



*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

Written Testimony of:

John F. Tobon
Special Agent in Charge
Homeland Security Investigations

March 14, 2022

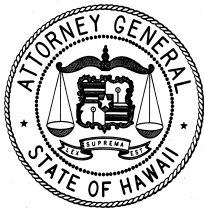
ICE - Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) fully supports enactment of HB 2171.

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



**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:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

DATE: Tuesday, March 15, 2022 **TIME:** 1:00 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 229, Via Videoconference

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

Chair Nishihara 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.

House Draft No. 2 of this bill deleted certain amendments to sections 291-31.5 and 291C-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), that would have authorized the Department of the Attorney General to operate motor vehicles equipped with colored or blue and red colored lights.

While this bill transfers certain functions of the Department of the Attorney General's Investigations Division to DLE on July 1, 2023, the Department of the Attorney General will continue to employ special agents with full law enforcement authority to perform its statutorily mandated investigative functions. These functions will be executed in Department units such as Internet Crimes Against Children, Medicaid Fraud Control, Tobacco Enforcement, Special Investigations and Prosecutions, and Human/Sex Trafficking. It is important that law enforcement officers have the ability to employ vehicle warning lights while performing their emergency response or arrest duties. The lights are necessary for community safety purposes and to visually indicate a law enforcement presence and signify to suspects that law enforcement is attempting to stop or apprehend them. Flashing vehicle warning lights alert onlookers and others in the surrounding area to take heed that there might be danger where vehicles are operating or are parked with the lights flashing. The lights also provide immediate and

recognizable notice to suspects that law enforcement officers are present, even before the officers have an opportunity to otherwise identify themselves. Without such notice, a suspect might claim that the suspect failed to cooperate or resisted arrest because the suspect did not know the individuals were law enforcement officers.

We therefore ask that the Committee restore the amendments to section 291-31.5, HRS, and section 291C-1, HRS, contained in House Draft No. 1 of this bill by:

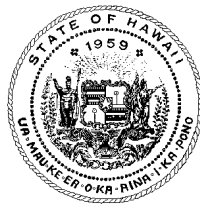
(1) Amending section 40 of House Draft No. 2 on page 95, lines 1-9, to read as follows:

- (3) Department of land and natural resources division of conservation and resources enforcement vehicles with blue and red lamps, reflectors, or illumination devices authorized and approved by the chairperson of the board of land and natural resources; or
- (4) Department of ~~[transportation division of harbors]~~ the attorney general law enforcement vehicles with blue and red lamps, reflectors, or illumination devices authorized and approved by the ~~[director of transportation.]~~ attorney general.

(2) Amending section 41 of House Draft No. 2 on page 95, line 15, through page 96, line 2, to read as follows:

"Authorized emergency vehicle" includes fire department vehicles, police vehicles, ambulances, ocean safety vehicles, ~~[public safety]~~ law enforcement vehicles, conservation and resources enforcement vehicles, and ~~[department of transportation division of harbors]~~ department of the attorney general law enforcement vehicles authorized and approved pursuant to section 291-31.5 that are publicly owned and other publicly and privately owned vehicles designated as such by a county council.

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



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 2
RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.**

By
Max N. Otani, Director

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senator Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 15, 2022; 1:00 p.m.
Via Videoconference

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair DeCoite, 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.

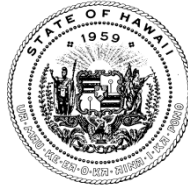
The benefits of establishing the Department of Law Enforcement include, but are not limited to the following:

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 Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs to pass HB 2171, HD 2.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.



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 15, 2022
1:00 P.M.
State Capitol, Teleconference

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

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

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.

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, HD2
RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY**

by
Edmund "Fred" Hyun, Chairman
Hawaii Paroling Authority

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senator Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 15, 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, HD2, 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 moololo (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



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 SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL,
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 2171, H.D. 2

March 15, 2022
1:00 p.m.
Room 229 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.

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 PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

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

March 15, 2022

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair DeCoite, and Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs.

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 state's law enforcement operations and criminal investigations. The Office of Homeland Security leads the state's effort to provide resources, and relevant actionable intelligence 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

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2022 3:08:40 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
WILLIAM F OKU	Testifying for Department of Public Safety, Sheriff Division	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair DeCoite, 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.

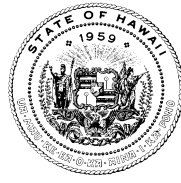
With Much Aloha and Respect-

William "Billy" Oku Jr

Sheriff- State of Hawaii

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII

JOSH GREEN
LT. GOVERNOR
STATE OF HAWAII



WILLIAM J. AILA, JR.
CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

TYLER I. GOMES
DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS**

P. O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

TESTIMONY OF WILLIAM J. AILA, JR, CHAIRMAN
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION
BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY,
INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
HEARING ON MARCH 15, 2022 AT 1:00PM VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

HB 2171, HD2, RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

March 15, 2022

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair DeCoite, and members of the Committee:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) supports this bill establishing a department of law enforcement to consolidate and administer criminal law enforcement and investigations functions of the State effective upon approval and a training center.

DHHL considers the health and safety of beneficiaries to be a top priority. Illegal activity occurring on Hawaiian Home Lands threatens the health and safety of the community. However, responses to these issues by law enforcement are inconsistent across the different counties. We need better coordination between state and county law enforcement, and sufficient enforcement personnel dedicated to Hawaiian Home Lands.

The Hawaiian Homes Commission approved a legislative proposal establishing a compliance and enforcement program within the Department to investigate complaints, conduct investigations, and cooperate with enforcement authorities to ensure compliance with the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920, as amended and rules adopted thereunder. While this bill would not create such a program within DHHL, we believe that a State Department of Law Enforcement would be a first step toward ensuring adequate law enforcement response to illegal activity on Hawaiian Home Lands. DHHL would expect that a Department of Law Enforcement will deploy adequate resources and coordinate with county police departments to protect the health and safety of homestead communities. DHHL would also be willing to explore cooperative agreements with such a department to further protect Hawaiian Home Lands.

We also ask that this measure be amended to expressly recognize the need for improved State and county law enforcement on Hawaiian Home Lands, and that such enforcement and coordination shall be one of the functions of the Department of Law Enforcement.

Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

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: Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental,
and Military Affairs

From: Cheryl Kakazu Park, Director

Date: March 15, 2022, 1:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 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. **Because the provision is inconsistent internally and with existing law, 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.



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
The Senate
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association

March 15, 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



STATE OF HAWAII ORGANIZATION OF POLICE OFFICERS
" A Police Organization for Police Officers Only "
Founded 1971

March 13, 2022

ONLINE/FAX: 808-586-6879; 808-587-7230

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara
Chair
The Honorable Lynn DeCoite
Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
Hawaii State Capitol, Rooms 214, 231
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: **HB2171 HD2-Relating to Public Safety**

Dear Chair Nishihara, Vice-Chair DeCoite, and Honorable Committee members:

I serve as the President of the State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers (“SHOPO”) and write to you on behalf of our Union in **conditional support** of HB2171 HD2, subject to further amendments.

This bill seeks to consolidate various State law enforcement agencies while purportedly maintaining and preserving the existing duties, responsibilities, and jurisdictions between the State agencies and the county police departments. We take no position on the consolidation and reorganization of the various State departments and agencies (Department of the Attorney General, Office of Homeland Security, Department of Public Safety, Department of Health, etc.) as it relates to financial and budget considerations and the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement. The objectives of consolidation for the purpose of achieving financial efficiency and economies of scale at the state level is something we give deference to you and the State authorities. However, what is of serious concern to our police officers and Union members is the negative impact the proposed State reorganization may have on the training, duties, responsibilities, and jurisdiction of our county police officers.

Our initial concern with HB2171 was that it expanded the State’s law enforcement jurisdiction beyond protecting and securing the State’s courthouses and dignitary protection for State government officials, which are distinct and separate duties and responsibilities that are not

Main Office & Honolulu Chapter Office
1717 Hoe Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819-3125
Tel: (808) 847-4676 "84 SHOPO"
www.shopohawaii.org Fax: (808) 841-4818

Hawaii Chapter Office
688 Kinoole Street, Room 220B
Hilo, Hawaii 96720-3877
Tel: (808) 934-8405
Fax: (808) 934-8210

Kauai Chapter Office
3176 Oihana Street, Suite 104, Lihue
Mailing Add: P. O. Box 1708
Lihue, Hawaii 96766-5708
Tel: (808) 246-8911

Maui Chapter Office
1887 Wili Pa Loop, Suite 2
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793-1253
Tel: (808) 242-6129
Fax: (808) 242-9519

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
Re: HB2171 HD2-Relating to Public Safety
March 13, 2022
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performed by our county police officers. HB2171 HD2 gives the Sheriffs the authority to conduct “law enforcement operations and investigations throughout the State,” however, the bill is silent and continues to be silent as to what that means or what that will entail. At the same time, the bill states that it is not intended to “impair or diminish” our county officers’ responsibilities. What all of this means, how it should be interpreted, and how it will be applied is unclear and requires additional clarification. SB3139 SD2 is the companion bill which provided clarifying language that included the following on page 27, lines 12-15 and which we similarly propose for HB2171 HD2 at page 30, lines 4-7 as follows: “This section does not relieve nor will it diminish county police officers of any authority or responsibility to enforce laws or to maintain public safety on state lands and in state buildings or in their respective counties.”

The original bill also proposed a “statewide law enforcement training center” intended to provide “education” and “training” to not only state law enforcement officers but also to our county police officers. The amendments in HB2171 HD1 clarified that the training center was intended for the officers of the newly created Department of Law Enforcement as opposed to being a mandatory training center for our county officers who have their own respective training academies that are accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (“CALEA”).¹ This amendment was truly welcomed and appreciated by our county officers who are highly trained, experienced, and investigate a broad range of crimes as set forth in the Hawaii penal code. Our officers are held to the highest professional standards and are investigated and held accountable for the slightest deviations or infractions. The policies and training of each county police department share much in common, but there are also many special provisions and training aspects tailored to each island’s unique demands and diverse communities. Thus, a state training center and the requirement of a “certification” by the law enforcement standards board for county police officers is in our view unrealistic, will involve duplicative training, unduly financially burdensome, and certainly cannot be a one size fits all because each island and their respective Police Chiefs have their own divergent community compositions, needs, and resources.

In addition, the concept of requiring “certifications” is something we respectfully stand in strong opposition to, including the role of the Law Enforcement Standards Board, which is nothing more than another bureaucratic layer being perpetuated in the wake of the Kealoha scandal and George Floyd incident. Aside from the enormous monetary expenditures associated with such a training center endeavor and the false assumption that our county police academies are substandard or deficient, it is unclear what the need is for a state training center for county police officers when all four (4) county police departments and their respective police academies

¹ CALEA is nationally known as the gold standard benchmark in law enforcement and its accreditation seals are internationally recognized as the “Marks of Professional Excellence” for public safety agencies.

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
Re: HB2171 HD2-Relating to Public Safety
March 13, 2022
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are accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (“CALEA”). CALEA is nationally known as the gold standard benchmark in law enforcement and its accreditation seals are internationally recognized as the “Marks of Professional Excellence” for public safety agencies. Our county officers are highly trained, experienced, and investigate the broad range of crimes set forth in the Hawaii penal code as codified in the Hawaii Revised Statutes. Our officers are held to the highest professional standards and are investigated and held accountable for the slightest deviations or infractions. The policies and training of each county police department have many in common, but they also have special provisions and aspects tailored to each island’s unique demands and diverse communities. Thus, a state training center and the requirement of a “certification” by the law enforcement standards board for county police officers is unnecessary, will involve duplicative training, and certainly cannot be a one size fits all because each island and their respective Police Chiefs have their own distinct community demands, needs, and resources.

You may recall that two Honolulu police officers were recently involved in the shooting of a suspect who charged at them wielding a knife. I am sure you are also aware of our depleted ranks and the staffing crisis we are facing because there is a severe shortage of new recruits willing to join our departments and the fight to protect and serve our communities. The Maui Police Chief recently testified before the Maui County Council that his department was in the midst of a severe staffing shortage with a vacancy level that exceeded 25%. Chief John Pelletier provided the sobering analogy of “taking a sprinter and saying, ‘Hey, go run this race but we’re going to take your leg off.’” In addition, Honolulu Police Chief Rade Vanic recently publicly stated that alternative affirmative steps needed to be taken to address the shortage of officers in our community and cited to the high number of recruit candidates who were unable to pass current training requirements. In other words, our community is in danger when we do not have a sufficient number of police officers patrolling our neighborhoods and protecting our citizens which undoubtedly places the public’s safety in jeopardy. Chief Pelletier’s candid and honest statements should have sounded an alarm in our community that our police departments are at a critical juncture and creating yet another layer of training bureaucracy and certifications will only exacerbate our present recruitment and retention crisis. If we cannot get a sufficient number of qualified candidates through our current training curriculum, what makes anyone reasonably think an additional layer of “certification” will somehow increase those numbers or make things better? I hope you will take our concerns to heart because we take great pride and consider it an honor to protect and serve our island communities and will continue to perform our duties to the best of our abilities. However, please understand that based on our front line first-hand experience, additional mandatory training or certifications will do nothing to alleviate and will only worsen an already dire recruitment situation.

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
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We thank you for allowing us to be heard and to share our concerns on this very important issue and express how this bill could unintentionally and negatively affect and impact our county police officers.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT "BOBBY" CAVACO
SHOPO President



**THE SENATE
THE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2022**

Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair

Senator Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 15, 2022, 1:00PM
Conference Room 229 and via Videoconference

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

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair DeCoite, 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

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 PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS
BY

FRANK J. PACE
ADMINISTRATOR
HAWAII OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY

March 15, 2022

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair DeCoite, and Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs.

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 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

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 CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY,
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
Thirty-first State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawai`i

March 15, 2022

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

Chair Nishihara, Vice-Chair DeCoite and members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs, 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 6, lines 5-6).

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.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2022 3:33:21 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
charles f lacaden	Testifying for Dept Public Safety/Sheriff	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB2171 100%!!

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2022 6:47:12 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Christopher Lee	Testifying for State Of Hawaii Sheriff Division	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and its companion bill SB3139. 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 under CALEA.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2022 8:32:47 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jonathan Balberdi	Testifying for State Of Hawaii Sheriff Division	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

For the betterment of the public and the State Department of Law Enforcement, I support HB2171.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2022 8:50:07 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Geoffrey Peterson	Testifying for Public Safety	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This bill makes sense and shall be economically sound. Our tax payers deserve this effort. Please pass it.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2022 10:37:47 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lester Gantan	Testifying for Sheriffs Airport Section	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 HD2 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: 3/14/2022 9:52:03 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nalani Myers	Testifying for Department of Public Safety	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 10:51:03 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Myron Widrig	Testifying for State of Hawaii Sheriff Department	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in full suport of HB2171 and SB3139. I believe these bills will greatly enhance the operations of the state law enforcement agencies involved.

I apologize for stating what has already been said, but I can not stress enough, how overdue this is. Being a member of the Unit 14 Negotiating Team I have experienced the difficulties for the Sheriff Division to move forward.

I humbly ask that you support HB2171 and SB3139.

Respectfully,

Myron Widrig-Kauai Sheriff Section Deputy Sheriff II

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2022 6:33:13 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Delsonlee Evangelista	Testifying for Deputy Sheriff / Kona	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/11/2022 3:16:30 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tory Guillermo	Testifying for Sheriff Division - Kona	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/12/2022 5:13:58 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Marcus Shaver	Testifying for Sheriff	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/13/2022 8:21:38 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Darryl Ng	Testifying for Sheriff	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am a employee for the department for almost 35 years. My first 15 with Corrections and my last 20 with the Sheriff Division. I strongly support this bill and ask you to also support this bill. This bill makes sense for both Divisions and will ultimately create the process for both entities to better serve the people of our state.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2022 2:59:38 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Warren Haney	Testifying for Sheriff	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/11/2022 3:01:51 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James Barnes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am submitting this testimony in very strong support of this measure. Thank you.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2022 3:28:14 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tanny Cazimero	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this bill and I pray that this legislature will see the benefits this proposal provides taxpayers by defining law enforcement from rehabilitative services.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2022 7:51:37 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
James McKay	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this bill. This bill will create positive benefits for the entire Law Enforcement community across the sate and the residents of the State Hawaii.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2022 3:08:36 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lt Michael Oakland	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

TESTIMONY FOR: HB 2171HD2

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair De Coite and members of the committee:

I am Lt. Michael Oakland of the State Sheriffs', and I am writing in complete SUPPORT of HB2171HD2 as it is the culmination of about 20 years of work and 176 years since the creation by King Kamehameha III via the Marshall of Hawaii in 1846.

This bill has come about in part due to the many reports and studies done on the feasibility of splitting the Dept of Public Safety. Stepping back in time we know that the blue-ribbon panel that was formed to separate the Sheriffs' out of the Judiciary was done to separate powers in 1986. Judiciary should not have law enforcement due to conflict of interest which is not best practice and is not done anywhere in the country.

Then stepping into a more current time there was the Response to Act 83, which was a feasibility study on the separation of corrections and law enforcement in 2005. Also, the audit of the Sheriff Division by the state Auditor in 2010 (we requested this audit). In addition to these, there was a separation working group that was formed in 2011.

What all these reports found is that no one director of Public Safety can give enough attention and resources to any one division without adversely affecting the other which has been the case since the creation of the Dept. of Public Safety.

To touch on the subject of "duplication of services". This is the furthest from the truth in that additional law enforcement is never a duplication but an enhancement of law enforcement to better serve our neighborhoods, communities and the state as well as provide for a check and balance in our law enforcement as is the case in every state in the nation.

All state law enforcement agencies (not counties) have much of the same issues as we have in the Sheriffs' in that none of these agencies are funded, manned, equipped and trained properly to even allow for us to perform our mandated and requested duties. Also, many of these agencies

are run by civilians that are not familiar with law enforcement and cannot be expected to request for those needs as they do not know and possibly not understand the needs.

So, to have all these state agencies in one department, consolidating all those resources will help with ensuring we meet the requirements that law makers set for us and then be able to meet the constant new requests by the public, the county police and state law makers.

We also will be able to provide better assistance to the county police departments with the many large-scale events we have had and will likely have again such as, the Asian Development Bank Conf (ADB), APEC, the NFL's Pro Bowl, the triathlon and most recently, the Honolulu Marathon.

In all these events as well as others, we have brought our Special Operations Sections resources to include our explosives K-9, law enforcement escort for foreign and domestic dignitaries and diplomats and line deputies providing traffic control out in the public to ensure for safe and secure movement around our cities and state.

With all I have mentioned, I again request and anticipate your continued support in passing this bill and please know that I am available at any time if anyone has any questions or would like me to elaborate on the examples I have given or provide additional examples of our service to the state and her people.

Please call me at, 808-722-3913 (pers cell), or my email at, oakraiderm@gmail.com, and I can help as much as possible.

Mahalo Nui Loa and Aloha,

Lt. Michael Oakland, Community Relations

Peer Support, Chaplain Corps and Sheriff Reserves

Hawaii State Sheriffs'

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2022 7:45:57 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Leedo Anderson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/11/2022 8:06:21 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
BLAZE UMIAMAKA	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2022 8:06:23 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cameron AhQuin-Baldwin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this house bill.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2022 3:58:52 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steven Miyamoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2022 10:30:55 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Greg Mayo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this Bill. State of Hawaii needs this so all facets of State Law Enforcement can come together and unify.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2022 8:02:51 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Maria English	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/11/2022 8:05:59 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Deven English	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/11/2022 9:06:33 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Charlie Field	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2022 5:05:48 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Samuel Yarbrough	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support bill 2171 and I think it will be beneficial to the State of Hawaii.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2022 3:01:57 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Koa Dobrowolsky	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair DeCoite, 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 HD2.

I fully support HB2171 HD2 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 HD2 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: 3/11/2022 3:13:41 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Cory Nojima	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/12/2022 3:48:54 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Troy Page	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/11/2022 6:43:55 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Patrick Nakashima	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I submit this written testimony with my strongest support for the passage of HB2171.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2022 10:32:29 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Field	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2022 8:12:09 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alan Urasaki	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge your committee to pass this measure. Thank you.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2022 3:33:00 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Geoffrey Hicks	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/11/2022 3:23:55 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Erica	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support HB2171.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2022 5:09:42 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
james Lupo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I wholeheartily Support this bill

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2022 3:11:12 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dexter Kauahi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support HB 2171 consolidating law enforcement agencies will help us better serve and protect our community.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2022 5:44:01 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
william keahi	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill. I believe that the State of Hawaii needs to have a state level Law Enforcement agency. This will allow the City and County Police Department to handle City issues and be supported by the State. Thank you.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2022 10:30:10 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Adam Kau	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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 in areas such as recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel. Consolidating these state LE agencies into one department will raise the standard and effectiveness of services provided by this newly created department. It would also set a common standard of training and practice. in areas such as recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel. Consolidating these state LE agencies into one department will raise the standard and effectiveness of services provided by this newly created department. It would also set a common standard of training and practice.

Thank you.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2022 10:05:41 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jon Casamina	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill and all the positive change it can bring to the state law enforcement agencies.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2022 8:08:53 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Robert Umiamaka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/11/2022 10:54:08 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Nicholas Chang	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill 100% as it will help the community move in the right direction of the 21st century. Help the community be stronger and through unified enforcement.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2022 8:42:29 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
AB	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support SB3139/HB2171. This bill is more efficient and beneficial for both departments. More resources need to be focused on Corrections and Rehabilitation so past offenders can become productive members of society again.

Aloha State Legislatures,

I am submitting this testimony in favor of SB2171.

I have been a Deputy Sheriff for over 25 years. Of these 25 years, I have seen the Sheriff's Division stagnant and unable to grow due to the many challenges of the Corrections Division. The challenges of the Corrections Division have nothing to do with the personnel or the administration. It has to do with the lack of "bed space." Decisions have been made to use privatized incarceration as an alternative to properly provide the bed space for this states' convicted felons. State funds are then diverted to other state economies, and not our own. The result is the small State Sheriff's Division that fails to receive the proper funding and support. This measure will then properly fund and support State Law Enforcement as a separate entity.

The State Sheriff's Division is essentially the State Law Enforcement Agency. Our County Police Departments are fine organizations. They provide Law Enforcement Services to their respective county's. Yet, it is the States responsibilities to provide Law Enforcement services to our citizens from the prospective of the State rather than the County's. A common response is the "Duplication of Services." This is a blatant absurdity. In this current environment, the reduction of law enforcement, has not done well, in fact has been disastrous. Until all crime is eliminated, the "Duplication of Services" has no valid argument.

I humbly ask this committee to support this measure.

Respectfully Submitted.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2022 11:35:09 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Charles Walton	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a newer resident to this Great State and a career Law Enforcement Professional, I would like to submit my testimony in support of HB2171. I am very proud to be associated with Law Enforcement in Hawaii during this time of police reform and reorganization. Having survived a Federal Consent Decree while employed by the Los Angeles Police Department, I have first hand knowledge of how hard change can be. However, my colleagues and I greatly benefitted by the positive changes that occurred through the reforms implemented to LAPD due to the consent decree. Although Law Enforcement employees tend to put on a hard exterior, we actually want to be proud of our organizations and want to be liked by the public we serve. This Bill will allow both the Department of Law Enforcement and Department of Corrections to concentrate on their own goals and needs without conflicting with one another. While the public we serve is currently calling for reform in law enforcement practices nation-wide, this is the perfect time for the State of Hawaii to implement a plan that will unify all law enforcement agencies in the State under common policies and procedures and make us more ACCOUNTABLE to the public and government entities we serve.

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

Good Afternoon Chair Nishihara and committee members of PSM. 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. This exhibit that there is no foundation for this bill and it will not work.
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.

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

- 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.
 - b. Their proposal in Senate Bill 2930 SD2 for a “Special Investigations and Prosecution Unit,” which inferred that the Attorney General will replace the Special Agents in the Investigations Division’s White Collar Crime Unit, will not succeed with 2 investigator positions and 3 forensic analyst positions. The success in an investigative unit is the staffing of that unit with superior investigators and not forensic analysts. The current White Collar Crime Unit, in the Investigations Division, have four assigned superior Special Agents. They are supplemented by the Chief Special Investigator. The White Collar Crime Unit works collaboratively with its other 42 investigators within the Investigations Division when they execute search warrants, computer forensics, process financial evidence and do financial analysis of documents and bank records. Furthermore, the Chief Special Investigator is instrumental in training and supervising these White Collar investigators on complex financial crimes. When he is sent to this new proposed Law Enforcement Department, he will no longer have control over the “Special Investigations and Prosecution Unit,” that unit will fail.

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

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.

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

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

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

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: 3/12/2022 9:16:51 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Davin Mikami	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/13/2022 11:25:26 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Avery Gomes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha and thank you for allowing my testimony.

I am in favor of Bill 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.

Mahalo!

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2022 3:04:19 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
john field	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

i strongly support this bill. It will be good for our law enforcement and will make our community safer.

Mahalo,

John Field

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2022 11:36:03 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
JG	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill to allow the reorganization of certain state law enforcement functions into a single entity in order to provide Hawaii's citizens the highest level of law enforcement service. I support the consolidation of law enforcement responsibilities into a single state department to improve decision making and decrease costs, and promote uniform standards of law enforcement services.

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: 3/13/2022 8:55:30 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keanula Makue	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

First, I would like to thank the Senate’s Public Safety Committee, its chair Clarence Nishiyama and Vice-Chair Lynn DeCoite and the rest of its distinguished body that make up this committee for taking the time to consider HB HD2. The passing and the movement forward of this bill and the implementation for such a law will help ensure and consolidate State Law Enforcement services into a single yet needed 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 such issues in an efficient and productive manner.

Therefore, it is with much enthusiasm that I fully pledge my support for HB2171 HD2.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2022 5:30:26 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rocky Ayala	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony for HB2171 HD2 which I fully support.

I have been employed with the Department of Public Safety, Sheriff Division for the past twenty-nine and a half years. I am assigned to the CALEA Accreditation Office. The Administration, CALEA team members, and I are working on achieving accreditation for the Law Enforcement Division.

I am grateful the current administration has provided our department with the opportunity to create a Law Enforcement Department, separating law enforcement from corrections; so, each entity may focus on the mission statement as designed.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of State Law Enforcement. This newly created department would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

Please support the creation of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, so, they may also focus on the mission statement as intended.

Thank you

Lieutenant Rocky Ayala

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2022 1:03:11 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ululani Makue	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

First, I would like to thank the Senate's Public Safety Committee, its chair Clarence Nishiyama and Vice-Chair Lynn DeCoite and the rest of its distinguished body that make up this committee for taking the time to consider HB HD2. The passing and the movement forward of this bill and the implementation for such a law will help ensure and consolidate State Law Enforcement services into a single yet needed 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 such issues in an efficient and productive manner. Therefore, it is with much enthusiasm that I fully pledge my support for HB2171 HD2.

Mahalo,

Ululani Māku'e

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2022 12:36:52 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Reef Makue	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

First, I would like to thank the Senate’s Public Safety Committee, its chair Clarence Nishiyama and Vice-Chair Lynn DeCoite and the rest of its distinguished body that make up this committee for taking the time to consider HB HD2. The passing and the movement forward of this bill and the implementation for such a law will help ensure and consolidate State Law Enforcement services into a single yet needed 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 such issues in an efficient and productive manner.

Therefore, it is with much enthusiasm that **I fully pledge my support for HB2171 HD2.**

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2022 1:11:08 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Brandon Agena	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello, my name is Brandon Agena and I am writing to show my support for this bill.

I am a deputy sheriff with the State of Hawaii Sheriff department and I feel that the passage of this bill would move the state law enforcement agency as a whole forward into the future. The current separation of various law enforcement agencies adds confusion to the general public and in reality other states.

The idea that there should be one department that trains the various law enforcement is a great idea. It will show that there are standardized training and criteria for all. It would also equip the new recruits with a sense of pride knowing that they have the most current up-to-date training and resources available to the state.

By separating law enforcement from the corrections side of public safety, it will allow for a more focused look at making the best use of resources that are available. As it stands now the corrections side of the department gets the lion's share of the public safety budget and the sheriff's department is treated like the black sheep of the family.

I am submitting this testimony on my own behalf and again support the passage of this bill.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2022 3:49:09 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Sounds like a Big mess and you are responsible for this to begin with insted of passing it on FIX THE PROBLEM you are all a Butch of Lazy Asses!!!

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 8:00:01 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jeffrey Cabanting-Rafael	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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 all islands.

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, and at times only staff six to eight officers for the district. With rampant crime in this district and rising crimes on the island overall, it is my hope that our state law enforcement agencies on neighbor islands 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 necessities 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

I am submitting this written testimony in **opposition** to HB2171, HD2; Relating to Public Safety. While appearing to be a logical transition, I view this as a “nice to have” proposal which duplicates law enforcement and prosecutorial activities already being handled at the county level. The monies for this endeavor would be better served shoring up the deficiencies in state government that adversely affect public trust. Let us fix what is broken before taking on more.

The public is not interested in nor believes in the need for another law enforcement agency. What does matter is political corruption, non-accountability and frivolous State spending, campaign spending violations, donor kick-backs, and illegal gift acceptance by our elected officials which have been allegedly ongoing for decades. The broken prison system which is getting worse. The mere perception of these allegations has eroded public trust and created apathy in our legislative process evidenced by years of diminishing voter turn-out. The recent successful prosecutions of our political leaders and public sector employees have reinforced public disdain for and distrust in our government.

The ongoing public bickering between our elected officials with the government agencies responsible for government oversight has done nothing to instill any degree of public trust, rather it raised more questions and doubt.

First and foremost, successful implementation of the State Law Enforcement Standards Board must be completed before establishing a State Department of Law Enforcement. By statute, the Board will be responsible for setting minimum standards the Department of Law Enforcement and other law enforcement agencies will need to adhere to in the hiring and training of personnel, and facility and equipment needs. Forming a Division of Law Enforcement before implementing the State Law Enforcement Standards Board will be putting the cart before the horse.

The State AG’s testimony in a previous hearing on a related bill voiced a need to establish a White Collar Crime Unit to investigate white collar crimes. The Investigations Division of the Department of the Attorney General already has a White Collar Unit currently under the command of one of the most recognized and respected white collar crime investigators in the State of Hawaii. While at HPD and under his command the HPD’s White Collar Unit and the City and County of Honolulu’s Office of the Prosecuting Attorney had numerous successful,

notable prosecutions of white collar criminals. One is left wondering why the lack of prosecutions in the State level investigations?

Fiscal responsibility and accountability dictate monies earmarked for the proposed Department of Law Enforcement will be better invested to expand what is already in place. Fund the County Prosecutor's Offices to expand their respective units as needed and/or attach State Deputy Attorneys to the counties' offices as a part of specialized task force targeting the prosecution of white collar criminals. Credit for the successful prosecution should be secondary to putting the guilty behind bars.

A State Office of Professional Standards (Internal Affairs) will much better serve the community at this juncture than establishing yet another ill-conceived law enforcement agency. This unit shall be autonomous of any appointed or elected official or body. They will be responsible for the oversight and investigations of allegations of corruption, awarding of state contracts, states' departments spending, state vendor spending, and campaign spending and donations. This unit could comprise of the current Ethics Commission and Campaign Spending Commissions (Administrative Unit) responsible for procedural violations and a Criminal Investigations Unit responsible for criminal violations arising from procedural investigations and any allegations of criminal misuse of State monies, contracts, and/or other white collar crimes. The unit will be comprised of auditors, prosecutors, and fully-sworn law enforcement officers. They could also pursue convicted defendants who have been remiss in repaying court ordered restitution and fines.

This is much more fiscally responsible spending of the monies currently earmarked for the proposed Division of Law Enforcement. "Cleaning one's own house before others' houses" will prove to us, your constituents that you are serious about cleaning house and restoring public confidence in local government. Table this "nice to have" proposal which raises questionable motives of current appointed personnel securing jobs for themselves when their appointments expire.

Perhaps replace HB2171, D2 with a legislative act that formalizes a much-needed unit to address public corruption and fiscal accountability to renew trust and belief in our government representatives and address accountability deficiencies

(empty State Hospital building and escapes, OHA, Aloha Stadium development et al) instead.

Frank T. Fujii

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2022 11:44:33 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kenneth Wall	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha.

I am submitting this testimoney for support of HB2171. I know this bill will only bring positive change to the state of Hawaii by improving training for both correctional officers and Law enforcement officers.

Mahalo for giving me a chance to submitt this testimoney. God Bless.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2022 8:48:53 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sean Neilson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/14/2022 7:46:24 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
LOVELEEMAY KALEIKINI	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/14/2022 8:03:07 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chon Peters	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support house bill HB2171

mahko for your kokua

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 5:48:48 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michele Muramoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/14/2022 8:15:53 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryan Machado	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/14/2022 8:24:26 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kamu Makue	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

First, I would like to thank the Senate’s Public Safety Committee, its chair Clarence Nishiyama and Vice-Chair Lynn DeCoite and the rest of its distinguished body that make up this committee for taking the time to consider HB HD2. The passing and the movement forward of this bill and the implementation for such a law will help ensure and consolidate State Law Enforcement services into a single yet needed 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 such issues in an efficient and productive manner.

Therefore, it is with much enthusiasm that I fully pledge my support for HB2171 HD2.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2022 9:57:51 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Paul	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am writing this testimony in support of HB2171.

Thank you for your time and aloha!

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2022 10:37:55 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sarah McKay	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 9:59:36 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ryan Kamealoha	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Committee,

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement. Having so many departments in control of the State law enforcement causes inefficiency, red tape, poor standardization of training, a lack of effective communication and confusion between Departments and Agencies. I feel that the Citizens of Hawai'i deserve better than what is currently in place.

The creation of the new department will allow for accountability across the entire department under one command structure, standardized training, clear communication through one chain of command, focusing of resources to achieve the goal of protecting and serving the lives and property of the people of Hawai'i, and upholding the Laws of the State of Hawai'i.

Please support **HB2171**, it is time to make a change for the better.

Respectfully,

Ryan Kamealoha

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 5:44:49 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
gavin	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this bill. Thank you for your time.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 8:05:45 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
John Mallari	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this bill. Thank you.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 9:45:03 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
D SASIL	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha. Thank you for allowing me to submit my opinion in support of this very important bill and thank you for taking the time and effort to allow everyone else to submit their opinions as well. I would like to say that I am in support of this bill becoming law because a state department of law enforcement will streamline many of the common approaches of the profession. This will ensure the officers are educated, trained, and perform their duties accordingly. The public expects each department operate efficiently, uniformly, and be financially prudent. A state department of law enforcement will insure this will happen. The consolidating of state law enforcement duties under one department will enable leaders to focus and concentrate their efforts on specific operating directives, community-based issues and financial budget for the law enforcement field. I hope that you vote to pass this bill into law. Thank you again.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 9:36:57 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gilbert Landagora	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support HB 2171 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.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 9:48:03 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ralph Aguon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/14/2022 8:39:06 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
MAURICE RICE	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/14/2022 10:20:48 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Raymond schwartz	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I wish to convey that I am in full support of this bill and believe that this will enhance not only Law enforcement. This will help safeguard the public in the State of Hawaii.

thankyou

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 8:23:01 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Calvin Chaves	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/14/2022 10:21:57 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Patrick K. Kawai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support HB2171. Mahalo!

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2022 10:22:06 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Melvin Pua	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please reestablish the department of public safety as an independent entity.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 10:02:14 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Adrian Kanoa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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 bind 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 equally important as the current model for Public Safety puts little emphasis on rehabilitating our inmate population. Creating a focused and accountable effort in rehabilitation, we can expect a lower recidivism rate, increased safety for the public and decreased demand for Law Enforcement intervention.

Mahalo for your time.

Respectfully,

Sergeant Adrian Kanoa

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 10:24:36 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tracy Kobashigawa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB2171.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 10:36:10 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael V DeCenzo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am submitting testimony in support of this bill and respectfully ask this committee to please support this bill also. Creating two separate departments will give both departments the ability to effectively manage their own distinct and separate responsibilities.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 8:26:35 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kimbro Kim	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/14/2022 10:18:09 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Aaron Fuke	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in strong support HB2171 and believe that by consolidating state law enforcement and creating an Law Enforcement agency will improve our resources, training, operations, command , recruitment and control of State Law Enforcement personnel and resource.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 9:49:04 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sean Sanchez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this bill.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 10:32:19 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
wade kamaka	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/14/2022 8:24:30 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
MOSES KAULUKUKUI-PALISBO	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/14/2022 9:53:48 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kurt Enos	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB 2171. Combining all state law enforcement agencies under one department will focus on servicing the public with more efficient objectives, goals, and productivity. It makes sense.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2022 3:54:53 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Connie Shaw-Fujii	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly **oppose** this bill because as a taxpaying citizen, I don't see how creating a separate agency with additional administrators will improve decision making, promote accountability, increase public safety, streamline communication or DECREASE costs. If anything, this bill will increase costs to the taxpayers. It appears that this bill seeks to add administrator positions due to the creation of a new law enforcement agency, which would also cause vacancies in the Corrections department which would also need to be filled.

If seeking to improve public safety, then fill first-line patrol officer positions to increase uniformed presence to deter crime, and keep those who are apprehended in jail rather than releasing them due to over-crowding or other administrative reasons.

As costs continue to rise, how is creating a new law enforcement department going to be cost-saving to the public? Law enforcement across the country is having trouble recruiting qualified personnel, so I feel the focus and money (if there is any) should be geared toward recruiting, training, and maintaining qualified law enforcement personnel first, as well as requiring existing State law enforcement agencies to become more efficient and accountable.

The bill also includes establishing a training center. What are the costs and logistic hurdles going to be for this? Has any research been done regarding this? It does not appear that the budget proposed in this bill even addresses this.

The recently mandated Law Enforcement Standards Board is not even ready to begin the certification process. Shouldn't we have that process up and successfully running first? That way, the training provided to this new State Law Enforcement Agency (if created) will comply with the standards set by the board.

I believe that before we spend money on a new agency, we should think about potential additional training that the existing law enforcement officers would need in order to become certified, should they be lacking in any way.

The concept of a state-wide law enforcement agency sounds promising, but only if done correctly and in the right order. Please put more time and research into this before you make a decision regarding this bill. All of the stakeholders should also have a say in how this is to be implemented as it will ultimately affect them and their organizations as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my opinion on this bill.

Connie Shaw-Fujii

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2022 7:21:30 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Candace Dobrowolsky	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/14/2022 10:51:50 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Antonio Chavez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill, it is well over due. I can only see growth and prosperity to all departments involved.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 10:21:58 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kevin VAIVAI	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/14/2022 10:50:07 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Edward Trevino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 10:58:22 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
NOELANI VORHIES	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I'm in support of this bill.

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 11:17:10 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Dina Paraon	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support HB2171/SB3139 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, 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 the newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization and accreditation under CALEA

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 11:40:07 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Calinda Goo	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As one of two non-uniformed employees in administration at Airport Sheriff, I support HB2171

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 12:00:26 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kanamu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha All,
I **SUPPORT** HB2171 HD2 and ask that you as well.

Mahalo

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 11:58:29 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Scott Chong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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.

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2171, HD2
RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

COMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS, MILITARY, & VETERANS
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senator Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 15, 2022, 1:00 p.m.
Conference Room 229 & Videoconference

Senator Nishihara, Senator DeCoite 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: 3/14/2022 12:01:59 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Juyoung Chong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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: 3/14/2022 12:33:11 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
BRANDON MOKIAO	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Aloha & Mahalo,

Brandon Mokiao

LATE

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 1:38:21 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Junior Tuyo Scanlan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, i'm in support of this bill. i believe this is a long time in the making. This bill lauches us forward as a state law enforcement department putting resources from each branch together under one umbrella. It allows for cases to be handled with more effeciency. it creates better quality of service for the community and state. there wouldn't be any cofusion within the public eye when you have an identifiable state law enforcement entity just as you would in mainland jurisdictions.

LATE

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 2:12:07 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mark A Awakuni	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

LATE

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/15/2022 7:03:45 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carl Cortez	Testifying for Hilo Sheriff Section	Support	Written Testimony Only

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.

LATE

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 3:09:20 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Kayla Nakamoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support HB2171.

Thank you.

LATE

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 3:06:18 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bryson Nakamoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support HB2171.

Thank you.

LATE

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 3:07:49 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Bryson Nakamoto	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support HB2171.

Thank you.

LATE

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)

Deputies have been requesting to be separated from corrections for years, mainly due to their distinct missions. I ask for your **SUPPORT** in passing this bill.

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

LATE

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 3:21:11 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Carl Rice	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

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.

LATE

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 4:06:21 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Sara McKay-Hines	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill

LATE

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 3:22:55 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gabriel Hines	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I believe that now, more than ever, our country needs a steadfast and well functioning bulwark which serves to keep the peace and protect the people. In accordance with this, I support the bill in question, HB2171, which will bolster the funds and training of the department of corrections, and further better the handling of criminal law enforcement.

LATE

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 3:42:05 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Daena Tuquero-Marquez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

LATE

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 4:39:03 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
ty	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I fully support this bill and all intentions.

LATE

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 6:50:13 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Madison Makue	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

First, I would like to thank the Senate's Public Safety Committee, its chair Clarence Nishiyama and Vice-Chair Lynn DeCoite and the rest of its distinguished body that make up this committee for taking the time to consider HB HD2. The passing and the movement forward of this bill and the implementation for such a law will help ensure and consolidate State Law Enforcement services into a single yet needed 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 such issues in an efficient and productive manner.

Therefore, it is with much enthusiasm that I fully pledge my support for HB2171 HD2.

LATE

HB-2171-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2022 9:52:40 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/15/2022 1:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alvin Turla	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In Support Of HB2171 and SB-3139 :

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/departments.

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, airports, and gaming/wildlife conservation officers, all of who may also be moved into this new agency.

I know how beneficial this new state police 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.