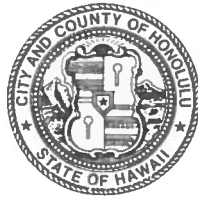


POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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SUSAN BALLARD  
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JOHN D. MCCARTHY  
AARON TAKASAKI-YOUNG  
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE

PJ-GK

February 16, 2021

The Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs  
House of Representatives  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 325  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nakashima and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 97, Relating to Charitable Organizations

I am Major Phillip Johnson of the Narcotics/Vice Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD opposes House Bill No. 97, Relating to Charitable Organizations.

Online raffles are a form of gambling. Numerous studies have confirmed that gambling causes problems such as bankruptcy, theft, embezzlement, suicide, child abuse and neglect, divorce, incarceration, and homelessness. Studies have also demonstrated that gambling schemes are essentially regressive taxes on low-income people, those who can least afford to participate. The financial burden associated with these problems will far outweigh any benefit realized in the name of community betterment.

The HPD urges you to oppose House Bill No. 97, Relating to Charitable Organizations.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

Handwritten signature of Susan Ballard in black ink.

Susan Ballard  
Chief of Police

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Phillip Johnson in black ink.

Phillip Johnson, Major  
Narcotics/Vice Division