

Rep. Linda Ichiyama, Chair
Rep. Stacelynn K.M. Eli, Vice Chair
House Committee on Pandemic & Disaster Preparedness

Rep. Gregg Takayama, Chair
Rep. Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair
House Committee on Higher Education & Technology

Testimony of Jame K. Schaedel

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

Support for House Bill No. 957 - Relating to Homeland Security

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Honorable Chairs, Vice Chairs and Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony in **support** for House Bill No. 957. This bill would codify the creation of the Hawaii State Fusion Center into the Hawaii Revised Statutes. This bill would further codify the position of director, and establish responsibilities for the center.

I offer this testimony as a private citizen.

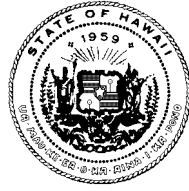
The Hawaii State Fusion Center is wicked awesome. It is a proven asset which protects the citizens of Hawaii. It is an important asset to share information and resources among law enforcement, defense and homeland security entities. It continues to adapt to 21st century crimes, such as cybercrimes which affect the vulnerable in Hawaii. It has helped me perform my job more efficiently working for two state departments.

I strongly believe this bill is necessary to maintain a vital resource that is used to protect our state. I implore your Committees to pass this bill, un-amended, with a recommendation for passage on Second Reading.

Respectfully,

Jame K. Schaedel
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CATHY BETTS
DIRECTOR

JOSEPH CAMPOS II
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 11, 2021

TO: The Honorable Representative Linda Ichiyama, Chair
House Committee on Pandemic & Disaster Preparedness

The Honorable Representative Gregg Takayama, Chair
House Committee on Higher Education & Technology

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: **HB 957 – RELATING TO HOMELAND SECURITY.**

Hearing: Tuesday, February 16, 2021, 11:00 a.m.
Via Videoconference, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports this administration measure.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the bill establishes the Hawaii State Fusion Center (Center) as a program under the Office of Homeland Security as described in chapter 128A, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Also establishes the position of Hawaii State Fusion Center Director who shall be state-funded, permanently exempt from chapter 76, Hawaii Revised Statutes, responsible to the Director of Homeland Security, and accountable to manage the operations of the Center.

The Fusion Center and the Fusion Center Director are vital to the security, health, and well-being of Hawaii's residents and visitors. The Fusion Center provides access to cross-sector and cross-government communication.

DHS is a partner agency with the Fusion Center, and DHS staff actively participate in training and briefings that are easily accessible and available on a variety of issues. In the past

year, DHS staff have attended training and discussions addressing cyber security, efforts of on-line law enforcement to identify sex trafficking, active shooter events, coronavirus procedures, and debriefs of significant events to inform planning.

In January 2020, shortly after news of the coronavirus was emerging from China, DHS staff attended a presentation at the Fusion Center by the CDC Honolulu Region Division of Global Migration and Quarantine on CDC's procedures. Throughout the pandemic, the Fusion Center has continued to provide pandemic related resources and awareness, and other security information and advice leading up to the 2020 election and the violent January 6, 2021 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support on this bill.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KENNETH S. HARA
MAJOR GENERAL
ADJUTANT GENERAL

STEPHEN F. LOGAN
COLONEL
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 957
A BILL RELATED TO HOMELAND SECURITY

PRESENTATION TO THE
COMMITTEES ON PANDEMIC & DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

BY

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

February 16, 2021

Chairs Ichiyama and Takayama, Vice Chairs Eli and DeCoite, and Members of the Committees on Pandemic & Disaster Preparedness and Higher Education & Technology.

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 957.

The proposal of HB 957, with the additions to HRS Chapter 128A will solidify the Hawaii State Fusion Center. One of the major functions of the fusion center is to share information ensuring our partners are equipped with the necessary tools to keep Hawaii and the Nation safe, secure and resilient.

The Hawaii State Fusion Center serves as a focal point for the state for the receipt, analysis, gathering and sharing of threat-related information between the federal, state, local, and private sector partners. Fusion centers are situated in the state to empower front line law enforcement, public safety, fire, emergency responders, public health, critical infrastructure protection and private sector security personnel to understand the implications of intelligence for and to the State. The fusion center provides interdisciplinary expertise and situational awareness to inform decision-making at all levels of government. The Hawaii State Fusion Center conducts analysis and facilitates information sharing by assisting law enforcement and homeland security partners in preventing, protecting against and responding to crime, terrorism and all-hazard incidents.

The fusion center collaborates among all levels of government to receive, analyze, and disseminate threat related information in coordination with intelligence partners by coordinating with the 16 critical infrastructure sectors and lifelines, for example, electric, water, food, gas, utilities, communications, etc.

The collaboration includes the integration of cyber related threat information, cyber-crime prevention and analytic capabilities to assist in identifying cyber threats and indicators to individual networks and systems.

The intelligence analysts within the fusion center assist piecing together the disparate bits of information to form integrated views to produce actionable intelligence products on emerging cyber incidents, risk, threats, event, or trend.

The Hawaii State Fusion Center works closely with all educational levels and security personnel to track certain school incidents, such as stranger-danger or threats of targeted school violence. In addition, the Hawaii State Fusion Center works with members of the visitor industry and with retail establishments to help them track threats against visitors and businesses.

The Hawaii State Fusion Center is an important part of Hawaii's Homeland Security and the protection of our citizens and visitors.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **SUPPORT** of House Bill 957.

MG Kenneth S. Hara: kenneth.s.hara@hawaii.gov, 808-672-1211
Frank Pace, Administrator: frank.j.pace@hawaii.gov, 808-369-3570



**Testimony to
The Committee on Pandemic & Disaster Preparedness
and
The Committee on Higher Education and Technology**

**Tuesday, February 16, 2021
11:00 AM
VIA Video Conference
Conference Room 309 & 312, Hawaii State Capitol
HB 957**

Chairs Ichiyama and Takayama, Vice Chairs Eli and DeCoite, and members of the committees,

Hawaii Gas **supports HB 957**, which establishes the Hawaii State Fusion Center (Center) as a program under the Office of Homeland Security as described in chapter 128A, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Also establishes the position of Hawaii State Fusion Center Director who shall be state-funded, permanently exempt from chapter 76, Hawaii Revised Statutes, responsible to the Director of Homeland Security, and accountable to manage the operations of the Center.

As the gas utility serving business and residential customers across the state, many of whom rely solely on Hawaii Gas to cook and heat water, Hawaii Gas is an integral part of the state's critical infrastructure. Hawaii Gas takes seriously our responsibility during any emergency in the state, from lava flows to hurricanes to heavy winds and floods. We are proud that, with the exception of the Pearl Harbor bombing in 1941, our system has never experienced a shut-down in its more than 100-year service to Hawaii.

Safeguarding our state's critical infrastructure, and by extension the health and safety of our residents, is of paramount importance to us. We are well aware of the potential threats to our homeland, and the pandemic over the last year has made it clearer than ever that threats can come from anywhere, often when you least expect it.

Coordinated and timely dissemination of information—including the integrated analysis of threat trends and events, the identification of knowledge gaps, and the ability to collaboratively mitigate adversary threats—builds the solid platform from which our islands can be best protected.

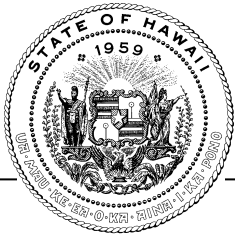
As a utility and essential service provider, Hawaii Gas has long been a partner company to the Hawaii State Fusion Center. The Fusion Center provides numerous resources and relationships across both the government and private sector, fostering collaboration with critical infrastructure partners and government entities such as DHS, FBI, HPD, DOD, and others. Through the Fusion Center, we receive regular updates on current and potential threats, particularly in the cybersecurity arena, and routine briefings by various organizations on their work to keep Hawaii safe.



As even greater threats loom on the horizon —from cyber security to infectious diseases to domestic terrorism —we welcome the opportunity to enhance the state’s homeland security through the enhanced position and authority of the State Fusion Center as established by this proposal.

We urge the committees to pass HB 957.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SCOTT J. GLENN
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

235 South Beretania Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804

Telephone: (808) 587-3807
Fax: (808) 586-2536
Web: energy.hawaii.gov

Testimony of
SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer

before the
**HOUSE COMMITTEES ON PANDEMIC & DISASTER PREPAREDNESS
And
HIGHER EDUCATION & TECHNOLOGY**

Tuesday, February 16, 2021
11:00 AM
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE
Conference Room 309 & 312

In SUPPORT of
HB 957
RELATING TO HOMELAND SECURITY.

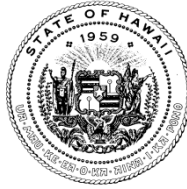
Chairs Ichiyama and Takayama, Vice Chairs Eli and DeCoite and Members of the Committees, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) supports HB 957, an Administration measure which establishes the Hawaii State Fusion Center as a program under the Office of Homeland Security and establishes the position of Hawaii State Fusion Center Director who shall be state-funded, responsible to the Director of Homeland Security, and accountable to manage the operations of the Center.

The State Homeland Security statutes (Chapter 128A, Hawaii Revised Statutes) were enacted to provide a homeland security law to provide for all homeland security functions of the State and its counties. It is intended to ensure that the State will be adequately prepared to deal with terrorist attacks; preserve the lives and property of the people of the State; and to protect the public peace, health, and safety, all of which support the continuous delivery of essential energy supplies .

The Hawaii State Fusion Center supports these objectives by being the focal point for sharing local, national, and international information and context with the national level intelligence community. These functions and roles are critical to the State and to the energy sector.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY
DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
LYNN A.S. ARAKI-REGAN
DEREK J. CHOW
ROSS M. HIGASHI
EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

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

February 16, 2021
11:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Teleconference

H.B. 957
RELATING TO HOMELAND SECURITY

House Committee(s) on Pandemic Disaster & Higher Education and Technology

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** this bill to formally establish the Hawaii State Fusion Center and the Center's Director position. DOT also supports the fusion center's vision which is to share information to ensure law enforcement and security partners are equipped with the necessary tools to keep Hawaii and our nation safe, secure and resilient.

The overall goal of the DOT is to facilitate the rapid, safe, and economical movement of people, goods and mail into, within, and out of the State by providing and operating transportation facilities and supporting services. The DOT currently has three (3) Divisions: Airports, Harbors, and Highways, and are regulated by various federal agencies to ensure compliance with environmental, health, safety, law enforcement, and security requirements.

Current events such as terrorism, active shooter, insider threat, human trafficking, and trespassing impact our three transportation divisions. By this bill, the DOT will continue to receive from the Hawaii Fusion Center timely information, both classified and unclassified, which may threaten our transportation sectors.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



**TESTIMONY OF TINA YAMAKI
PRESIDENT
RETAIL MERCHANTS OF HAWAII
February 16, 2021**

Re: HB 957 RELATING TO HOMELAND SECURITY

Good morning Chair Ichiyama and Chair Takayama and members of the House Committee on Pandemic & Disaster Preparedness and the House Committee on Higher Education and Technology. I am Tina Yamaki, President of the Retail Merchants of Hawaii and I appreciate this opportunity to testify.

The Retail Merchants of Hawaii was founded in 1901, RMH is a statewide, not for profit trade organization committed to the growth and development of the retail industry in Hawaii. Our membership includes small mom & pop stores, large box stores, resellers, luxury retail, department stores, shopping malls, local, national, and international retailers, chains, and everyone in between.

The Retail Merchants of Hawaii **STRONGLY SUPPORTS HB 957 Relating to Homeland Security**. This measure establishes the Hawaii State Fusion Center (Center) as a program under the Office of Homeland Security as described in chapter 128A, Hawaii Revised Statutes; and also establishes the position of Hawaii State Fusion Center Director who shall be state funded, permanently exempt from chapter 76, Hawaii Revised Statutes, responsible to the Director of Homeland Security, and accountable to manage the operations of the Center.

For many years, the Retail Merchant of Hawaii has been working in partnership with the Hawaii State Fusion Center. They are very influential in formulating partnerships between not only federal, state and county government agencies, but with business community partners like us that share information to combat safety and security problems and issues facing not only our industry but our community and government as well.

As property crimes continue to plague retailers, the Hawaii State Fusion Center has been instrumental in establishing the Hawaii Organized Retail Crime Alliance (HIORCA) website that is open only to law enforcement and retail investigators in an effort to share cross jurisdictional information to identify, disrupt, and apprehend Organized Retail Crime (ORC) crews. HIORCA operates like a business "crime watch" that allows law enforcement and retailers to communicate on a real time basis through alerts about criminal activity and incidents impacting their business or geographic area, as well as prevent other retail partners from being victimized.

The information that we receive from the Hawaii State Fusion Center is invaluable through their dissemination of information on leads, tips, trends, suspicious activities and more. It is only by continuing to work in partnership that we can maintain a Hawaii that is not only safe to visit but to live and work as well.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.





February 12, 2021

Chairs Linda Ichiyama and Members of the Committee
Committee on Pandemic and Disaster Preparedness
Hawaii House of Representatives

Gregg Takayama and Members of the Committee
Committee on Higher Education and Technology
Hawaii House of Representatives

RE: House Bill 957 – Creation of the Hawaii State Fusion Center

Dear Chairs Ichiyama and Takayama, and Members of the Committees:

As the former Under Secretary for Intelligence at the Department of Homeland Security, I had the pleasure of visiting Hawaii in November 2019 to meet with Governor Ige and co-host the Domestic Security Alliance-Corporate Security Symposium. We spoke about the importance of State Fusion Centers to coordinate and drive intelligence sharing for federal, state, local, and private sector partners. As the current Chief Executive Officer for the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB), I am fortunate to lead a national, century-old, not-for-profit organization supported by approximately 1,200 property and casualty insurance companies, including many who write business in Hawaii. Working hand-in-hand with our member companies and law enforcement, we investigate organized criminal conspiracies dealing with insurance and vehicle crime.

When it comes to criminals, one thing is certain: they will stop at nothing to hurt, steal, and defraud. Collating various intelligence sources is critical toward identifying and anticipating risks and emerging threats and staying one step ahead of the bad actors.

For this reason, the NICB supports HB 957 which will create a state fusion center to:

1. Create a focal point for sharing local, national, and international information and context with the national level intelligence community.
2. Collaborate among all levels of government on threat-related information in coordination with multi-disciplinary partners.
3. Establish a joint integration center to, among other things, combat cybercrime and cyberterrorism.

The NICB thanks you for your review and consideration and looks forward to working with and being of value to a future state fusion center.

Best regards,

David J. Glawe
President and Chief Executive Officer
National Insurance Crime Bureau