

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

Testimony for SUPPORT on HB2338			
RELATING TO THE STATE DRUG AND ALCOHOL TOXICOLOGY TESTING LABORATORY			
REPRESENTATIVE RYAN I. YAMANE, CHAIR			
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES, & HOMELESSNESS			
REPRESENTATIVE HENRY J.C. AQUINO, CHAIR			
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION			
Hearing Date:	2/17/2022	Room Number:	Video Conference

1 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure will appropriate \$400,000 from the state highway fund to the
2 laboratory special fund for fiscal year 2022-2023, and authorizes the department of health to
3 expend funds from the state drug and alcohol toxicology testing laboratory special fund for the
4 establishment of the state drug and alcohol toxicology testing laboratory.

5 **Department Testimony:** The Department supports this measure. The funds will be expended
6 for laboratory instrumentation, facility renovation, and security upgrades.

7 **Offered Amendments:** None.

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

1

2

3

4

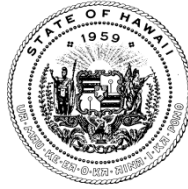
5

6

7

8

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



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

February 17, 2022
10:30 A.M.
State Capitol, Teleconference

H.B. 2338
RELATING TO THE STATE DRUG AND ALCOHOL TOXICOLOGY TESTING
LABORATORY

House Committee(s) on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness and Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.B. 2338. This measure makes an appropriation from the state highway fund to the Department of Health's (DOH) state drug and alcohol toxicology testing laboratory special fund for fiscal year 2022-2023 and authorizes the DOH to expend funds from the special fund for the establishment of the state drug and alcohol toxicology testing laboratory.

Act 196, which passed into law last legislative session, established the special fund. This bill is needed to appropriate moneys from the state highway fund into the state drug and alcohol testing laboratory special fund and provide spending authority to the DOH to establish the state drug and alcohol, and toxicology testing laboratory.

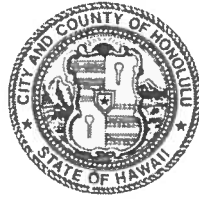
The DOT is primarily concerned about improving highway safety and protecting the lives of our community members and visitors. Having a drug and alcohol toxicology testing laboratory within our state will provide law enforcement and adjudicators with the resources they need to protect our public from impaired drivers.

The DOT urges your support with H.B. 2338.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE: (808) 529-3111 · INTERNET: www.honolulupd.org



RICK BLANGIARDI
MAYOR

RADE K. VANIC
INTERIM CHIEF

OUR REFERENCE HO-LS

February 17, 2022

The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
and Members
Committee on Health, Human Services,
and Homelessness
The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
and Members
Committee on Transportation
House of Representatives
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 329
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Yamane and Aquino and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 2338, Relating to the State Drug and Alcohol
Toxicology Testing Laboratory

I am Acting Forensic Laboratory Director Hugh Okubo of the Scientific Investigation Section of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports House Bill No. 2338, Relating to the State Drug and Alcohol Toxicology Testing Laboratory.

The HPD supports the funding and creation of a State Drug and Alcohol Toxicology Testing Laboratory. Currently drug and alcohol toxicology testing is outsourced to the mainland as there is no local forensic toxicology laboratory. Establishment of a state forensic toxicology laboratory will, over time, save time and money for the required testing of evidence in criminal cases.

The Honorable Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
and Members
The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
and Members
February 17, 2022
Page 2

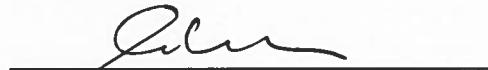
The HPD urges you to support House Bill No. 2338, Relating to the State Drug and Alcohol Toxicology Testing Laboratory, and thanks you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Hugh Okubo, Acting Laboratory Director
Scientific Investigation Section

APPROVED:



Rade K. Vanic
Interim Chief of Police



Mothers Against Drunk Driving HAWAII
745 Fort Street, Suite 303
Honolulu, HI 96813
Phone (808) 532-6232
Fax (808) 532-6004
hi.state@madd.org

February 15, 2022

To: Representative Ryan I. Yamane, Chair
Representative Adrian K. Tam, Vice Chair
Committee on Health, Human Services, & Homelessness and the members
of the Committee

Representative Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair
Representative Greggor Ilagan, Vice Chair
Committee on Transportation and members of the Committee

From: Kurt Kendro, Chair, Public Policy Committee; Mothers Against Drunk Driving
(MADD) Hawaii

Re: House Bill 2338- RELATING TO THE STATE DRUG AND ALCOHOL
TOXICOLOGY TESTING LABORATORY

I am Kurt Kendro, Chair of MADD Hawaii's Public Policy Committee and retired Major from the Honolulu Police Department speaking on behalf of the members of MADD Hawaii Advisory Board in STRONG SUPPORT of House Bill 2338.

Of the 50 states, Hawaii is the only state that does not have a State Drug and Alcohol Toxicology laboratory. This type of laboratory is absolutely essential in order to successfully prosecute offenders who are arrested for Operating a Vehicle under the Influence of an Intoxicant. Currently, if an offender is believed to be driving under the influence of drugs, a mainland company must test the blood or urine for the presence of drugs. Witnesses must then be brought to Hawaii to testify at trial in order to obtain a conviction. It is an impossible task to successfully prosecute these offenders and keep them off of the highways.

The efforts to establish a drug lab in Hawaii has been going on for years, and passage of this bill will help make our roadways safer for everyone.

MADD Hawaii STRONGLY SUPPORTS House Bill 2338 and ask that this bill be passed.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.