

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

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB2339, HD1**  
**MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION TO THE STATE DRUG AND**  
**ALCOHOL TOXICOLOGY TESTING LABORATORY SPECIAL FUND**

SENATOR JARRETT KEOHOKALOOLE, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

SENATOR CHRIS LEE, CHAIR  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

Hearing Date: 3/21/2022

Room Number: Video Conference

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Appropriates \$2,000,000 from the state highway fund into the state drug  
2 and alcohol toxicology laboratory special fund and provides that the funds will be expended by  
3 the department of health for the purposes of this act. Any funds unspent by June 30, 2023 will  
4 lapse back to the credit of the state highway fund.

5 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health Supports HB 2339, HD1 making an  
6 emergency appropriation from the state highway fund to the Department of Health state drug and  
7 alcohol toxicology testing laboratory special fund. The funds can be expended by the Department  
8 of Health to establish a state drug and alcohol toxicology testing laboratory. The establishment  
9 of this laboratory will enhance drug and alcohol testing in our State.

10 **Offered Amendments:** None

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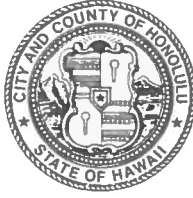
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14 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
TELEPHONE: (808) 529-3111 · INTERNET [www.honolulu.gov](http://www.honolulu.gov)



RICK BLANGIARDI  
MAYOR

RADE K VANIC  
INTERIM CHIEF

OUR REFERENCE HO-LS

March 21, 2022

The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Health  
The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Transportation  
State Senate  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 225  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Keohokalole and Lee and Members:

**SUBJECT: House Bill No. 2339, H.D. 1, Making an Emergency Appropriation to the State Drug and Alcohol Toxicology Testing Laboratory Special Fund**

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

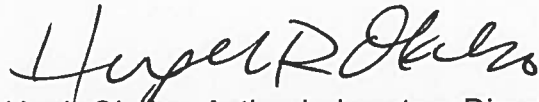
The HPD supports House Bill No. 2339, H.D. 1, Making an Emergency Appropriation to the State Drug and Alcohol Toxicology Testing Laboratory Special Fund.

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 a mainland laboratory 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 Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair  
and Members  
The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair  
and Members  
March 21, 2022  
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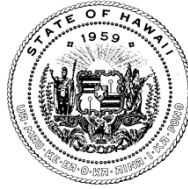
The HPD urges you to support House Bill No. 2339, H.D. 1, Making an  
Emergency Appropriation to the State Drug and Alcohol Toxicology Testing Laboratory  
Special Fund, and thanks you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

  
Hugh Okubo, Acting Laboratory Director  
Scientific Investigation Section

APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rade K. Vanic  
Interim Chief of Police



**TESTIMONY BY:**

JADE T. BUTAY  
DIRECTOR

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



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

March 21, 2022  
1:00 P.M.

State Capitol, Conference Room 225/Teleconference

**H.B. 2339, H.D. 1**  
**RELATING TO MAKING AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION TO THE STATE DRUG**  
**AND ALCOHOL TOXICOLOGY TESTING LABORATORY SPECIAL FUND**

Senate Committee(s) on Health & Transportation

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The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.B. 2339, H.D. 1. This measure makes an emergency 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 2021-2022 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 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. 2339, H.D. 1.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.