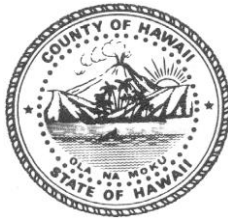


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OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 1286

A BILL FOR AN ACT MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY, COUNTY OF HAWAII

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair
Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 2, 2021, 9:30 a.m.
Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

Honorable Chair Dela Cruz Honorable Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee on Ways and Means, the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai'i submits the following testimony in strong support of Senate Bill No. 1286.

This measure makes an appropriation to the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai'i for the Career Criminal Prosecution Unit (CCP), and is **the most critical** piece of legislation impacting our office placed before the legislature this year.

The CCP program was created because a disproportionate amount of serious crimes are committed against the public by a relatively small number of multiple and repeat-felony offenders, commonly known as "career criminals." Funds directed to the CCP unit is an efficient use of resources, in terms of providing citizens with swift and effective justice, and by reducing heavy caseloads and long court delays.

State law mandates that certain qualifying defendants be prosecuted under the CCP program (HRS Chapter 845). In order to avoid the unfunded mandate prohibition provided by the Hawai'i State Constitution, it was the practice for the State to provide funding for these services. Having this funding is critical to enable, equip and retain staff with the necessary tools and skills needed to effectively deal with complex situations of CCP.

The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai'i strongly supports the passage of Senate Bill No. 1286. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

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THE HONORABLE DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Thirty-first State Legislature
Regular Session of 2021
State of Hawai'i

March 2, 2021

**RE: S.B. 1286; MAKING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY OF HAWAII COUNTY.**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu (“Department”) submits the following testimony in support of S.B. 1286.

Pursuant to legislation passed in 1979, and codified as Sections 845-1, 845-2, and 845-3, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, the Career Criminal Prosecution program was created because a disproportionate amount of serious crimes are committed by a relatively small number of multiple- and repeat-felony offenders, commonly known as "career criminals." In response, the State created the Career Criminal Prosecution program, which it originally funded annually. Money spent on this unit is an efficient use of resources, as it provides citizens with swift and effective justice, reducing heavy caseloads and long court delays.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu supports the passage of S.B. 1286. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

SB-1286

Submitted on: 2/28/2021 1:34:57 PM

Testimony for WAM on 3/2/2021 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda Kay Ross	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Our mayor, derek kawakami has made different decisions about how to protect the people of Kauai, then other mayors, leaders of other island.

we continue to have lowest COVID numbers.

what does that tell you???????

beyond that, we live on this island and other people live on their island. we can create custom madeadvantages around our isolation by making decisions for ourselves... and with our success rate, we should be allowed to continue with our own individual decision making process!! Duh!!!

If its not broken, why fix it????

please do the pono thing and leave well enough alone. if we need your help, we will ask for it.

blessings on all the decisions each island's leaders make for their immediate population. Aho!