law enforcement training center within DLE that will train all department of law enforcement officers in accordance with minimum certification standards to be set by the Law Enforcement Standards Board established in chapter 139, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Training center facilities will also be available to other law enforcement agencies upon request.

This bill improves the State's ability to meet the needs of inmates and pretrial detainees by consolidating corrections and rehabilitation functions into a single, dedicated department. In this manner the bill promotes the efficient use of resources in administering correctional programs and administering and maintaining public and private correctional services, without the need to split the department's focus with law enforcement responsibilities. It also allows for a greater focus on rehabilitation initiatives by creating a position for one deputy director that will solely oversee the rehabilitation services and programs of the DCR.

This bill enhances state law enforcement services by establishing a single chain of command for law enforcement responsibilities within a single state department. This will improve decision making, promote accountability, streamline communication, decrease costs, reduce duplication of efforts, provide uniform training and standards, and promote uniform standards of law enforcement services.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 4:28:23 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
WILLIAM F OKU	Department of Public Safety, Sheriff Division	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee-

My name is William "Billy" Oku Jr, STATE SHERIFF for the Sheriffs Division. Mahalo for taking the time for allowing myself, along with the Sheriffs Division and others to submit testimony in SUPPORT of HB2171 HD2.

As the State Sheriff, I fully support HB2171 HD 2 in consolidating the State Law Enforcement under a new Department. This consolidation will allow the Sheriffs Division to operate and streamline our command structure, along with consistent recruitment, training, administrative and operational procedures, managerial oversight, along with best practices, running parallel with (CALEA)- Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. CALEA's primary mission is to accredit public safety agencies, namely law enforcement agencies, training academies, communication centers, and campus public safety agencies.

The creation of this new Department will allow the State of Hawaii, along with its legislative body, to address and focus of deficiencies, audits, policies, procedures, manpower issues, recruiting, retention of personnel, and the many other questions or concerns that can be addressed directly with the new Department's administration.

In closing, I want to thank all of you for taking the time in reading my testimony of support for the possibility of HB2171 HD2 becoming a reality with your great support.

With Much Aloha and Respect-

William "Billy" Oku Jr

Sheriff- State of Hawaii

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 8:58:36 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Warren Haney	Sheriff	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 2171, H.D. 2

March 2, 2022
1:00 p.m.
Room 308 and Videoconference

RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on House Bill (H.B.) No. 2171, H.D. 2.

H.B. No. 2171, H.D. 2, does the following: 1) establish a new Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) to consolidate and administer criminal law enforcement and investigations functions of the Department of Transportation (DOT), certain investigations functions of the Department of the Attorney General (AG), functions of the Office of Homeland Security (OHS), and current law enforcement and investigations functions of the Department of Public Safety (PSD); 2) rename PSD as the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR), which will administer the corrections, rehabilitation, reentry, and related functions currently assigned to PSD; 3) establish a training center within DLE to provide all State and county law enforcement entities the highest level of core and continuing education and training; 4) transfer employees, appropriations, records, equipment, leases, contracts, other documents, rules, policies, procedures, guidelines, and other material, as appropriate, to the respective

departments; 5) appropriate an unspecified amount of general funds to DLE for FY 23 to establish and fill 70.00 new, permanent full-time equivalent (FTE) positions and for other operating expenditures; and 6) appropriate \$280,782 in general funds to DCR for FY 23 to establish and fill 8.00 new, permanent FTE positions. This bill intends to reorganize the State's law enforcement structure to effectively carry out law enforcement operations for the State and to allow the efficient use of resources in administering correctional programs and administering and maintaining public and private correctional services. However, the bill does not intend to impair or diminish the longstanding authority and responsibility of county police departments to enforce laws on State lands within their respective counties.

B&F defers to PSD, DOT, AG, and OHS on the potential operational impacts of this measure to their respective agencies. Additionally, B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriations in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act also requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 8:41:40 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kaipo Giltner	PSD Sheriff Department	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 9:08:22 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Geoffrey Peterson	PSD/Sheriff	Support	No

Comments:

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 9:08:50 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kacie Kamoku	Kona Sheriffs Department	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an Law Enforcement agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

The creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 9:32:15 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Edward R. Trevino Jr	Sheriff Division	Support	No

Comments:

I wholeheartedly support this Bill to make our own department. I've had the honor of serving both Divisions of Public Safety, Corrections and Sheriffs. I can tell you first hand that the bias is there between the two divisions. Money doesn't get allocated for the sheriffs the way it does for corrections. The Sheriff division is in great need of their own budget and New equipment. I for one work in a courthouse where I have to work with no computer to do reports or a vehicle to transport custodies. We as a division don't have the man power to do the visits and at times operate at a level where we can not cover Officer Safety and that puts the officer in jeopardy of something dangerous happening to them. We as a division can better become a Full Service Department servicing not just State facilities but all of the State and counties. Please support this as I and my Brothers and Sisters in the Sheriffs do.

Thank You

Edward Trevino Jr

Deputy II, Sheriffs Division

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 10:10:09 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Fatu Salima	Public Safety	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

As a Deputy Sheriff for the State of Hawaii I support HB2171. This will allow us to better preform our task and duties required of us by the state.This will create more clearer guide lines for our section and also enable us to reach our full potential and goals. Please pass HB2171. Thank you.

OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRACTICES

STATE OF HAWAII
NO. 1 CAPITOL DISTRICT BUILDING
250 SOUTH HOTEL STREET, SUITE 107
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: 808-586-1400 FAX: 808-586-1412
EMAIL: oip@hawaii.gov

To: House Committee on Finance

From: Cheryl Kakazu Park, Director

Date: March 2, 2022, 1:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 308 and via Videoconference

Re: Testimony on H.B. No. 2171, H.D. 2
Relating to Public Safety

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill, which would establish a Department of Law Enforcement to administer the criminal law enforcement and investigations functions of the State and would reestablish the Department of Public Safety as an independent Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to administer the corrections, rehabilitation, and reentry of the inmate population. The Office of Information Practices (OIP) takes no position on the substance of this bill, but offers comments on the reporting requirement set out in proposed section 353-G, HRS, at bill pages 42-43.

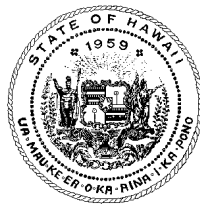
This provision would require the Director of Corrections and Rehabilitation to report to the Governor and Legislature on the death of any inmate and the on-site death or injury of any correctional facility employee. Proposed section 353-G(d) gives the Director “the discretion to withhold disclosure of the decedent’s name or any information protected from disclosure by state or federal laws.” OIP notes that section 92F-12(a)(4), HRS, requires public disclosure of “directory information concerning an individual’s presence at any correctional facility,” including the names and locations of incarcerated individuals,

notwithstanding any provision to the contrary. Thus, the name of an inmate who died in custody would be public information in the same way as an inmate's departure from a facility for other reasons. Similarly, a government employee's first and last dates of employment are mandated to be public under section 92F-12(a)(14), and the correlation between last date of employment and the reported death of an employee at the facility on that date would effectively make the name public. OIP further notes that the list in proposed subsection (b) of information requires "the decedent's name" to be included in the report, in direct contradiction to proposed subsection (d) which gives the Director "the discretion to withhold" that same information. As written, this provision is **internally inconsistent** and, by referring to the name of the decedent in the same clause as information protected by state or federal law, **creates confusion** about whether a decedent's name withheld from a report is still publicly disclosable upon request. OIP recognizes that even if the public has the ability to find out a decedent's name through a UIPA request, including the name in the report itself may be important in some instances but unnecessary in others. **Thus, the provision is inconsistent internally and with existing law, and it should be amended if its intent is to effectively give the Director the ability to choose to include or omit this information from the report.**

To fix this inconsistency, OIP recommends that the name of the decedent be removed from the list of information required to be reported, and subsection (d) be amended to allow the director to disclose the name of the decedent or other additional information provided that the director shall not disclose information protected from disclosure by law. Specifically, OIP recommends the following changes:

- **On page 42 line 21, delete the current item “(1) The name of the decedent,” leaving a list of only six mandatory items instead of the current seven; and**
- **On page 43, replace subsection (d) with the following:**
 - **“(d) The director may disclose the decedent’s name or other information not specified in subsection (b), provided that the director shall not disclose information protected from disclosure by state or federal law.”**

Thank you for considering OIP’s testimony.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
1177 Alakea Street, 6th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

MAX N. OTANI
DIRECTOR

Maria C. Cook
Deputy Director
Administration

Tommy Johnson
Deputy Director
Corrections

Jordan Lowe
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _____

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2171, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.**

By
Max N. Otani, Director

House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 2, 2022; 1:00 p.m.
Via Videoconference

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) strongly supports House Bill (HB) 2171, House Draft (HD) 2, which establishes a State Department of Law Enforcement to consolidate and administer criminal law enforcement and investigative functions into a single unified statewide department. The measure also reestablishes the Department of Public Safety as an independent Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to administer the corrections, rehabilitation, and reentry of the inmate population. Currently, the Corrections Division and the Law Enforcement Division of PSD have distinctly different and unique core missions. They operate independently of each other, with different functions, goals, and objectives. Differences in the respective officers' selection process and training are significant. Selection of senior management is also problematic due to the limited pool of managers with expertise in both Corrections and Law Enforcement.

Establishment of the two (2) separate entities would enable the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to more effectively focus on the safety and well-being of the inmates sentenced to its custody and care and better prepare inmates for successful reentry and reintegration back into the community.

Establishment of the Department of Law Enforcement will consolidate current PSD law enforcement divisions, such as, the Sheriffs Division, Narcotics Enforcement Division, and the Internal Affairs Office. It would also include the Department of Transportation Harbor Police, non-federally mandated investigators from the Department of Attorney General Investigation Division, and the Office of Homeland Security into the new, centralized law enforcement department.

The benefits of establishing the Department of Law Enforcement include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Enhanced investigative services with the addition of criminal investigators from the AG Investigation Division.
2. Enhanced exchange of intelligence from the consolidation of the Office of Homeland Security into the Department of Law Enforcement. Includes the establishment of an Intelligence Enforcement Unit to investigate and validate foreign and domestic threats against the State of Hawaii, to include the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport.
3. The Department of Law Enforcement includes another layer of management of its law enforcement assets with the addition of Captain and Lieutenant positions for better accountability and reduction of liability.
4. The consolidation of Harbor Police is a force multiplier for incidents at the harbors and airports. It further offers additional career advancement opportunities and pathways for harbor police officers to promote and transfer to other specialty assignments.
5. A single unified statewide law enforcement command structure streamlines communication, promotes accountability, operational flexibility, and resource management.
6. The establishment of a law enforcement specific training program will ensure that the highest standards of training will be adhered to, which would substantially reduce liability to the State.

HB 2171, HD 2 further appropriates funds for the establishment of the Department of Law Enforcement and Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

The Department of Public Safety supports the amendments proposed in HD 2, incorporating language clarifying the distinction between county and state law enforcement, specifically as regards the establishment of the state law enforcement training center. PSD asserts that the intent of the state law enforcement training center would be to train all State Department of Law Enforcement personnel and respectfully urges the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs to pass HB 2171, HD 2.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495

KENNETH S. HARA
MAJOR GENERAL
ADJUTANT GENERAL

STEPHEN F. LOGAN
BRIGADIER GENERAL
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2171 HD2
A BILL RELATED TO PUBLIC SAFETY

PRESENTATION TO THE
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

BY

FRANK J. PACE
ADMINISTRATOR
HAWAII OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY

March 2, 2022

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee on Finance.

I am Frank Pace, Administrator for the Hawaii Office of Homeland Security. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **SUPPORT** of HB 2171.

The Office of Homeland Security supports HB 2171, which aims to establish an independent and new Department of Law Enforcement. The proposed department's objectives include having the Office of Homeland Security (OHS), which currently falls under the State Department of Defense, transfer to the Department of Law Enforcement.

The mission and capabilities of OHS are aligned with and would enhance, the Department of Law Enforcement's focus to consolidate and administer the criminal law enforcement and investigations of the state. The Office of Homeland Security leads the state's effort to provide resources, actionable intelligence, and multi-agency coordination in a timely manner to prevent, mitigate, and respond to emergent threats to our residents and critical infrastructure.

OHS facilitates intelligence sharing between local, state, and federal agencies, the public and private sectors through the Hawaii State Fusion Center (HSFC). The HSFC is a well-established entity that is structured to empower front-line law enforcement, fire service, emergency management, public health, and other partners to understand local implications of national intelligence, thus enabling local officials to better protect their communities.

The Plans and Operations Branch coordinates several statewide programs that include implementation of the state homeland security strategy, critical infrastructure protection, cybersecurity resiliency, and elections security. These efforts have always aligned with state law enforcement objectives. Bringing these programs under the Department of Law Enforcement would further enhance initiatives focused on protecting the State of Hawaii.

Additionally, OHS also leads multi-agency efforts related to preventing targeted violence, coordinating interoperable public safety communications, and managing homeland security grants for the state. As with the HSFC and the Plans and Operations Branch, leveraging these capabilities with the proposed Department of Law Enforcement will greatly enhance its effectiveness.

The proposed Department of Law Enforcement is a logical and necessary step to meet the increasingly complex security challenges faced by the law enforcement community within the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **SUPPORT** of House Bill 2171.

Frank Pace, Administrator: frank.j.pace@hawaii.gov, 808-369-3570

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KENNETH S. HARA
MAJOR GENERAL
ADJUTANT GENERAL

STEPHEN F. LOGAN
BRIGADIER GENERAL
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2171 HD2
A BILL RELATED TO PUBLIC SAFETY

PRESENTATION TO THE
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
BY

MAJOR GENERAL KENNETH S. HARA
ADJUTANT GENERAL
DIRECTOR OF THE HAWAII EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
AND HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISOR

March 2, 2022

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee on Finance.

I am MG Kenneth S. Hara, Adjutant General, Director of Emergency Management, and Homeland Security Advisor. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **SUPPORT** of HB 2171.

The proposal of HB 2171, aims to establish an independent and new Department of Law Enforcement. This objective includes having the Office of Homeland Security (OHS), currently under the State Department of Defense, transfer to the Department of Law Enforcement.

The Office of Homeland Security is uniquely suited to support the Department of Law Enforcement's stated focus to consolidate and administer the criminal law enforcement and investigations of the state. The Office of Homeland Security leads the state's effort to provide resources, and relevant actionable intelligence in a timely manner to prevent, mitigate, and respond to emergent threats to our residents and critical infrastructure.

OHS facilitates intelligence sharing between local, state, and federal agencies, the public and private sectors through the Hawaii State Fusion Center (HSFC). The HSFC is a well-established entity that is structured to empower front-line law enforcement, fire service, emergency management, public health, and other partners to understand local implications of national intelligence, thus enabling local officials to better protect their communities.

Additionally, OHS also leads multi-agency efforts related to preventing targeted violence, enhancing cyber security, coordinating interoperable public safety communications, and managing homeland security grants for the state. Leveraging these capabilities with the

proposed Department of Law Enforcement will greatly enhance its effectiveness.
A State Department of Law Enforcement is a logical and necessary step to improve efficiency
and to meet increasingly complex security challenges faced by the law enforcement community.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **SUPPORT** of House Bill 2171.

MG Kenneth S. Hara: kenneth.s.hara@hawaii.gov, 808-672-1211

Frank Pace, Administrator: frank.j.pace@hawaii.gov, 808-369-3570

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY
1177 Alakea Street, First Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

EDMUND "FRED" HYUN
CHAIR

GENE DEMELLO, JR.
CLAYTON H. W. HEE
MILTON H. KOTSUBO
CAROL K. MATAYOSHI
MEMBERS

KEVIN S. REGO
ACTING ADMINISTRATOR

No. _____

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2171, HD 2
RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY**

by
Edmund "Fred" Hyun, Chairman
Hawaii Paroling Authority

House Committee on Finance
Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair
Rep, Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 2, 2022 – 1:00 p.m.
Via Videoconference

My name is Edmund "Fred" Hyun, Chairman of the Hawaii Paroling Authority, and I am in strong support of HB 2171, HD 2, to establish a new department of law enforcement that will consolidate and administer criminal law enforcement and investigation functions of various state departments.

Briefly, my moolelo (history) dates back to the days of Corrections as a division of Department of Social Services (now DSSH) to the Department of Corrections as well as the Sheriff's as part of the Judiciary to the eventual consolidation and incorporation of both under the "newly created" Department of Public Safety.

In August of 2020, following the retirement submission of then Director Espinda, Governor Ige assigned me to serve as the Special Master to assess the department's situation, assist in transition planning and submit recommendations to the Governor for his consideration. In addition to serving as the Special Master through the month of December 2020, I served as Acting Public Safety Director in October and November.

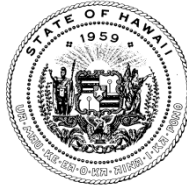
One of the most glaring observations and concerns during my short tenure was the broad span of control vested in the Director's office with conflicting missions resulting in my short and long term recommendations. Of note submitting a bill to law to establish a State Law Enforcement Agency with all state entities under one administration and to re-establish a Department of Corrections to focus on custody and care of inmates. Hawaii is one of four states where Corrections, Law Enforcement and Regulatory services are combined under one department and the ONLY state with a combined function of jails, prisons, law enforcement and narcotics enforcement.

The benefits of establishing a State Law Enforcement Department are as follows:

- Central Administration
- Permanent training academy adhering to the most current professional standards and equipment
- Improved communications and response to perceived or real threats locally and/or nationally.
- Promoting efficient use of resources focused on law enforcement.
- Improved decision making
- Reduce duplication of efforts between departments
- Promote uniform standards of law enforcement services
- CORRECTIONS – immediate benefits to population and rehabilitation
- Contributing vested member of State Law Enforcement Coalition as well as assisting/partnering with agencies/departments on the city/county/state/federal levels.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support of this important measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



REVISED TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDUARDO P. MANGLALLAN
PATRICK H. MCCAIN
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 2, 2022
1:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Teleconference

H.B. 2171, H.D. 2
RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

House Committee on Finance

The Department of Transportation is in **support** of H.B. 2171, H.D. 2, which would enhance state law enforcement and correction services by separating the Department of Public Safety into two departments. One being a new Department of Law Enforcement with a mission to consolidate and administer criminal law enforcement and investigation functions of the State and reestablish the Public Safety Department as an independent Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation with a single mission to administer the corrections and rehabilitation.

By establishing two separate departments, it would allow both to focus more clearly on their respective missions. By combining the Sheriff's Department Deputies and Harbor Police into one unit, it could standardize job requirements and training. With such broad and critical responsibilities, along with increased public scrutiny, it is more important than ever to provide the Sheriff Deputies the resources, adequate training, and leadership to address the many challenges they face.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ALII PLACE
1060 RICHARDS STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 768-7400 • FAX: (808) 768-7515

STEVEN S. ALM
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

THOMAS J. BRADY
FIRST DEPUTY
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



THE HONORABLE SYLVIA LUKE, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Thirty-first State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawai`i

March 2, 2022

RE: H.B. 2171, H.D. 2; RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Yamashita and members of the House Committee on Finance, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu (“Department”) submits the following testimony, in support of H.B. 2171, H.D. 2, with the understanding that “[c]ounty police departments will continue to have full law enforcement authority and responsibility” (page 5, lines 3-5).

The purpose of H.B. 2171, H.D. 2, is to divide the current Department of Public Safety into two separate departments: Department of Law Enforcement, and Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Because the general goals and functions of law enforcement are very different from those of corrections and rehabilitation, having two separate departments to serve these functions would allow each department to be more effective in their respective areas of expertise. In particular, having a dedicated department for state law enforcement officers would provide state officers with uniform training, and allow the department to respond with increased flexibility.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu supports the passage of H.B. 2171, H.D. 2. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

The Thirty-First Legislature, State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
Committee on Finance

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association

March 2, 2022

H.B. 2171, H.D. 2 – RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO conceptually supports the intent of H.B. 2171, H.D. 2, which in part establishes a Department of Law Enforcement to consolidate and administer criminal law enforcement and investigations functions of the State. This measure transfers the law enforcement functions of the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Transportation to the Department of Law Enforcement and the non-statutorily mandated functions of the Investigations Division of the Department of the Attorney General, and the Office of Homeland Security to the Department of Law Enforcement.

We originally sought the introduction of the concept to consolidate law enforcement under the Attorney General during the 2018 Legislative Session via H.B. 2203 and S.B. 2909. While we understood then, and continue to recognize, that this is a significant policy shift from the existing departmental structures, we fully believe it is long overdue and most appropriate to initiate this necessary conversation on how state law enforcement can best serve the public. Centralization of our state law enforcement will ensure consistency in training and uniformity with policies and procedures, as well as create potential opportunities for cross-training and advanced career development. In addition, we anticipate a centralized state law enforcement division will lead to streamlined statewide communications and increased coordinated efforts. However, please note that the details likely require negotiations and/or consultation in accordance with Chapter 89, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the establishment of the Department of Law Enforcement.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2022**

Committee on Finance
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 2, 2022, 1:00PM
Conference Room 308 and via Videoconference

Re: Testimony with Comments of HB2171, HD2 - RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee:

The United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO (“UPW”) is the exclusive bargaining representative for approximately 14,000 public employees, which includes blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 1 and institutional, health, and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties. The UPW also represents 1,500 members in the private sector.

UPW **provides the following comments on** HB2171, HD2, which establishes a Department of Law Enforcement to consolidate and administer criminal law enforcement and investigations functions of the State effective upon approval and reestablishes the Department of Public Safety as an independent Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to administer the corrections, rehabilitation, and reentry of the inmate population effective January 1, 2023. This bill would also transfer other law enforcement functions to the Department of Law Enforcement from other currently established departments effective on July 1, 2023.

Given the scope of this proposed legislation and the potential reorganization of the Department of Public Safety, UPW is closely monitoring this legislation to ensure it will not negatively impact our members in Bargaining Units 1 and 10 within PSD, which includes corrections officers, health care professionals, food service workers, and maintenance staff. With the creation of any new programs or departments, we expect the necessary funding to be in place before any such transition occurs to ensure the least interruption to the impacted departments, and that funds will not be redirected from other programs that may already support the proposals contained within HB2171, HD2.

We respectfully ask that if this proposal does become law, that the new Director of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation is able to prioritize the issue relating to the high number of vacant positions within our correctional facilities and work to fill these much-needed positions swiftly to address the chronic staffing shortages. Additionally, we expect continued dialogue regarding the status of such transitions and that the Administration will allow UPW and other impacted exclusive negotiating representatives the opportunity to provide input during the proposed transition.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the letters 'K' and 'W' in a stylized, cursive font.

Kalani Werner
State Director

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 11:59:58 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Steven Miyamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 12:00:05 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Michele Muramoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 12:03:47 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Geoffrey Hicks	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 12:08:45 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Joshua Grilho	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this bill aiming to consolidate State Law Enforcement under one department. Doing this will drastically aid in the growth of State Law Enforcement by increasing presence across the state and state properties, and reduce response time if more State Law Enforcement officers are added in the field. This bill would also aid in reducing the burden HPD faces by having to cover most if not all of the state. Please support and pass this bill.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 12:10:42 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Mitchell James Brown	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel. Also having corrections as their own entity will allow for more focused efforts on rehabilitation and lowering of recidivism rates.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 12:12:25 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Michael V DeCenzo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am in support of this bill, and humbly ask that you support it as well. This bill will create two new departments that will be able to better manage their own needs and personnel more efficiently.

Respectfully submitted

Written Testimony of Daniel Hanagami for State Law Enforcement Department bills:
HB2171 HD2

Good Afternoon Chair Luke and members of the Finance Committee. I am Daniel Hanagami and I am offering this testimony as a private citizen. I feel very strongly that enactment of this legislation would bring harm to public employees and the community. It would be detrimental to state law enforcement by making it costlier and less effective, therefore, I am in opposition of this bill for the following reasons:

1. The proposed legislation offers lofty goals without real substance to achieve those goals. The bill does not include the county police departments as a major consulting entity and establishes the Public Safety Department as the driving force behind this bill. The Public Safety Department lacks certification, experience and expertise. The planning of the law enforcement department should have better leaders to pursue this effort.
 - a. In testimonies given before the House JHA Committee, on 02/16/22, at 1400 hours, Deputy Director Jordan Lowe's statement concerning people going over from PSD to the Law Enforcement Department, these employees will be going at the own "discretion." Director Max Otani's testimony in the JHA committee, Representative Gene Ward asked Director Otani, what if his employees don't want to transfer over to the Law Enforcement Division, how can you create a new department if you are giving a choice to go or not to go. The response was, once the bill is passed it will become a union issue. If they don't want to go, the positions in the new law enforcement department are new positions, and they will have to hire new employees. Representative Ward said it sounded "loosey-goosey," and it was puzzling to him.
2. Reorganization in itself serves no purpose unless it adds value. This reorganization would create layers of bureaucracy, executive sinecures and generate millions of dollars in unproductive costs without providing a roadmap for improvements in services or safety for the public. This waste would be perpetuated in future budget cycles, a costly illusion with no benefit to the public.
3. The proposed reorganization of state law enforcement is justified by goals, but the proposed reorganization does nothing to achieve these goals.
4. State law enforcement functions together as the State Law Enforcement Coalition (SLEC) in response to the full spectrum of natural disasters, events, civil disturbances and threats to public safety. The SLEC Unified Command provides coordinated leadership and functions as a whole organization to carry out the missions tasked to state law enforcement. The SLEC Unified Command coordinates the actions, personnel and resources of the member agencies whenever a situation requires interagency coordination or exceeds the resources of a single agency. The SLEC framework provides the best of both worlds, coordinated efforts drawing on all state law enforcement while keeping member agencies intact and able to focus superior expertise in their functional areas.
 - a. SLEC has functioned effectively as a formal entity since 2003. SLEC was

established by formal agreement by Major General Robert G. F. Lee in his capacity as Adjutant General of the Hawaii National Guard and Director of Civil Defense, Attorney General Mark Bennett, Peter Young as Chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Rodney Haraga as Director of Transportation, and James Propotnick as Acting Director of Public Safety.

- b. SLEC has functioned effectively since its establishment through numerous challenges facing the state through the present and the SLEC response to the COVID-19 Pandemic.
 - c. SLEC is more effective as a coordinator of state law enforcement than the proposed organization and engages more resources.
 - d. All of the member law enforcement agencies of SLEC have evolved over time to perform necessary, sometimes specialized functions, and their unity in SLEC has enabled state law enforcement to function as a whole in response to all emergencies and situations. The SLEC Unified Command functions under the standards of the National Incident Management System and is organized in an Incident Command System structure. SLEC is even stronger based on the solid commitments, mutual respect and commitment to public safety of its leaders and members.
5. The proposed organization would consolidate a significant portion of state law enforcement. It would exclude significant portions of state law enforcement that would become fragmented, special purpose niche offices serving as single-purpose entities unavailable to overall public safety. State government already has many special-purpose investigators and limited-scope law enforcement personnel scattered among state agencies. This legislation would create more of these specialized fragments.
- a. For example, as part of a larger whole Investigations Division, a unit of investigators assigned to “certain investigations functions of the department of the attorney general,” also participate in quarantine compliance enforcement to protect the community and prevent deaths, but as an isolated fragment unit, they would stay in their lane and not be available to serve the greater needs of the community.
 - b. There is, in fact, value to dedicating specialists to accomplish specialized functions, but when these investigators are left behind and not included in the new law enforcement department, they will effectively be no longer integrated in operations or be available for other services.
 - c. Creating more specialists outside the framework of the new department would decrease the number of personnel available for state law enforcement as a whole. Experience has shown that these isolated, specialized investigators can be dedicated, productive individuals, such as investigators in the Child Support

Enforcement Agency, but they are not available to SLEC and would not function as part of this new department.

- d. For example, the Investigations Division of the Department of the Attorney General performs many important specialized functions such as investigating sex offenders, and functions as a cohesive whole adding to the specialized investigators when executing search warrants, managing crime scenes or being mobilized to support operations such as peacekeeping at Maunakea or performing pandemic response.
6. This legislation would cut the number of investigators available to large-scale crime scene investigations in half. The dismemberment of the Investigations Division would destroy the ability of state law enforcement to conduct complex white collar crime investigations, particularly government corruption and financial fraud. There is no other agency conducting this type of investigation at the state level and very limited county-level capabilities. Disbanding the Investigations Division and dismembering its ability to function as a whole will severely compromise accountability in state government and enable greater corruption by removing the only effective deterrent.
 - a. The prior Attorney General, the current Attorney General and its Special Assistant to the Attorney General planned dismemberment of its Investigations Division in this proposed bill, appears nothing more than a ploy to address its the labor issues and federal civil rights violation charge by crafting this bill that is designed to strip its Chief Special Investigator of his supervisory authority and exile him regardless of he being the top financial crimes investigator in the Department.
 7. DOCARE (Division of Conservation and Resource Enforcement) is a significant partner in SLEC and state law enforcement. DOCARE is omitted from this reorganization legislation. DOCARE's omission contradicts the justification for this proposal and is a good example of why this consolidation is flawed. As their name implies, DOCARE and its officers perform specialized conservation and resource protection functions vital to the interests of the state and the people served by the state, while at the same time being vital and effective members of SLEC and state law enforcement as a whole. DOCARE exemplifies why SLEC works as a framework to coordinate state law enforcement while preserving the reasons its member agencies exist.
 - a. In testimonies given before the House JHA Committee, on 02/16/22, at 1400 hours, Deputy Director Jordan Lowe's stated that DOCARE opted out of the Law Enforcement Department due to claims that they were more of an educational division rather than a law enforcement division. This is a strange justification since DOCARE officers, carry badge, arrests powers, firearms and law enforcement vehicles. It is strange that law enforcement divisions are given options not to transfer when the Investigations Division of the Department of the Attorney General were not given that option. They were going to be moved.

8. Harbor Enforcement Officers (HEO) have specialized skills, training and proficiencies associated with their work on seacraft and the intricacies of commercial harbors. A Harbor Enforcement Officer would not be interchangeable with a Deputy Sheriff or Investigator. The skill set of a HEO and the work they perform specialized and focused to best serve in commercial harbors.
9. This legislation frequently mentions the Department of Transportation but does not address the contract Law Enforcement Officers serving at the airports. These are armed airport police with full law enforcement authority. Whether the airport police should be contract or civil service employees is an issue for a different time, but this legislation does not bring the airport police into the proposed new department. This legislation omits what is, in effect, the second largest state law enforcement agency in Hawaii, with staffing second only to the Sheriff Division.
10. State law enforcement essentially serves defined interests and priorities of state government. The existing agencies and their focused areas provide effective, cost-efficient services that optimize services and accountability in their areas of expertise. State law enforcement contributes services that are not performed by county police. State law enforcement is not, nor should it become, a duplication of functions and services best-served by the county police. The state and counties each have roles in the overall safety and protection of our community.
11. This legislation would not accomplish its stated goals.
 - a. Goal (1) State law enforcement already partners with the Joint Terrorism Task Force to protect the State from both domestic and foreign threats. This legislation would not change that.
 - b. Goal (2) This legislation and a new state law enforcement agency would not accomplish “eliminating the narcotics epidemic that plagues Hawaii's communities through its commitment of investigators in the federal High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) task forces”. Eliminating drug trafficking and the destruction of lives from methamphetamine and the other dangerous drugs is a very worthwhile goal to protect our communities and our children, but this legislation is not the means to accomplish it.
 - b1. The county police are a much better option to counter narcotics trafficking if they can be supported with more resources. Attempts to duplicate their services at the state level would drain resources that would be better used by county police.
 - b2. The Honolulu Police Department has a very strong partnership with HIDTA and is highly effective in investigations and drug trafficking countermeasures, but the scope of the problem exceeds their resources.

A new state law enforcement agency is not the answer to this dilemma. The state would better serve this goal by contributing money to support more Honolulu Police Department personnel, Maui Police Department personnel, and more Kauai police personnel

- b3. Should state law enforcement want to venture into this area, the state would need to significantly step-up commitment to community-based groups and programs to harden youth against social contributors and provide meaningful positive alternatives, improved the accessibility to rehabilitation and treatment to community members needing services in this area. are needed. Our whole community needs to be mobilized to save our youth and the victims of addiction. Reorganizing state law enforcement is not the answer and would not accomplish anything meaningful.
 - c. Goal (3) reorganizing state law enforcement is not needed to expand the narcotics canine program. State funding would be better used to support expanded canine services in the county police departments.
 - d. Goal (4) reducing gun violence and other violent criminal acts in island communities through participating in the federal Project Safe Neighborhoods program is an effective strategy. The county police are engaged at the community level and have direct involvement with communities through their roles as emergency first responders and their patrol officers. The county police have close ties with the neighborhoods they serve and have years of experience with community policing. The proposed state law enforcement department would add little or no value.
12. The county police are emergency first responders. Their patrol elements are 9-1-1 driven. All calls are serviced. Police Communications and dispatchers' function as a whole response engine with their field patrol personnel. This is the core of the county police departments. In general, state law enforcement agencies are not prepared to take on this responsibility. Only Harbor Police are actual emergency first-responders. In the 9-1-1 world, there is no such thing as "we're too busy" or "we don't have anyone available" and bouncing emergencies or calls for service to the police.
13. This proposed legislation states, "County police departments will continue to have full law enforcement authority and responsibility with respect to state parks, state buildings, state highways, Hawaiian home lands, and other state lands and facilities." It is clear this proposed legislation intends to leave responsibility for public safety emergency response and law enforcement patrol operations as the responsibility of the county police.
- a. Jurisdiction and limited resources are issues between county and state level law enforcement, and this legislation perpetuates an unfunded mandate for county

police to provide law enforcement services in areas of state responsibility. This legislation perpetuates the issues and does nothing to change the situation.

14. This legislation raises issues of training and professional standards in state law enforcement. These are very important considerations. The establishment of a training center for state and county law enforcement as described would be of significant value for law enforcement professionalism, standards, and the quality of services provided for the community. Combined with the work of the law enforcement standards board established in chapter 139, Hawaii would be well-served by this initiative. However, this legislation does not accomplish this and it would be many years and many millions of dollars in the future.
15. The reorganization of state law enforcement proposed in this legislation is not necessary to establish a training center and professional standards. In fact, placing this training center in a new state department would be detrimental. A much better model for accomplishing this would be a jointly managed and jointly operated training center in a cooperative agreement between the state and counties. Each would commit personnel and funding to the training center.
16. This legislation is, at best, neutral in meeting the goals and services Hawaii deserves. The reorganization of state law enforcement is not the way to meet the challenges and does not deliver any real value for the community.
17. This reorganization would not reduce costs. It would add significant costs and overhead. It would add more executives but would not add more personnel actually performing the work.
18. The proposed reorganization should produce something of clear, articulated value. The only concrete value proposed are the training center as an institution to promote professional standards and consistency in training.
19. The Department of Public Safety's current administration does not have the professional expertise, experience, or knowledge as an accredited law enforcement agency to lead this initiative in the creation of a new law enforcement department. One would get the impression after reading this bill that they are setting up positions so that certain members of their department and certain members of the Office of the Attorney will have jobs after their at-will administration term comes to an end. The Special Assistant to the Attorney General once commented that it is logical for the Department of Public Safety to take the lead in this new law enforcement department because they have the largest amount of law enforcement officers in a state agency. That is not a logical answer in my view.
20. I agree with reservations expressed in the written testimony provided by the Department of the Attorney General during the Thirty-First Legislature in response to House Bill No. 629 Relating to Law Enforcement. In this testimony, the OAG expressed,

“There are myriad complex issues to discuss and consider in developing a structure and plan. For instance, the needs, capabilities, and responsibilities of each of the respective state law enforcement branches must be fully assessed before being consolidated under a single department. At a minimum, issues of infrastructure, funding, jurisdiction, responsibilities, federal mandates, parity, training, CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies), policies and procedures need to be considered. The issues of support staff and facilities also need to be addressed.”

- a. This current legislation does not resolve these aforementioned issues. This current legislation, in effect, asks for the creation of a whole new state department without a plan and without addressing these issues. Instead, this proposal offers a vague vision and wants to create new executive positions in the hope these issues can be resolved as they go along. They are asking for a blank check to pay for this vision. The legislature and the people of Hawaii are not being given details or the cost.
 - b. It is confusing at the least, based upon the prior standards that the Office of the Attorney General had requested, and without it in this current legislation, they now support it.
21. This reorganization will add costs without adding value. There are issues, but this is not the solution. There are better solutions. We need to improve policing in Hawaii holistically, with state and county law enforcement and our federal partners working together as a whole team for the benefit of our community.
 22. The Department of the Attorney General claims to work collaboratively in this bill, yet the affected investigators in its Investigations Division wasn't given any opportunity to give input into this bill as it was being constructed. In fact, during a meeting of this new Law Enforcement Department, the First Deputy from the Department of Public Safety and the staff from the Office of the Attorney General stated to the investigators that it was inappropriate to show the drafted bill to them.
 - a. This behavior, by restricting the Attorney General's investigator's participation is contrary to, and violates the spirit of Hawaii Revised Statutes **§89-1 Statement of findings and policy**, where public employees have been granted the right to share in the decision-making process affecting wages and working conditions, they have become more responsive and better able to exchange ideas and information on operations with their administrators.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 12:13:51 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
james Lupo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I wholeheartily support this bill. For too long the Law Enforcement of the State has been lumped into Corrections. Separating them will streamline and separate operations and funds. This will be advantageous to both Corrections and Rehabilitation as well as the Sheriff's. Couple that with combining other Law Enforcement agencies under one roof would help the People of Hawaii with Transparency and Accountability. This House Bill is vital to the people of Hawaii.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 12:17:32 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ralph Aguon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Consolidation will provide for more effective command and control not only within the newly created department but also greater command and control (oversight) for the Executive Branch;

A streamlined agency will be better able to utilize resources with greater efficiency and reduce costs due to duplication of efforts of separate agencies;

Separating Corrections and Law Enforcement Divisions will allow both entities better autonomy in carrying out their “very different” responsibilities.

Approval of this bill will provide for better accountability, reduce duplication of efforts, enhance training standards and provide better overall service to the public.

Thank you for allowing me to provide this statement in **SUPPORT** of HB2171.

Ralph P. Aguon, rpaguon@gmail.com, 808 429-2233

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 12:32:34 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kenneth Wall	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Kenneth WALL and I am submitting this testimony in **support** of this bill. This bill will bring the much needed positive changes in the way both corrections and law enforcement are trained and operated. Having one department running both corrections and law enforcement is not working. We need stand alone departments to run corrections and law enforcement so that all the focus can go into either rehabilitation or enforcing laws. This bill will benefit the people of Hawaii as we will have better trained Correctional officers and Law Enforcement officer out in the public. And in closing I would like to give my thanks to all of you for letting me give this testimony in **support** of this bill.

Mahalo and God bless.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 12:32:38 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Christopher Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Representatives,

I strongly support this bill and hope you will too.

Thank you.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 12:38:57 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Tanny Cazimero	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support passage of this bill.

Mahalo.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 12:39:43 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Emmalyn Hicks	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this department. Doing so will allow for accreditation under CALEA as well as increase effectiveness of management, accountability, standardization,

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 12:41:21 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ryan Kamealoha	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and the creation of a State Department of Law Enforcement. The consolidation of State law enforcement agencies into one department will streamline operations, standardize training and provide accountability under one command structure.

Please support this Bill.

Sincerely,

Ryan Kamealoha

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 12:45:44 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Calvin Chaves	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 12:49:24 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Bryson Nakamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

Thank you.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 12:50:37 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Michael Hirst	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

The Honorable Representative, Sylvia Luke Chair, Kyle Yamashita Vice-Chair, members of the committe.

House Committee on Finance

Thirty-First State Legislature

Regular session of 2022

State of Hawaii

I would like to take this opportunity to ask for your full support of the measure before you. As a state Law Enforcement Officer for the past 20 years, I have seen firsthand many of the issues caused by having so many separate state Law Enforcement agencies. The opportunity to consolidate all the agencies into a single department could be the ideal vehicle to move all the separate agencies forward collectively. It would allow for better training, greater accountability, and a higher level of professionalism. A single department would allow these agencies the ability to serve our statewide community in a much more efficient and timely manner. I kindly ask for your support for this bill.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 12:51:28 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kayla Nakamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

Thank you.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 12:51:54 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Reef Makue	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I would like to thank the House Finance Committee Chairs and the rest of the body that make up this committee for taking the time to consider the proposal of consolidating State Law Enforcement services into a single Law Enforcement agency entitled the Department of Law Enforcement.

Moreover, the separate creation of a department for Corrections and Rehabilitation will be best suited, as an autonomous organization altogether, to address the ongoing social issues of recidivism and reintegration among our incarcerated population as well as provide the necessary resources to address these issues in an efficient manner.

Therefore, it is with much interest and enthusiasm that **I fully pledge my support for HB2171**

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 12:55:52 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Glenn Park	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello

Hawaii needs a better law enforcement program. Where are the checks and balances? Hawaii is in such dire need for better law enforcement. The combining of state law enforcement will only make our streets, harbors, and community a safer place for everyone.

There are floods of homeless arriving to this state daily. they have no place to quarantine, no job, no money. How do they survive? Committing crime. HPD can no longer support our islands. There needs to be a greater police system.

If your not sure, try walk through Aala Park, downtown, Salvation Army on Nimitz, Stadium Park, Nimitz Highway underpass, Keehi Lagoon, China Town, University Ave, Shopping centers, Kaneohe, Kaimuki, Kalihi, the west side, North Shore, etc. Each day more come.

Are you going to deal with the crime? Filth? Mentally ill. No, not you...the police.

By passing this bill, Hawaii will have fully qualified and trained officers keeping our families safe in our communities. There could be more state law enforcement officers on the water, at the parks, highways, social events, and places where the public always asks, where are the police?

I would like to take back my community and not have to worry about my family taking a safe stroll through our neighborhood or to the market, beaches, and parks. We need your help to make this happen.

Please think about this

Thank you.

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2171, HD2
RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 2, 2022; 1:00 PM
Via videoconference
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

Representative Luke, Representative Yamashita and Members of the Committee:

I would like to take this opportunity to request for your **strong support** of HB 2171, HD2, which would establish a Department of Law Enforcement to consolidate and administer criminal law enforcement and investigations functions of the State.

The consolidation of law enforcement responsibilities into a single state department would centralize state law enforcement functions to increase public safety, improve decision making, promote accountability, streamline communication, decrease costs, reduce duplication of efforts, provide uniform training and standards, and promote uniform standards of law enforcement services.

The State Auditor's, June 2010, Report #10-06, "Audit of the Department of Public Safety, Sheriff Division" stated, "In 1987, prior to the formation of the Department of Public Safety, the Legislature created the Department of Corrections by removing correctional services from the Department of Social Services and Housing (DSSH). The Legislature determined that the state corrections program had grown too large and complex to remain under the umbrella of DSSH and that in order to "properly address the magnitude of the problems within the state corrections system, a separate department that can provide the focus and continuous attention the system desperately needs is essential." During that time, the Legislature initially sought to transfer the Office of the Sheriff, Capitol Security, and state law enforcement officers from the Department of the Attorney General into the new department of Corrections.

Concerns arose over the potential conflict between the new department's responsibility for corrections. It was argued that the transfer of law enforcement functions into the Department of Corrections was undesirable. Accordingly, state law enforcement functions were not included in the new department, and the legislation was amended to remove state law enforcement officers from the bill. Nevertheless, two years later, the Legislature passed Act 211, SLH 1989, which made a single department, the Department of Public Safety, responsible for both vital functions of the preservation of public safety – law enforcement and corrections.

Act 83, SLH 2003, required the director of the Department of Public Safety to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of dividing the Department of Public Safety into a Department of Corrections and a Department of Law Enforcement. According to a 2005 Department of Public Safety report to the Legislature by Interim Director Richard Bissen, this created a situation in which the department “must attempt to establish resource priorities for each function without adversely impacting the other.” According to the previous Director of Public Safety, Clayton Frank, it is a challenge to manage both correctional and law enforcement in the same department since there is no direct correlation between the two functions

More importantly, the separation of the law enforcement and corrections functions would allow the reestablished Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to, as intended by the 1987 Legislature, “properly address the magnitude of the problems within the state corrections system.” The issues relating to corrections, such as persistent overcrowding, offender treatment programs, inmate management, development of alternatives to incarceration, health care, and facility maintenance, are exceedingly complex and require the full focus of a director”.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Lieutenant Robin Nagamine
Sheriff Division

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:07:54 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Carl Rice	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:08:32 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Chon Peters	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in full support of this bill HB2171

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:08:55 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
D SASIL	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill because law enforcement and corrections have very huge differing rules and guidelines in their approach to public safety. Corrections should continue to focus their specific purpose on rehabilitation and incarceration concepts. A department of law enforcement will allow a focus on the entire venue of state policing under one umbrella. This would streamline the organization and the processes involved making enforcement effective and efficient. I just believe the consolidation of various state enforcement entities into one department makes sense. Please vote yes to pass this legislation into law. Thank you for your time.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:09:49 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kurt Enos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB 2171. Creating a State Law Enforcement Department will save the State money. Combining all state law enforcement agencies under one department will focus on servicing the public with more efficient objectives, goals, productivity, and resource efficiency. It makes sense.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:10:10 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Karyn Murphy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I highly encourage passage of this law to create the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this new department. This will allow for more effective management of law enforcement functions as well as greater accountability and standardization. It would also provide the benefit of accreditation under the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:11:11 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ernie	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB3139 the establishment of a Dept of Law Enforcement. This bill would streamline the activities of State Law Enforcement, create a cohesive and standardized process for the training of existing and future State law enforcement officers and provide a more centralized object for enforcement action oversight. A singular Dept of Law Enforcement entity would also make it easier for the public to discern the functions, services and enforcement actions of that lone entity.

Please support this bill into law.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:16:03 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Dina Paraon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:16:46 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Leedo Anderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:20:36 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Keahi Lopes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:26:43 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Chelsey Castro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill to create a separate Sheriff's department. I knew about HPD but never knew that Hawaii had Sheriff's deputies until recently. It makes sense for Sheriffs to be their own department like HPD. Doing so would allow the Sheriff's Department to grow, take on more roles in protecting the citizens, enforcing state laws not just at certain areas (ex airports, capitol, courthouses, etc). State of Hawaii Sheriffs seems to be in name only because of the limited areas that Sheriffs operate in. Making the Sheriffs their own department will aid HPD by expanding Sheriffs operating areas (ex state properties, highways, surrounding areas of state properties, increased joint operations with HPD/other departments, etc). I humbly ask that you strongly consider approving this bill for the betterment of Hawaii.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:26:58 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Erica Paredes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171. I feel that this bill would benefit the department greatly as State Law Enforcement. HB2171 would allow us to be a better organization and would allow us to better serve the people of the state. Thank you for your consideration and support.

Respectfully,

Erica Paredes

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:28:07 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Sandra Sorger	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass this legislation to create the Department of Law Enforcement, as this will greatly enhance law enforcement operations in this state.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:29:06 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Scott Chong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:31:26 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Juyoung Chong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:33:55 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Gavin Ching	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this bill. Thank you for your time

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:43:51 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kanamu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha All,

I fully **SUPPORT** HB2171/HD2 and ask that you do as well.

Mahalo

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:48:04 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
JG	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of this bill for sheriff's and corrections to separate. I support the reorganization of certain state law enforcement functions into a single entity in order to increase public safety.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:50:44 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ryan Machado	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, I strongly support this bill. I feel it just makes sense for the State of Hawaii and it's citizens. A streamlined approach by combining the Law Enforcement entities would cut the red tape and promote a higher level of accountability. This transparency and accountability is what the people of Hawaii deserve and the dedicated hard working law enforcement personnel call and crave for. Like anything else, I anticipate that there will be opposition and detractors to this bill. As I highly value their right to an opinion and position, I sincerely ask that you hear their position but think critically into the true motivation behind the opposition. I do not envy any of you as the job to do what is right for the people of Hawaii is not an easy one. I trust you will make the best decision. Mahalo for your time.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:51:57 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Avery Gomes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha and thank you for allowing my testimony.

I am In favor of HB2171 in hopes that Hawaii will finally move forward in a better organized criminal Justice system where we have a diverse Law Enforcement and, a separate Correctional system which will allow our offenders the rehabilitation they need in order to become an active and positive role in society.

I have been in the Public Safety Department for 22 years where I have been fortunate enough to act in many roles including Supervisory, Administrative, Training etc... I have worked with both Corrections and Sheriff's in multiple sections.

My brief background is not to boast but, to allow you to see someone who truly understands the operation of the department and request that Bill HB 2171 be accepted.

Mahalo for your time!

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 1:54:19 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Deven English	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 2:06:41 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Cory Nojima	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha no Committee:

I am ***STRONG SUPPORT*** of HB2171 / SB3139. The separation of the Law Enforcement and Corrections to stand alone state agencies is long overdue. The functions of both divisions are completely different and would be more effective separated. As a thirteen (13) year employee of the Sheriff Division I feel it would be more functional to separate us.

The consolidation of the various agencies will create a stronger foundation for the State of Hawai'i Law Enforcement functions, which will ultimately be an asset to all of us.

I humbly ask that you make a pono choice and vote in ***SUPPORT*** of HB2171 / SB3139.

Mahalo piha,

Cory Nojima

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 2:10:29 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Robert Umiamaka	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Robert Umiamaka I am a deputy sheriff and I'm in 100 percent support of Bill HB 2171 and companion bill SB 3139 for the purposes of consolidating the State of Hawaii Law enforcement. The state of Hawaii currently has law enforcement agency's under different departments which in turn makes things complicated and frustrating for the people of Hawaii. Under bill HB 2171 the process of consolidating makes things easier by streamlining one command and training regimen. There will be no conflicting jurisdictions, procedures, regulations and staffing as it would all fall under the same roof (like California). A example of this could be construed as standardized and systematic. This process also could alleviate the pressure put on the county police departments that are currently in a staffing crisis. This bill has the greatest potential towards putting more personal on protecting our people, property and vital natural resources. By being under one department it would be much easier to acquire federal grants and securing national accreditation's.

I thank you so much for your time and patience. I humbly ask for your support in HB 2171
Mahalo Nui Loa
Robert Umiamaka

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 2:19:08 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Donald Yanagi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 2:26:44 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
adam kau	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

In regards to HB2171/SB3139,

I am writing to express my **full support** of this bill. It provides the needed foundation to properly organize the two large components of the already established Public Safety Department into separate, more manageable entities.

This bill would provide a turning point for state law enforcement and corrections to advance themselves and further their responsibilities. With the creation of separate law enforcement and corrections departments, their own respective administration will be able to focus solely on their own goals and responsibility and would greatly improve quality and function.

Thank you.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 2:30:38 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
LOVELEEMAY KALEIKINI	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 2:30:43 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kawehinani Manuwa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization and accreditation under CALEA.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 2:31:08 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
ty	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in strong support. This bill will streamline the law enforcement capabilities of state agencies under one chain of command. In a time where there is a police shortage everywhere this bill would allow for expanding law enforcement responsibilities throughout the state while working along side county police departments on all islands.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 2:31:22 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
charles f lacaden	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB2171 100%!!

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 2:33:53 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
BRANDON MOKIAO	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support HB2171. I believe forming a State Law Enforcement Department and a Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation would allow both departments to significantly improve recruitment, training, operations and command and control of resources and personnel. With the formation of individual departments each would be able to focus autonomously with considerations to their own unique functions and duties. Thus being able to better serve the community as a whole.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 2:37:19 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Delvin Honda Honda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this bill

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 2:38:12 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
S. Rice	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel. Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 2:41:39 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
MAURICE RICE	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 3:08:13 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
MOSES KAULUKUKUI-PALISBO	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 3:27:38 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Greg Mayo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 in creation of the Department of Law Enforcement.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 3:30:19 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Patrick M. Lewis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in full support of HB2171.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 3:32:16 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jeremy G Dowling	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am in strong favor of this bill. This will help our communities in the long run as that island continues to grow along with the population.

Thank you,

Jeremy G. Dowling

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 3:42:22 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jeffrey Cabanting-Rafael	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

As an employee of the Department of Public Safety who has been employed as both an Adult Corrections Officer from 2017-2019 before moving to my current position as a Deputy Sheriff II with the State Sheriff's Kona and Hilo Sections (2019-Present), I have seen firsthand the hurdles set before the department of public safety. I believe the separation of the law enforcement arms of the current department of public safety will allow a more concise goal for each department. Due to the nature of Hawaii's Correction Officers not having a law enforcement commission or arresting powers (i.e., corrections officers are not designated as law enforcement officers by definition), the scope of work for corrections officers are limited to the confines of a correctional facility. In comparison State Sheriffs, attorney general investigators, harbor enforcement officers and Narcotics Enforcements Agents are arms of active investigative police work with arrest powers.

I feel that the current department has done it's best to maintain a steady presence and equal handed form of policies to make the best of the circumstances, but for the future safety of Hawaii I believe a Department of Law Enforcement is vital for the State Government to establish a law enforcement entity that will have a clear mission to uphold laws on unincorporated state lands, incorporated state lands, state facilities and become a true supplement and partner to our county level counterparts.

By "supplementing" county level counter parts, I'd like to elaborate in opine, I believe that having a standalone law enforcement agency at the state level with the agencies referenced in the bill, I believe that the State Sheriffs, Narcotics Enforcement Agents, Attorney General Investigators, Harbor Enforcement Officers, and Homeland Security Investigators will be better equipped and staffed to co-respond to situations that arise from calls to service, public complaints, and to deter crime.

On the island of Hawaii, our county police officers can be at times overstretched, specifically in the district of Puna where the geographic makeup of the district, in land mass, is larger than the Island of Oahu. With rampant crime in the district, it is my hope that our state law enforcement agencies will be better equipped, organized, have the resources to respond and assist at a higher efficiency, and fall under a chain of command that solely focuses on law enforcement needs that is needed within our respective communities. Not a department split between maintaining a bare

minimum status quo on both state law enforcement and the correctional needs of our incarcerated populations.

It will also (in my opinion) allow each newly established department to focus in on "scope of work" written policies on the administrative side preventing convoluted policies that act as a "cover all" policy for multiple arms of a department that do not have the same goal. The separation will also create an effective training focus for both departments in the correctional and rehabilitation realm and law enforcement realm. This in turn will make achieving accreditation for both sides easier, make recruitment and training more effective, and boost training opportunities for new and veteran employees expand on their base of knowledge.

I humbly ask the house and senate to view both HB2171 and SB3139 as an opportunity to look to expand the state's abilities to effectively respond to our incarcerated population, and to increase the abilities of state law enforcement in responding to community needs and effectively deterring crimes.

Mahalo, Deputy Sheriff II Jeffrey Cabanting-Rafael

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 3:45:47 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Maria English	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 4:38:40 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Sean Sanchez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 4:39:30 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Sean Sanchez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 5:53:09 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
peter guerrero	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Peter Guerrero and I am a Deputy Sheriff. I am in total support of HB2171. I strongly believe that the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement which will focus on criminal law enforcement & investigative functions will enable the new department to meet their goals and objectives more efficiently.

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter Guerrero

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 6:39:20 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
James McKay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this bill. It will benefit the citizens of Hawaii.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 6:44:30 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Alan Urasaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of creating a department of law enforcement and department of corrections. These separate entities would create efficiency and cost-savings as well as focusing on inmate rehabilitation and reentry and departmental police functions. I urge you to pass this measure. Mahalo.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 7:16:33 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Susan Field	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the bill.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 7:40:18 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Brandon Kadekawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Mahalo

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 8:16:13 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ululani Makue	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

I fully support HB2171 and believe that consolidating State Law Enforcement services and creating a single LE agency, entitled the Department of Law Enforcement, will significantly improve the recruitment, training, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Moreover, the separate creation of a department for Corrections and Rehabilitation can begin to address the social issues of recidivism and reintegration among our incarcerated population and provide the necessary resources to address them in an efficient manner as an autonomous organization altogether.

Mahalo,

Ululani Māku'e

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 8:39:26 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Charlie Field	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 8:48:06 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Sarah McKay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill!

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 9:24:30 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Robert Field	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill and all Federal, State, and City law enforcement officers.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 9:33:37 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Sean Neilson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 9:41:07 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Raymond schwartz	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am writing in support of this bill. I believe it will help with the progress of Law Enforcement in the State of Hawaii. This will enhance the Citizens of Hawaii and make the State a Safer place to live.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 2/28/2022 10:17:24 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Rocky Ayala	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my written testimony. I have been employed with the Department of Public Safety, Sheriff Division for 29 1/2 years. I am assigned to the CALEA Office along with a few other team members working to achieve accreditation. I am very pleased with the present Administration to have brought the Law Enforcement Division closer to the much needed separation from the Corrections Division, as both should be departments focusing on mission statements.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

Thank you

Lt. Rocky Ayala

Aloha Honorable Chair and Committee Members,

My name is Brandon MARIANO-TORRES, I am a Deputy Sheriff assigned to the Sheriff Airport Section at the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport (HNL). I am writing in **SUPPORT** of this bill. I began my career as an Adult Corrections Officer (ACO) with the Department Of Public Safety (PSD). As an employee who served as both, an ACO and Deputy Sheriff, I have seen firsthand the separate and distinct missions of both divisions. I truly believe that separating both divisions will dramatically improve public safety for the citizens of Hawaii.

By creating a Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR), the new department will be able to focus its efforts on specific objectives for the inmate population, such as the rehabilitation of offenders and addressing recidivism.

The creation of the Department Of Law Enforcement (DLE) will improve State Law Enforcement services across the state.

Benefits to creating the DLE

- **Law Enforcement**
 - Improved enforcement of state Harbors, Ports, Airports, properties, and lands.
 - Enhanced criminal investigations and prosecutions.
 - Assisting county police with staffing shortages by increasing the amount of Law Enforcement Officers (LEO) available to respond to calls for service within state buildings, properties, and lands.
- **Management**
 - Unified command structure to streamline operations, resources, communication, and promote accountability.
- **Coordination**
 - Exchange in intelligence with the consolidation of the Office Of Homeland Security into the DLE.
 - Improved coordination with state and county emergency responders.
- **Training**
 - Establish a unified law enforcement training program to ensure the highest level of training for State LEOs within the DLE.
- **Recruitment and Hiring Standards**
 - Currently, the Sheriff's Division is the only state LE agency to have a comprehensive hiring process. All Deputies are required to pass an entrance exam, physical fitness test, interview, extensive background check, multiple psychological exams, truth verification, psychologist interview, and medical exam. (Similar to county police hiring standards)

I ask for your **SUPPORT** in passing this bill.

Thank you,
Deputy Brandon MARIANO-TORRES
Sheriff - Airport Section (HNL)

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 1:18:47 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Alvin Turla	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

In Support Of HB2171 HD2:

I am writing this in support of developing a new Hawaii Statewide Law Enforcement Agency.

By creating a new department, it can be more transparent and provide an improved resources and protection for our community.

With the legislative blessing and approval, the new agency would be a collaboration of State Sheriffs, State AG's investigators, and other state law enforcement officers.

This would allow its officers to investigate crimes and enforce laws independently from county police departments which would decrease confusion and therefore, expedite the process.

I feel that there should be two separate departments as there are two main functions that need to be concentrated on.

One department would oversee the state's correctional system and the other would consolidate state officers under a new Department of Law Enforcement.

The department was once separate entities but was combined into the current Department of Public Safety in 1990.

Over time, the State considered dividing the department many times in the last two decades.

These sections are different and separate and should be treated as such.

I am in favor of DPS splitting our Sheriffs Division into a separate agency with other state officers. That is, State officers who oversee harbors and airports may also be moved into this new agency.

I know how beneficial this new state law enforcement agency would be if they can focus on the investigation of crimes and it makes sense that the AG's office would make determination case assignments.

This reorganization is necessary to help the state address issues on state lands.

Historically, we have encountered many challenges and barriers obtaining assistance from the City and County on many issues

In greater efforts to address state protection on state lands and state buildings, this new department, that is versed in these types of matters, should be created.

An alliance of sheriffs, certain AG's investigators, possible conservation enforcement officers from the state Department of Land and Natural Resources, and Harbor Police would be supreme.

Each specific director could focus on either corrections or law enforcement, accordingly, and then each area will get their unique needs fulfilled leading to optimal service and protection to all.

I humbly ask this for the good of all Hawaii.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 4:56:45 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
richad grilho	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Law Makers,

I support this bill that will establish a new department of law enforcement to consolidate and administer the criminal law enforcement and investigations functions of the department of transportation, certain investigations functions of the department of the attorney general, functions of the office of homeland security, and current law enforcement and investigations functions of the department of public safety.

As a former Honolulu Police Officer, I know that this act of centralizing criminal law enforcement and investigative functions would allow for uniformity of all goals and missions of the Hawaii State Law Enforcement Officers. The budget aspect for law enforcement would be better accounted for because of fact that now the left hand will know what the right hand is doing.

By enacting this bill, the Hawaii State Law Enforcement officers will gain more respect for themselves and in turn do a better job and gain a lot more respect from the general public.

Sincerely,

Richard Grilho.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 5:38:01 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Derek Ozaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I SUPPORT THIS BILL

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 5:55:47 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Candace Dobrowolsky	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Senators

I submit my testimony in full support of this bill. The merging of State Law Enforcement is a logical and pragmatic step in the right direction. It allows for standardization of policy, training, and recruitment. This bill and the benefits outlined above will provide the people of Hawaii a more professional agency that meets the evolving trends in law enforcement.

The creation of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation is an equally important part of this bill. The current model for Public Safety puts little emphasis on rehabilitating our inmate population. By creating a focused and accountable effort in rehabilitation we can expect a lower recidivism rate, increased safety for the public, and lesser demand for law enforcement intervention.

This bill makes sense on so many levels and I'm proud to support this measure.

Candace Dobrowolsky

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 6:41:02 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Daena Tuquero-Marquez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 7:44:02 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

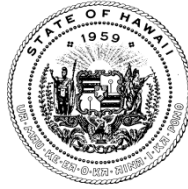
Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kimbro Kim	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and do believe by consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating a law enforcement agency would better serve the community thru inproved recruitment & training, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and prersonnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountabliity,standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

Thank you very much!



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDUARDO P. MANGLALLAN
PATRICK H. MCCAIN
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 2, 2022
1:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Teleconference

H.B. 2171, H.D. 2
RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

House Committee on Finance

The Department of Transportation is in **support** of H.B. 2171, H.D. 2, which would enhance state law enforcement and correction services by separating the Department of Public Safety into two departments. One being a new Department of Law Enforcement with a mission to consolidate and administer criminal law enforcement and investigation functions of the State and reestablish the Public Safety Department as an independent Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation with a single mission to administer the corrections and rehabilitation.

By establishing two separate departments it would allow both to more clearly focus on their respective missions. Hawaii is the only state in the country that does not have a centralized law enforcement agency. By combining Sheriff's Department Deputies, Harbor Police, Division of Conservation Officers and others into one unit we could standardize job requirements and training as well as more quickly and effectively respond to incidents. With such broad and critical responsibilities and public scrutiny increased, it is more important than ever to provide the deputies and officers who serve in them the resources, adequate training, and leadership to address the many challenges they may face.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 8:46:22 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Keola Kekaulike	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Members,

I strongly support a consolidated state law enforcement agency as proposed in this bill. For years, as a deputy sheriff I have served my community in various capacities. From providing dignitary protection for the Lt. Governor and the Governor to providing support to the Department of Transportation's Highway Division with assisting our homeless, to my current assignment as a Sergeant at Daniel K. Inouye International Airport. We have always had to call for support from our fellow state agencies and our county counterparts. With the passing of this bill, the community we serve will get a more streamlined response which they deserve.

Thank you for your time.

Sgt. Keola Kekaulike

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 8:56:56 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Rollin J Canon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this bill.

Aloha

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 8:58:19 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jayson Tsukayama	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this bill

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 9:01:38 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
James Barnes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am testifying in very strong support of this bill! Thank you!!

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 9:18:34 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Charles Among Jr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Madam Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita and Committee members,

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating state law enforcement and creating a Department of Law Enforcement will significantly improve operations, recruitment/ retention, consistency and standardization in training, uniformity with policies and procedures and command and control of state law enforcement resources and personnel. Finally, consolidation will also create potential opportunities for cross-training and advanced career development.

As a former Adult Corrections Officer assigned to Oahu Community Correctional Center (OCCC) since 1994, and now a Deputy Sheriff assigned to Downtown Honolulu since 2002, I know there are many complexities and dynamics to both the Corrections and Sheriff Divisions, not one more important than the other. Both divisions have unique and distinct missions to the people to whom they serve, and both deserve separate departments to maximize their capabilities.

I humbly ask for your support of HB2171. Thank you for letting me testify on this important matter.

Charles Among Jr.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 9:29:25 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Sean Springer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha members of the legislature,

I fully support **SB3139/HB2171** and believe consolidating state law enforcement and creating a Department of Law Enforcement agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, profession and command and control of state law enforcement resources and personnel.

In a time where the law enforcement field have become more complicated and law enforcement officers are evolving to find a new normal, while the public view for the need or evolution of the profession is being questioned like never before, now is the time to make this bill happen. As stated in the **SB3139/HB2171**, centralization of all state law enforcement entities:

into a single state department will centralize state law enforcement functions to increase public safety, improve decision making, promote accountability, streamline communication, decrease costs, reduce duplication of efforts, provide uniform training and standards, and promote uniform standards of law enforcement services.

For those that are against this bill, one has to ask yourself what do they have to lose, on this common sense initiative, that has a lot of support, if this bill passed. They will say things like duplication of services; however, in reality when you look at all other states in the nation, they follow Federalism, which is a system of government in which the power is divided between the federal, state and local government. This is healthy and provides the necessary checks and balances in government that prevent a one system party that has shown, can be ripe for corruption.

Finally, due to the fact that the corrections department and law enforcement department have different objectives, it is difficult to find a director that have experiences in leading and managing both entities simultaneously. By separating the two, you can find the right leadership within each specialty to effectively lead their respective agencies into the 21 Century.

R,

Deputy Sean Springer

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 9:36:52 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Isaac Gazmen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Funding, determines the success of any organization. Law Enforcement is a necessity for "WE THE PEOPLE". The General Term people say out of frustration is, "The System is Broken", but the underlying issue of a broken system isn't the righteous hard-working individual. No, instead it is a failure of a Political System and it's proxies to allocate and appropriate funds. Hawaii State Law Enforcement is an embodiment of it's Political Leaders representing and declaring their morals, values and priorities. It's professionalism, success and failures always reflect back on it's political leadership. If YOU (Politician) want the best for your citizens' Lives, Liberties and Pursuit of Happiness then put OUR money where your mouth is and pass this Bill.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 9:55:02 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Gilbert Landagora	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel. Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation.

Thank You.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 9:56:55 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Glenn Chung	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this bill. It's about time a separate law enforcement div was created for the state. This bill, if passed will only make things easier for the state. I implore you to pass this bill.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 9:59:53 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Todd Kobayakawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Luke and Vice Chair Yamashita

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating a new Law Enforcement department will significantly improve the recruitment, training, and effectiveness of state Law Enforcement.

Thank you

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 10:00:05 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ezra Furtado	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita and Members of the Committee on Finance.

Thank you for hearing HB2171, establishing the Department of Law Enforcement and the reorganization of the Department of Public Safety to the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. I submit my testimony in SUPPORT of this bill and the progressive vision this bill has outlined for the future in the services these Departments will provide to State of Hawaii.

Respectfully.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 10:13:34 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Adrian Kanoa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Honorable Sirs and Madams,

I am submitting this testimony to express my FULL SUPPORT of HB2171.

The creation of the Department of Law Enforcement is important as it will disassemble the jurisdictional walls that currently bin our hands in situations while bringing transparency and accountability with systematic procedures. Additionally, there will be more manpower and coverage in problematic areas and situations subsequently offsetting the heavy burdens put on the county by supplementing responsibilities. Furthermore, HB2171 will provide standardization leading to accreditation under the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Act. (CALEA)

The creation of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation is an equally important part of HB2171. The current model for Public Safety put little emphasis on rehabilitating our inmate population. By creating a focused and accountable effort in rehabilitation, we can expect a lower recidivism rate, increased safety for the public and lesser demand for Law Enforcement intervention.

Mahalo for your time.

Respectfully,

Sergeant Adrian Kanoa

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 10:57:51 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Erich Mitamura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear House committee members,

I am writing in support of HB2171 as it relates to the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement. I believe the creation of this department will benefit the state in terms of coordination between law enforcement elements and organize once separate resources. Especially during times of emergency, this will serve as a vital component in helping the people of Hawaii with a more complete state law enforcement element that did not previously exist. Another example would be helping to supplement county police departments during times of high call volume to the benefit of citizens to lesson response times.

Your support of this bill will ensure sole accountability and responsibilities for state law enforcement fall within a single department.

Respectfully,

Sergeant Erich Mitamura

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 11:13:16 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Joseph Lovell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB2171

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 11:18:57 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Marvie Fernandez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in full support of this bill. Functions and training of law enforcement differ from other sections within department of public safety and should be consolidated.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 11:37:37 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Seta Aiolupotea	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB2171

Thank you

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 11:55:11 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Antonio Chavez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I'm in support of this bill, it is well overdue and is something that should have been done decades ago. There should always be a separation of law enforcement and corrections/rehabilitation departments. This will allow each department to grow without the other one holding it back because they won't benefit from the growth or changes.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 12:07:42 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Derek Poentis	Hawaii State Sheriffs	Support	No

Comments:

I am submitting testimony in favor of house bill 2171. I have been a part of the Department of Public for twenty years and have witnessed the bureaucracy of getting anything accomplished for the Sheriffs division. The creation of a single department to house all state law enforcement agencies is very exciting. It would streamline interdepartmental operations and improve relations within the different agencies. I humbly ask that you support house bill 2171 and get it signed into law.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 12:18:08 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Christian Calma	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill because I agree that Corrections should be separated from law enforcement so that they have a bigger budget to implement rehabilitation programs and to create a modern prison to fix overcrowding. I have seen the inside of our local prisons and its inhumane to have inmates 4 inmates in 6x6 cell with one of the inmates sleeping on the floor by the toilet.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 12:53:29 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
David Thornton	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Good morning Chairwoman, Representative Sylvia Luke, and Members of the Committee on Finance

I am David Thornton, and I strongly oppose this bill!

Currently the Sheriffs Division, under PSD are centralized on Oahu. A great percentage of Deputy Sheriffs are assigned on Oahu, and historically have been. There assignments are; Capitol Security and Patrol, Courts Security, Daniel K Inouye Airport, Fugitive Detail. In my opinion, the Daniel K Inouye Airport is the "only" actual patrol unit, within the Sheriffs Division. Hawaii Island, Maui, and Kauai, deputies are assigned to the Courts with no patrol functions. So how does this consolidation support our law enforcement partners on the Neighboring Islands. It doesn't!

A small group of deputies, along with police officers of every county are already assigned to these Federal Task Force, as mentioned in this bill, and so it's not establishing a new partnership, the partnership is already established, and have been for many years.

The men and women of the Sheriffs Division (to no fault of their own) are not properly trained. Patrol is the backbone of all Law Enforcement Departments nationwide which reduces crime and supports our community. Sadly the majority of our State Deputy Sheriffs are not assigned to perform such functions. HPD on Oahu, responds too and investigates a high percentage of complaints on State property. The writer of this bill is skewed, because HPD, and the other County Police Departments have always been responsible of enforcing laws within our State parks, highways, and other State lands.

The establishment of a Director, and 2 Deputy Directors, and other high ranking staff members is costly. Our people within the State of Hawaii will suffer with higher taxes, to cover the cost of this consolidation, and like the Oahu City rail, "ONLY" Oahu will reap the benefits.

In closing, the Department of Public Safety, is not qualified to plan, nor create this "new" Department of Law Enforcement. This Honorable Committee, should establish a law enforcement committee to conduct research, and planning. The Department of Public Safety, Corrections Division and Law Enforcement Division should not be separated, until such time, this committee have sufficient time to explore and provide the Legislature with a well-established plan, to include the true cost of such a program project. This bill says a lot of what

we want to do, but not how we're going to do it. Most importantly "HOW ARE WE FUNDING THIS PLAN"! Thank you!

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 1:24:56 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Tracy Kobashigawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

With over 30 years of service in the Department of Public Safety, 14 years with the Sheriff Division and 17 years with the Corrections Division (O.C.C.C.), currently, I am one of two Staff Services Support staff assigned to the Sheriff Divison-Airport Section and strongly support HB2171.

Mahalo for your time,

Tracy Kobashigawa

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 2:10:09 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Dexter Kauahi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, I support HB2171. This bill will assist with serving and protecting our community more efficiently.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 2:12:37 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
William Triplett	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Good afternoon,

As a Deputy Sheriff, I strongly support this legislation. It will serve as the catalyst for positive change and create a stronger department to better serve our community.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 2:15:06 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ralph Firme	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this bill.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 2:30:57 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Bryan Marciel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Honorable Chairwoman Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita and members of the Comittee.

I strongly support HB2171. I have been a Deputy Sheriff for nearly 25 years. This bill would give the Sheriff Division the proper autonomy from the PSD, thus streamlining and making more efficient all the processes from hiring to training, to daily operations.

Thank you for your support.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 2:39:37 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Stephen Tao	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I stand strong behind our State Law Enforcement officers who have bravely stood on the COVID line and put their own lives second to themselves and their families. They didn't have the luxury of staying home during this deadly pandemic and being completely safe from contracting this deadly virus that has killed hundreds of thousands of people worldwide. They focused on keeping the community safe knowing the pandemic dangers that await them. Please take care of our Law Enforcement brothers and sisters as they have selflessly taken care of us.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 3:19:23 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Nicholas Chang	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this bill as a memeber of the public. Times are changing for all and law enforcement needs to adapt to the circumstances at hand. It is imparative that this bill be pushed forward to increase the safety of all who live on this island and beyond our shores.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 4:14:37 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jon Casamina	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill and all the positive changes it could possibly bring to the department.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 4:15:58 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Curtis Martin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Honorable Chair, Vice-Chair and members of the Committee,

I am submitting this testimony to express my full support of HB2171, along with companion bill SB3139, in its true context and intent of re-organizing the current Department of Public Safety into two separate and independent bodies in the form of the Department of Law Enforcement and the Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation. Passage of this legislation would enable the two departments to administer, manage and operate more efficiently in addressing their distinctive needs and functions, a concept long over-due.

In creating a Hawaii Department of Law Enforcement, consolidation and centralization of State law enforcement assets and personnel under one umbrella would reduce current jurisdictional and operational confusion amongst State enforcement agencies. I believe it would significantly improve recruitment, training, operations, command & control and most importantly, something that is hardly afforded for most (past & present) personnel, the opportunities of upward career advancement. It will also allow for more effective management, accountability, and standardization that can lead towards law enforcement accreditation under CALEA.

I have been a Deputy Sheriff for twenty years. I began this law enforcement profession at the onset of the 911 tragedies. I took the oath to protect and serve the people of the State of Hawaii and, as a public servant, I take on the responsibility to ensure the safety and security of our citizens and providing them the professional police services they deserve.

As our county police officers continuously dedicate themselves in providing safety and service to our families and communities, as a State law enforcement officer, I owe it to my county brothers and sisters to provide such services on the State level with the same professionalism and dedication as well.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully

R. Sebastian

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 8:16:59 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Patrick K. Kawai	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, I am in full support of HB 2171. Mahalo.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 8:35:31 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Chad Bulacan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this bill. I look forward to the growth of the Sheriff Division.

LATE *Testimony submitted late may not be considered by the Committee for decision making purposes.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/1/2022 8:36:52 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/2/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Mark A Awakuni	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe that the consolidation will only improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command of the State of Hawaii Law Enforcement programs and personnel. Furthermore, I believe that it will help the citizens of Hawaii and create a safer State.

MEASURE TITLE: SB 3139, SD1, RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

HEARING DATE: THURSDAY, MARCH 3, 2022

TIME: 10:30 A.M.

To Chair Dela Cruz, Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Keohokalole and committee members,

I would like to submit testimony in Support of SB 3139, SD1, Relating to Public Safety.

It is said that one cannot serve two masters and I believe we can agree that both divisions of Public Safety, the Law Enforcement Division and the Corrections Division are each very important and of great significance to the State. To be able to maintain excellent service to the State and our communities for which we are responsible to protect, serve, work alongside, and help. But also, to help rehabilitate, re-introduce into society and aid in becoming productive, healthy neighbors and family members. These are two great tasks need to be organized separately to be done well.

Sincerely,

Sue Ellen Bader