

STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY
1177 Alakea Street, First Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

EDMUND "FRED" HYUN
CHAIR

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CLAYTON H. W. HEE
MILTON H. KOTSUBO
CAROL K. MATAYOSHI
MEMBERS

KEVIN S. REGO
ACTING ADMINISTRATOR

No. _____

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 3139
RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY**

by
Edmund "Fred" Hyun, Chairman
Hawaii Paroling Authority

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senator Lynn Decoite, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 15, 2022 – 1:30 p.m.
Via Videoconference

My name is Edmund "Fred" Hyun, Chairman of the Hawaii Paroling Authority, and I am in strong support of SB 3139 to establish a new department of law enforcement that will consolidate and administer criminal law enforcement and investigation functions of various state departments.

Briefly, my moolelo (history) dates back to the days of Corrections as a division of Department of Social Services (now DSSH) to the Department of Corrections as well as the Sheriff's as part of the Judiciary to the eventual consolidation and incorporation of both under the "newly created" Department of Public Safety.

In August of 2020, following the retirement submission of then Director Espinda, Governor Ige assigned me to serve as the Special Master to assess the department's situation, assist in transition planning and submit recommendations to the Governor for his consideration. In addition to serving as the Special Master through the month of December 2020, I served as Acting Public Safety Director in October and November.

One of the most glaring observations and concerns during my short tenure was the broad span of control vested in the Director's office with conflicting missions resulting in my short and long term recommendations. Of note submitting a bill to law to establish a State Law Enforcement Agency with all state entities under one administration and to re-establish a Department of Corrections to focus on custody and care of inmates. Hawaii is one of four states where Corrections, Law Enforcement and Regulatory services are combined under one department and the ONLY state with a combined function of jails, prisons, law enforcement and narcotics enforcement.

The benefits of establishing a State Law Enforcement Department are as follows:

- Central Administration
- Permanent training academy adhering to the most current professional standards and equipment
- Improved communications and response to perceived or real threats locally and/or nationally.
- Promoting efficient use of resources focused on law enforcement.
- Improved decision making
- Reduce duplication of efforts between departments
- Promote uniform standards of law enforcement services
- CORRECTIONS – immediate benefits to population and rehabilitation
- Contributing vested member of State Law Enforcement Coalition as well as assisting/partnering with agencies/departments on the city/county/state/federal levels.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in support of this important measure.



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE, 2022**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 3139, RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

DATE: Tuesday, February 15, 2022 **TIME:** 1:30 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Via Videoconference

TESTIFIER(S): Holly T. Shikada, Attorney General, or
Craig Y. Iha, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Nishihara and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General supports this bill.

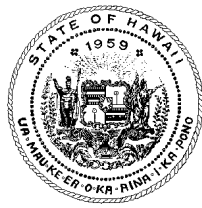
This bill separates the Department of Public Safety (DPS) into two discrete departments by establishing a new Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) to administer criminal law enforcement and investigations functions of the State, effective upon approval; and reestablishing DPS as an independent Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR) to administer the corrections, rehabilitation, and reentry of the inmate population, effective January 1, 2023. The bill transfers the law enforcement functions of DPS to DLE effective January 1, 2023. The bill also transfers the non-statutorily mandated investigative functions of the Department of the Attorney General's Investigations Division, the law enforcement functions of the Department of Transportation-Harbors, and the Office of Homeland Security from the Department of Defense to DLE, effective July 1, 2023. The bill further makes appropriations to DLE and DCR to carry out the purposes of the bill, and for the departments to become operational.

The bill also establishes a statewide law enforcement training center within DLE that will train all non-federal, state law enforcement officers in accordance with minimum certification standards to be set by the Law Enforcement Standards Board established in chapter 139, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

This bill improves the State's ability to meet the needs of inmates and pretrial detainees by consolidating corrections and rehabilitation functions into a single, dedicated department. In this manner the bill promotes the efficient use of resources in administering correctional programs and administering and maintaining public and private correctional services, without the need to split the department's focus with law enforcement responsibilities. It also allows for a greater focus on rehabilitation initiatives by creating a position for one deputy director that will solely oversee the rehabilitation services and programs of the DCR.

This bill enhances state law enforcement services by establishing a single chain of command for law enforcement responsibilities within a single state department. This will improve decision making, promote accountability, streamline communication, decrease costs, reduce duplication of efforts, provide uniform training and standards, and promote uniform standards of law enforcement services.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
1177 Alakea Street, 6th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

MAX N. OTANI
DIRECTOR

Maria C. Cook
Deputy Director
Administration

Tommy Johnson
Deputy Director
Corrections

Jordan Lowe
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 3139
RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

By
Max N. Otani, Director

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senator Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 15, 2022; 1:10 p.m.
Via Videoconference

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair DeCoite, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) strongly supports Senate Bill (SB) 3139, which establishes a State Department of Law Enforcement to consolidate and administer criminal law enforcement and investigative functions into a single unified statewide department. The measure also reestablishes the Department of Public Safety as an independent Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to administer the corrections, rehabilitation, and reentry of the inmate population.

Currently, the Corrections Division and the Law Enforcement Division of PSD have distinctly different and unique core missions. They operate independently of each other, with different functions, goals, and objectives. Differences in the respective officers' selection process and training are significant. Selection of senior management is also problematic due to the limited pool of managers with expertise in both Corrections and Law Enforcement.

Establishment of the two (2) separate entities would enable the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to more effectively focus on the safety and well-being of the inmates sentenced to its custody and care and better prepare inmates for successful reentry and reintegration back into the community.

Establishment of the Department of Law Enforcement will consolidate current PSD law enforcement divisions, such as, the Sheriffs Division, Narcotics Enforcement Division, and the Internal Affairs Office. It would also include the Department of Transportation Harbor Police, non-federally mandated investigators from the Department of Attorney General Investigation Division, and the Office of Homeland Security into the new, centralized law enforcement department.

The benefits of establishing the Department of Law Enforcement include, but are not limited to the following:

1. Enhanced investigative services with the addition of criminal investigators from the AG Investigation Division.
2. Enhanced exchange of intelligence from the consolidation of the Office of Homeland Security into the Department of Law Enforcement. Includes the establishment of an Intelligence Enforcement Unit to investigate and validate foreign and domestic threats against the State of Hawaii, to include the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport.
3. The Department of Law Enforcement includes another layer of management of its law enforcement assets with the addition of Captain and Lieutenant positions for better accountability and reduction of liability.
4. The consolidation of Harbor Police is a force multiplier for incidents at the harbors and airports. It further offers additional career advancement opportunities and pathways for harbor police officers to promote and transfer to other specialty assignments.
5. A single unified statewide law enforcement command structure streamlines communication, promotes accountability, operational flexibility, and resource management.
6. The establishment of a law enforcement specific training program will ensure that the highest standards of training will be adhered to, which would substantially reduce liability to the State.

SB 3139 further appropriates funds for the establishment of the Department of Law Enforcement and Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

As you are aware, the companion bill in the House of Representatives (HB 2171) received a hearing before the House Committee on Corrections, Military, and Veterans on February 2, 2022, and House Draft 1 passed Second Reading a few days ago. Many comments and suggestions were discussed among interested stakeholders and Legislators, and the Department of Public Safety is amenable to accepting several amendments. Accordingly, PSD respectfully requests the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs to consider the following amendments to SB 3139, highlighted in yellow.

The county police departments and the Honolulu Prosecutor's Office sought clarification on distinction between county and state law enforcement, specifically as regards the establishment of the proposed state law enforcement training center. PSD asserts that the intent of the state law enforcement training center would be to train all State Department of Law Enforcement personnel and suggests the following:

On page 2, line 5:

The legislature further finds state law enforcement personnel and functions are currently spread across various departments and also county agencies.

On page 2, line 15:

Consolidation of state law enforcement responsibilities into a single state department will centralize state law enforcement functions to increase public safety, improve decision making, promote accountability, streamline communication, decrease costs, reduce duplication of efforts, provide uniform training and standards, and promote uniform standards of law enforcement services.

In the preamble on page 3 lines 6-19:

This Act also establishes a training center within the department of law enforcement to provide all state and county its law enforcement entities the highest level of core and continuing education and training. The training center will also be made available to federal, state and county law enforcement agencies upon their request. The development of the DLE law enforcement training center, where all non-federal department of law enforcement officers who intend to work on any island of Hawaii must be certified, will ensure that all

DLE law enforcement officers meet the standards set by the law enforcement standards board established in chapter 139, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

On page 4, line 1:

The center's curriculum will be designed to ensure that the individuals with police powers trained there will have the knowledge and skills to protect and serve the public and will be held accountable if they do not uphold the standards set by the law enforcement standards board.

On page 5 lines 3-10:

The legislature does not intend to impair or diminish the longstanding authority and responsibility of county police departments to enforce the laws, along with State law enforcement, on state lands within their respective counties. County police departments will continue to have full law enforcement authority and responsibility, and in particular will continue to have concurrent jurisdiction with respect to state parks, state buildings, state highways, Hawaiian homelands, and other state lands and facilities.

On page 5, line 17:

These personnel will prepare for the transfer of state law enforcement functions and personnel to the department in two stages to occur later on January 1, 2023 and July 1, 2023.

On page 23 lines 14-18:

"§353C-A Statewide law enforcement training center. There is established within the department, a DLE law enforcement training center. The center shall provide for training and administering certification requirements of all state law enforcement department of law enforcement personnel who exercise police powers in any county the state.

On page 25 lines 25-26:

The director of ~~{public safety}~~ law enforcement shall administer the public safety programs of the department ~~{of public safety}~~ and shall be responsible for the formulation and implementation of state goals and objectives for state law enforcement programs ~~{ including ensuring that correctional facilities and correctional services meet the present and future needs of persons committed to the correctional facilities.}~~ and homeland security.

On page 26 line 16:

Adopt, pursuant to chapter 91, rules that are necessary or desirable for the administration of ~~{public safety}~~ **state** law enforcement programs; and

On page 27 line 19:

The director may appoint employees to be ~~{public safety}~~ **state** law enforcement officers who shall have all the powers of police officers; provide that the director may establish and assign the employees to positions or categories of positions that may have differing titles, specific duties, and limitations upon the exercise of police powers.

Revisions to the first two pages of section 17, pages 31-32:

SECTION 17. Chapter 353, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding to part I seven new sections to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§353-A Director of corrections and rehabilitation; powers and duties. (a) The director shall be responsible for the formulation and implementation of state goals and objectives for correctional programs, including ensuring that correctional facilities and correctional services meet the present and future needs of persons committed to the correctional facilities. In the administration of these programs, the director may:

- (1) Train, equip, maintain, and supervise correctional personnel and other employees of the department;
- (2) Perform other duties as may be required by law;
- (3) Adopt, pursuant to chapter 91, rules that are necessary or desirable for the administration of corrections; and
- (4) Enter into contracts on behalf of the department and take all actions deemed necessary and appropriate for the proper and efficient administration of the department, including contracts for the custody and care of Hawaii inmates housed outside of the state.

(b) The department of corrections and rehabilitation shall report to the legislature not later than twenty days prior to the commencement of the 2008 regular session, and every session thereafter, with its achievements, continuing improvements, and ongoing problems in providing the appropriate mental health care to committed persons under its jurisdiction.

These amendments will help to ensure clarity regarding the distinction between state law

enforcement officers, who are under the authority and direction of the proposed Department of Law Enforcement, and county law enforcement officers. PSD further notes that these amendments are reflected in **HB 2171, HD1**.

Altogether, SB 3139 and the suggested amendments offer a comprehensive and workable outline for efficiently separating the State law enforcement and corrections functions currently administered under PSD and creating two vital entities to concentrate their efforts on pursuing the important mission, goals, and objectives specific to each.

The Department will be pleased to answer any questions and respectfully asks the Committee for its support of SB 3139.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KENNETH S. HARA
MAJOR GENERAL
ADJUTANT GENERAL

STEPHEN F. LOGAN
BRIGADIER GENERAL
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
3949 DIAMOND HEAD ROAD
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96816-4495

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 3139
A BILL RELATED TO PUBLIC SAFETY

PRESENTATION TO THE
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

FRANK J. PACE
ADMINISTRATOR
HAWAII OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY

February 15, 2022

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair DeCoite, and Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs.

I am Frank Pace, Administrator for the Hawaii Office of Homeland Security. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in **SUPPORT** of SB 3139.

The Office of Homeland Security supports SB 3139, which aims to establish an independent and new Department of Law Enforcement. The proposed department's objectives include having the Office of Homeland Security (OHS), which currently falls under the State Department of Defense, transfer to the Department of Law Enforcement.

The mission and capabilities of OHS are aligned with and would enhance, the Department of Law Enforcement's focus to consolidate and administer the criminal law enforcement and investigations of the state. The Office of Homeland Security leads the state's effort to provide resources, actionable intelligence, and multi-agency coordination in a timely manner to prevent, mitigate, and respond to emergent threats to our residents and critical infrastructure.

OHS facilitates intelligence sharing between local, state, and federal agencies, the public and private sectors through the Hawaii State Fusion Center (HSFC). The HSFC is a well-established entity that is structured to empower front-line law enforcement, fire service, emergency management, public health, and other partners to understand local implications of national intelligence, thus enabling local officials to better protect their communities.

The Plans and Operations Branch coordinates several statewide programs that include implementation of the state homeland security strategy, critical infrastructure protection, cybersecurity resiliency, and elections security. These efforts have always aligned with state law enforcement objectives. Bringing these programs under the Department of Law Enforcement would further enhance initiatives focused on protecting the State of Hawaii.

Additionally, OHS also leads multi-agency efforts related to preventing targeted violence, coordinating interoperable public safety communications, and managing homeland security grants for the state. As with the HSFC and the Plans and Operations Branch, leveraging these capabilities with the proposed Department of Law Enforcement will greatly enhance its effectiveness.

The proposed Department of Law Enforcement is a logical and necessary step to meet the increasingly complex security challenges faced by the law enforcement community within the State of Hawaii.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 3139.

Frank Pace, Administrator: frank.j.pace@hawaii.gov, 808-369-3570



HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

The Thirty-First Legislature, State of Hawaii
The Senate
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

Testimony by
Hawaii Government Employees Association

February 15, 2022

S.B. 3139 – RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL- CIO conceptually supports the intent of S.B. 3139, which in part establishes a Department of Law Enforcement to consolidate and administer criminal law enforcement and investigations functions of the State. This measure transfers the law enforcement functions of the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Transportation to the Department of Law Enforcement and the non-statutorily mandated functions of the Investigations Division of the Department of the Attorney General, and the Office of Homeland Security to the Department of Law Enforcement.

We originally sought the introduction of the concept to consolidate law enforcement under the Attorney General during the 2018 Legislative Session via H.B. 2203 and S.B. 2909. While we understood then, and continue to recognize, that this is a significant policy shift from the existing departmental structures, we fully believe it is long overdue and most appropriate to initiate this necessary conversation on how state law enforcement can best serve the public. Centralization of our state law enforcement will ensure consistency in training and uniformity with policies and procedures, as well as create potential opportunities for cross-training and advanced career development. In addition, we anticipate a centralized state law enforcement division will lead to streamlined statewide communications and increased coordinated efforts. However, please note that the details likely require negotiations and/or consultation in accordance with Chapter 89, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of the establishment of the Department of Law Enforcement.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



KENNETH S. HARA
MAJOR GENERAL
ADJUTANT GENERAL

STEPHEN F. LOGAN
BRIGADIER GENERAL
DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
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TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 3139
A BILL RELATED TO PUBLIC SAFETY

PRESENTATION TO THE
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS

BY

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

February 15, 2022

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair DeCoite, and Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs.

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 SB3139.

The proposal of SB3139, aims to establish an independent and new Department of Law Enforcement. This objective includes transferring the Office of Homeland Security (OHS), currently under the State Department of Defense, to the Department of Law Enforcement.

The Office of Homeland Security is uniquely suited to support the Department of Law Enforcement's stated focus to consolidate and administer the criminal law enforcement and investigations of the state. The OHS leads the state's effort to provide resources and relevant actionable intelligence in a timely manner to prevent, mitigate, and respond to emergent threats to our residents and critical infrastructure.

The OHS facilitates intelligence sharing between local, state, and federal agencies, and the public and private sectors through the Hawaii State Fusion Center (HSFC). The HSFC is structured to empower front-line law enforcement, fire service, emergency management, public health, and other partners to understand local implications of national intelligence, and enable local officials to better protect their communities.

Additionally, the OHS also leads multi-agency efforts related to preventing targeted violence, enhancing cyber security, coordinating interoperable public safety communications, and managing homeland security grants for the state. Leveraging these capabilities with the proposed Department of Law Enforcement will greatly enhance the department's effectiveness.

A State Department of Law Enforcement is a logical and necessary step to improve efficiency and to meet increasingly complex security challenges faced by the law enforcement community.

Thank you for allowing me to testify in **SUPPORT** of SB3139.

MG Kenneth S. Hara: kenneth.s.hara@hawaii.gov, 808-672-1211

Frank Pace, Administrator: frank.j.pace@hawaii.gov, 808-369-3570

OFFICE OF INFORMATION PRACTICES

STATE OF HAWAII
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EMAIL: oip@hawaii.gov

To: Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental,
and Military Affairs

From: Cheryl Kakazu Park, Director

Date: February 15, 2022, 1:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Via Videoconference

Re: Testimony on S.B. No. 3139
Relating to Public Safety

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on this bill, which would establish a Department of Law Enforcement to administer the criminal law enforcement and investigations functions of the State and would reestablish the Department of Public Safety as an independent Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to administer the corrections, rehabilitation, and reentry of the inmate population. The Office of Information Practices (OIP) takes no position on the substance of this bill, but offers comments on the reporting requirement set out in proposed section 353-G, HRS, at bill pages 38-39.

This provision would require the Director of Corrections and Rehabilitation to report to the Governor and Legislature on the death of any inmate and the on-site death or injury of any correctional facility employee. Proposed section 353-G(d) gives the Director “the discretion to withhold disclosure of the decedent’s name or any information protected from disclosure by state or federal laws.” OIP notes that section 92F-12(a)(4), HRS, requires public disclosure of “directory information concerning an individual’s presence at any correctional facility,” including the names and locations of incarcerated individuals,

notwithstanding any provision to the contrary. Thus, the name of an inmate who died in custody would be public information in the same way as an inmate's departure from a facility for other reasons. Similarly, a government employee's first and last dates of employment are mandated to be public under section 92F-12(a)(14), and the correlation between last date of employment and the reported death of an employee at the facility on that date would effectively make the name public. OIP further notes that the list in proposed subsection (b) of information requires "the decedent's name" to be included in the report, in direct contradiction to proposed subsection (d) which gives the Director "the discretion to withhold" that same information. As written, this provision is internally inconsistent and, by referring to the name of the decedent in the same clause as information protected by state or federal law, creates confusion about whether a decedent's name withheld from a report is still publicly disclosable upon request. OIP recognizes that even if the public has the ability to find out a decedent's name through a UIPA request, including the name in the report itself may be important in some instances but unnecessary in others. **Thus, the provision is inconsistent internally and with existing law, and it should be amended if its intent is to effectively give the Director the ability to choose to include or omit this information from the report.**

To fix this inconsistency, OIP recommends that the name of the decedent be removed from the list of information required to be reported, and subsection (d) be amended to allow the director to disclose the name of the decedent or other additional information provided that the director shall not disclose information protected from disclosure by law. **Specifically, OIP recommends the following changes:**

- **On page 38 line 18, delete the current item “(1) The name of the decedent,” leaving a list of only six mandatory items instead of the current seven; and**
- **On page 39, replace subsection (d) with the following:**
 - **“(d) The director may disclose the decedent’s name or other information not specified in subsection (b), provided that the director shall not disclose information protected from disclosure by state or federal law.”**

Thank you for considering OIP’s testimony.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
P.O. BOX 150
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND
MANAGEMENT DIVISION
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

WRITTEN ONLY
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL,
AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
ON
SENATE BILL NO. 3139

February 15, 2022
1:30 p.m.
Via Videoconference

LATE

RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on this bill.

Senate Bill No. 3139 does the following: 1) establish a new Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) to consolidate and administer criminal law enforcement and investigations functions of the Department of Transportation (DOT), certain investigations functions of the Department of the Attorney General (AG), functions of the Office of Homeland Security (OHS), and current law enforcement and investigations functions of the Department of Public Safety (PSD); 2) rename PSD as the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR), which will administer the corrections, rehabilitation, reentry, and related functions currently assigned to PSD; 3) establish a training center within DLE to provide all State and county law enforcement entities the highest level of core and continuing education and training; 4) appropriate \$4,121,309 in general funds to DLE for FY 23 to establish and fill 70.00 new, permanent full-time equivalent (FTE) positions and for other operating expenditures; and 5) appropriate \$280,782 in general funds to DCR for FY 23 to establish and fill 8.00 new, permanent

FTE positions. This bill intends to reorganize the State's law enforcement structure to effectively carry out law enforcement operations for the State and to allow the efficient use of resources in administering correctional programs and administering and maintaining public and private correctional services. However, the bill does not intend to impair or diminish the longstanding authority and responsibility of county police departments to enforce laws on State lands within their respective counties.

B&F defers to PSD, DOT, AG, and OHS on the potential operational impacts of this measure to their respective agencies. Additionally, B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

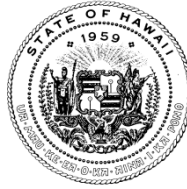
Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act also requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and

- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



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 15, 2022
1:30 p.m.
State Capitol, Teleconference

S.B. 3139
RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

The Department of Transportation is in **support** of S.B. 3139, which would enhance state law enforcement and correction services by separating the Department of Public Safety into two departments. One being a new Department of Law Enforcement with a mission to consolidate and administer criminal law enforcement and investigation functions of the State and reestablish the Public Safety Department as an independent Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation with a single mission to administer the corrections and rehabilitation.

By establishing two separate departments it would allow both to more clearly focus on their respective missions. Hawaii is the only state in the country that does not have a centralized law enforcement agency. By combining Sheriff's Department Deputies, Harbor Police, Division of Conservation Officers and others into one unit we could standardize job requirements and training as well as more quickly and effectively respond to incidents. With such broad and critical responsibilities and public scrutiny increased, it is more important than ever to provide the deputies and officers who serve in them the resources, adequate training, and leadership to address the many challenges they may face.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.



**THE SENATE
THE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2022**

Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair

Senator Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 15, 2022, 1:30PM
via Videoconference

Re: Testimony with Comments of SB3139 - RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair DeCoite, and Members of the Committee:

The United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO (“UPW”) is the exclusive bargaining representative for approximately 14,000 public employees, which includes blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 1 and institutional, health, and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties. The UPW also represents 1,500 members in the private sector.

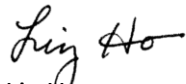
UPW **provides the following comments on** SB3139, which establishes a Department of Law Enforcement to consolidate and administer criminal law enforcement and investigations functions of the State effective upon approval and reestablishes the Department of Public Safety as an independent Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to administer the corrections, rehabilitation, and reentry of the inmate population effective January 1, 2023. This bill would also transfer other law enforcement functions to the Department of Law Enforcement from other currently established departments effective on July 1, 2023.

As the exclusive negotiating representative of Bargaining Unit 10, which includes correctional workers, we are monitoring this proposal. It is our hope that any type of proposal or reorganization of the Department of Public Safety will not have a negative impact on our correctional workers. With the creation of any new programs or departments, we hope that the necessary funding is in place before any such transition occurs to ensure the least amount of interruption to the impacted departments, and that funds will not be redirected from other programs that may already support some of the proposals contained within SB3139.

We respectfully ask that if this proposal does become law, that the new Director of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation is able to prioritize the issue relating to a number of vacant positions within our correctional facilities and work to fill these much-needed positions swiftly. Additionally, we also hope that there will be continued dialogue regarding the status of such transitions and that the Administration will allow UPW and other impacted exclusive negotiating representatives the opportunity to provide input during the proposed transition.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Liz Ho". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Liz Ho
Administrator



STATE OF HAWAII ORGANIZATION OF POLICE OFFICERS

" A Police Organization for Police Officers Only "
Founded 1971

February 14, 2022

LATE

ONLINE/FAX: 808-586-6879; 808-587-7230

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara
Chair
The Honorable Lynn DeCoite
Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
Hawaii State Capitol, Rooms 214, 231
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: **SB3139-Relating to Public Safety**

Dear Chair Nishihara, Vice-Chair DeCoite, and Honorable Committee members:

I serve as the President of the State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers ("SHOPO") and write to you on behalf of our Union in **conditional support** of SB3139, subject to further amendments. This bill in its current form lacks specifics as it relates to law enforcement responsibilities and jurisdictions between State agencies and our county police departments and will create confusion and chaos between the various law enforcement agencies absent clarifying language.

We wish to make clear at the outset that we take no position on the consolidation and reorganization of the various State departments and agencies (Department of the Attorney General, Office of Homeland Security, Department of Public Safety, Department of Health, etc.) as it relates to financial and budget considerations and the creation of a Department of Law Enforcement. The objectives of consolidation for the purpose of achieving financial efficiency and economies of scale at the state level is something we give deference to the State authorities. However, what is of serious concern to us as police officers is the negative impact the proposed State reorganization has on the duties, responsibilities, and jurisdiction of our county police officers. For those reasons we are conditionally supporting this bill subject to clarifying language and amendments.

SB3139 in its current form will expand the State's law enforcement jurisdiction beyond protecting and securing the State's courthouses and dignitary protection for our State government officials, which are distinct and separate duties and responsibilities that are not

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The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
February 14, 2022
Re: SB3139-Relating to Public Safety
Page 2

performed by our county police officers. SB3139 will give the Sheriffs the authority to conduct “law enforcement operations and investigations throughout the State,” however, the bill is silent as to what that means or what that will entail but at the same time the bill states that it is not intended to “impair or diminish” our county officers’ responsibilities. What all of this means is anyone’s guess.

Presently, our officers conduct law enforcement operations and investigations throughout the State in each island county. Our concern from a county law enforcement perspective is that this bill invites confusion and potentially unnecessary overlap when it comes to law enforcement and investigation jurisdictions. What crimes will remain under the jurisdiction of our county police officers, who will investigate homicides, who will be responding to calls in progress, who will be investigating other types of criminal acts and violations, who will be patrolling certain geographical areas in our communities, who will be responsible for traffic enforcement, violations and investigations that are presently carried out by our solo bike units and traffic divisions, and if there is overlap who is responsible for taking the lead with the investigation and who will take responsibility for the overall supervision of an investigation to completion? While we have the utmost respect and highest regard for our brother and sister law enforcement officers who honorably serve as Deputy Sheriffs, we anticipate that they too share our concerns.

The bill also proposes a “statewide law enforcement training center” intended to provide “education” and “training” to not only state law enforcement but also to county police officers. If the center is really intended for the newly created Department of Law Enforcement and its officers and the language in the current bill is amended to reflect that intention, we would have less of a concern about it. However, that is not how the bill currently reads or says.

The bill also states that the training center will ensure that officers will have the knowledge and skills to protect and serve the public and to be held accountable. Aside from the enormous monetary expenditures associated with such an endeavor and the baseless assumption that our county police academies are substandard or deficient, it is unclear what the need is for a state training center for county police officers when all four (4) county police departments and their respective police academies are accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (“CALEA”). CALEA is nationally known as the gold standard benchmark in law enforcement and its accreditation seals are internationally recognized as the “Marks of Professional Excellence” for public safety agencies. Our county officers are highly trained, experienced, and investigate the broad range of crimes set forth in the Hawaii penal code as codified in the Hawaii Revised Statutes. Our officers are held to the highest professional standards and are investigated and held accountable for the slightest deviations or infractions. The policies and training of each county police department have many in common, but they also have special provisions and aspects tailored to each island’s unique demands and diverse communities. Thus, a state training center and the requirement of a “certification” by the law enforcement standards board for county police officers is unrealistic, will involve duplicative training, and certainly cannot be a one size fits all because each island and their Chiefs have their own distinct make up, needs, and resources. The money earmarked for a state training center may be better spent expanding our prison system so that the same

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
The Honorable Lynn DeCoite, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
February 14, 2022
Re: SB3139-Relating to Public Safety
Page 3

criminals we arrest over and over can be properly incarcerated rather than being allowed to roam the streets to continue terrorizing our law abiding citizens.

You will recall that two Honolulu police officers were recently involved in the shooting of a suspect that charged at them wielding a knife. I am sure you are also aware of the depleted ranks we are facing and the severe shortage of officers willing to join our departments to protect and serve our communities. The Maui Police Chief recently testified before the Maui County Council that his department was in the midst of a staffing crisis with a vacancy level that exceeded 25%. Chief John Pelletier provided the sobering analogy of "taking a sprinter and saying, 'Hey, go run this race but we're going to take your leg off.'" In other words, we do not have a sufficient number of police officers patrolling our neighborhoods and protecting our citizens which without question places the public's safety in jeopardy. Chief Pelletier's candid and honest statements should have sounded an alarm in our community that our police departments are at a critical juncture and creating yet another layer of training bureaucracy will only exacerbate our present recruitment and retention crisis. I hope you will take our concerns to heart because we take great pride and consider it an honor to protect and serve our island communities and will continue to perform our duties to the best of our abilities, but please understand that there is only so much we can do given the critical police staffing shortage we are facing which this bill in its present form does nothing to help alleviate an already dire situation.

We thank you for allowing us to be heard on this very important issue and hope your committee will amend the current language in SB3139 to address the concerns raised herein.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT "BOBBY" CAVACO
SHOPO President

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
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PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

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PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



THE HONORABLE CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS
Thirty-first State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawai`i

February 15, 2022

RE: S.B. 3139; RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

Chair Nishihara, Vice-Chair DeCoite and members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu (“Department”) submits the following testimony, supporting the intent of S.B. 3139, with the understanding that the “legislature does not intend to impair or diminish the longstanding authority and responsibility of county police departments to enforce the laws of the state” (page 5, lines 3-5). The Department also suggests a number of small amendments.

The purpose of S.B. 3139 is to divide the current Department of Public Safety into two separate departments: Department of Law Enforcement, and Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Because the general goals and functions of law enforcement are different and distinct from that of corrections and rehabilitation, having two separate departments to serve these functions would allow each department to be more effective and more highly specialized in their respective areas. In particular, having a dedicated department for state law enforcement officers would provide state officers with uniform training, and allow the department to respond with increased flexibility.

With due deference to the county police departments, the Department would suggest that S.B. 3139 be clarified to ensure that the police departments are able to maintain their current level of authority and jurisdiction—though still held to the standards of the Law Enforcement Standards Board—by making the following amendments:

Page 2, line 5 – delete “and also county agencies”

- Page 2, line 15 – add “state law enforcement responsibilities”
- Page 3, line 10 – delete “and county”
- Page 3, line 13 – add “federal and county law enforcement agencies”
- Page 3, lines 14-16 – delete “where all non-federal law enforcement officers who intend to work on any island of Hawaii must be certified,”
- Page 4, line 1 – replace “with police powers” with the phrase, “trained there”
- Page 5, lines 5-6 – delete “on state lands within their respective counties”
- Page 5, lines 8-10 – add “responsibility, and in particular, will continue to have concurrent jurisdiction with respect...”
- Page 5, line 17 – add “transfer of state law enforcement functions”
- Page 25, line 15 – delete “state”
- Page 25, line 16 – add “state law enforcement programs”
- Page 26, line 16 – add “state law enforcement programs”
- Page 27, line 19 – add “state law enforcement officers”

These amendments will help to ensure clarity regarding the distinction between state law enforcement officers, who are under the authority and direction of the proposed Department of Law Enforcement, and county law enforcement officers.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu supports the intent of S.B. 3139, with the suggested amendments. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 1:04:54 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
charles f lacaden	Testifying for Dept Public Safety/Sheriff	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Charles F A Lacaden and I fully support SB3139 and believe in consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, command and control of the State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Mahalo

Charles F.A LACADEN

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 8:43:16 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Brandon Kadekawa	Testifying for State of Hawaii Sheriff Department / Executive Protection Unit	Support	No

Comments:

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

Mahalo

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 5:29:54 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jeffrey Cabanting-Rafael	Testifying for Dept of Public Safety Sheriff Division Hilo Section	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

First off, I would like to thank you to our Legislature for allowing the opportunity for people to give their opinions and input on these matters. I would like to humbly ask the Senate to approve this bill and I am in strong support for the separation of arms of the Department of Public Safety into the proposed Departments of Corrections and Rehabilitation and Law Enforcement.

As an employee of the Department of Public Safety who has been employed as both an Adult Corrections Officer from 2017-2019 before moving to my current position as a Deputy Sheriff II with the State Sheriff's Hilo Section (2019-Present), I have seen first hand the hurdles set before the department of public safety. I believe the separation of the law enforcement arms of the current department of public safety will allow a more concise goal for each department.

Due to the nature of Hawaii's Correction Officers not having a law enforcement commission (i.e. corrections officers are not designated as law enforcement officers by definition), the scope of work for corrections officers are limited to the confines of a correctional facility. In comparison State Sheriffs, attorney general investigators, and Narcotics Enforcements Agents are arms of active investigative work with arrest powers. I feel that the current department has done it's best to maintain a steady presence and equal handed form of policies to make the best of the circumstances, but for the future safety of Hawaii I believe a Department of Law Enforcement is vital for the State Government to establish a law enforcement entity that will have a clear mission to uphold laws on unincorporated state lands, incorporated state lands, state facilities and become a true supplement and partner to our county level counterparts as well as our state and federal partners.

It will also (in my opinion) allow each newly established department to focus in on "scope of work" written policies on the administrative side preventing convulated policies that act as a "cover all" policy for multiple arms of a department that do not have the same goal. This is an opportunity to expand on specific training demands within the fields of law enforcement and corrections separately, allowing specialized training for each and not lump training policies together. I humbly ask the Senate to look at the opportunity to expand the state's abilities to effectively respond to our incarcerated population, and to increase the abilities of state law

enforcement in responding to both the needs of our communities and deter crimes in an efficient manner.

Mahalo,

Deputy Sheriff II Jeffrey Cabanting-Rafael

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 6:44:05 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kenneth Wall	Testifying for Hawaii State Sheriffs Department	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha.

I totally **Support** SB3139. I have been employed as A State Sheriff since 2002. Through these twenty years I have seen struggles between our training methods as they are instructed partially by Corrections and Sheriff staffing. Two totally different point of views. I can see that our past experience with one group of people running two totally different job descriptions have failed. The dream of many State Law Enforcement employees is to be under one umbrella of leadership with only law enforcement as the focal point. This bill will only bring good things to Hawaii's future and elevate the quality of protection to the people of Hawaii.

Please support this bill.

God Bless. Aloha and Mahalo.

Ken Wall DS11

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 7:02:45 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Lester Gantan	Testifying for Sheriffs Airport Section HNL	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB3139 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 6:41:36 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Robert	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha members of the legislature,

I am in full support of SB 3139 which consists of consolidating all state law enforcement. This bill and actions will have a immediate impact on Public safety and properties for the betterment of the state of Hawaii. This Senate bill and companion House bill will disassemble the jurisdictional walls that currently bind our hands in situations. Under this bill there will be more transparency and systematic procedures to account for. There would definitely be more man power and coverage in problematic areas and situations. This could also offset the heavy burden put on the county by supplementing areas of responsibility.

I also believe that ALL law enforcement whether it be state or county be trained under one academy for efficiency and consistency in upholding our laws.

I humbly ask the members of the committee to pass SB 3139

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 2:04:15 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
frank fine	Testifying for Sheriffs	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB3139 the establishment of a State Dept of Law Enforcement. Please support this Bill into law.

Written Testimony of Daniel Hanagami for State Law Enforcement Department bills:
SB3139

Honorable Clarence Nishihara & PSM Committee Members,

I am Daniel Hanagami and I am offering this testimony as a private citizen. I feel very strongly that enactment of this legislation would bring harm to public employees and the community. It would be detrimental to state law enforcement by making it costlier and less effective, therefore, I am in opposition of this bill for the following reasons:

1. The proposed legislation offers lofty goals without real substance to achieve those goals. The bill does not include the county police departments as a major consulting entity and establishes the Public Safety Department as the driving force behind this bill. The Public Safety Department lacks certification, experience and expertise. The planning of the law enforcement department should have better leaders to pursue this effort.
2. Reorganization in itself serves no purpose unless it adds value. This reorganization would create layers of bureaucracy, executive sinecures and generate millions of dollars in unproductive costs without providing a roadmap for improvements in services or safety for the public. This waste would be perpetuated in future budget cycles, a costly illusion with no benefit to the public.
3. The proposed reorganization of state law enforcement is justified by goals, but the proposed reorganization does nothing to achieve these goals.
4. State law enforcement functions together as the State Law Enforcement Coalition (SLEC) in response to the full spectrum of natural disasters, events, civil disturbances and threats to public safety. The SLEC Unified Command provides coordinated leadership and functions as a whole organization to carry out the missions tasked to state law enforcement. The SLEC Unified Command coordinates the actions, personnel and resources of the member agencies whenever a situation requires interagency coordination or exceeds the resources of a single agency. The SLEC framework provides the best of both worlds, coordinated efforts drawing on all state law enforcement while keeping member agencies intact and able to focus superior expertise in their functional areas.
 - a. SLEC has functioned effectively as a formal entity since 2003. SLEC was established by formal agreement by Major General Robert G. F. Lee in his capacity as Adjutant General of the Hawaii National Guard and Director of Civil Defense, Attorney General Mark Bennett, Peter Young as Chair of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, Rodney Haraga as Director of Transportation, and James Propotnick as Acting Director of Public Safety.

Written Testimony of Daniel Hanagami for State Law Enforcement Department bills:
SB3139

- b. SLEC has functioned effectively since its establishment through numerous challenges facing the state through the present and the SLEC response to the COVID-19 Pandemic.
 - c. SLEC is more effective as a coordinator of state law enforcement than the proposed organization and engages more resources.
 - d. All of the member law enforcement agencies of SLEC have evolved over time to perform necessary, sometimes specialized functions, and their unity in SLEC has enabled state law enforcement to function as a whole in response to all emergencies and situations. The SLEC Unified Command functions under the standards of the National Incident Management System and is organized in an Incident Command System structure. SLEC is even stronger based on the solid commitments, mutual respect and commitment to public safety of its leaders and members.
5. The proposed organization would consolidate a significant portion of state law enforcement. It would exclude significant portions of state law enforcement that would become fragmented, special purpose niche offices serving as single-purpose entities unavailable to overall public safety. State government already has many special-purpose investigators and limited-scope law enforcement personnel scattered among state agencies. This legislation would create more of these specialized fragments.
- a. For example, as part of a larger whole Investigations Division, a unit of investigators assigned to “certain investigations functions of the department of the attorney general,” also participate in quarantine compliance enforcement to protect the community and prevent deaths, but as an isolated fragment unit, they would stay in their lane and not be available to serve the greater needs of the community.
 - b. There is, in fact, value to dedicating specialists to accomplish specialized functions, but when these investigators are left behind and not included in the new law enforcement department, they will effectively be no longer integrated in operations or be available for other services.
 - c. Creating more specialists outside the framework of the new department would decrease the number of personnel available for state law enforcement as a whole. Experience has shown that these isolated, specialized investigators can be dedicated, productive individuals, such as investigators in the Child Support Enforcement Agency, but they are not available to SLEC and would not function as part of this new department.

- d. For example, the Investigations Division of the Department of the Attorney General performs many important specialized functions such as investigating sex offenders, and functions as a cohesive whole adding to the specialized investigators when executing search warrants, managing crime scenes or being mobilized to support operations such as peacekeeping at Maunakea or performing pandemic response.
6. This legislation would cut the number of investigators available to large-scale crime scene investigations in half. The dismemberment of the Investigations Division would destroy the ability of state law enforcement to conduct complex white collar crime investigations, particularly government corruption and financial fraud. There is no other agency conducting this type of investigation at the state level and very limited county-level capabilities. Disbanding the Investigations Division and dismembering its ability to function as a whole will severely compromise accountability in state government and enable greater corruption by removing the only effective deterrent.
 - a. The prior Attorney General, the current Attorney General and its Special Assistant to the Attorney General planned dismemberment of its Investigations Division in this proposed bill, appears nothing more than a ploy to address its the labor issues and federal civil rights violation charge by crafting this bill that is designed to strip its Chief Special Investigator of his supervisory authority and exile him regardless of he being the top financial crimes investigator in the Department.
7. DOCARE (Division of Conservation and Resource Enforcement) is a significant partner in SLEC and state law enforcement. DOCARE is omitted from this reorganization legislation. DOCARE's omission contradicts the justification for this proposal and is a good example of why this consolidation is flawed. As their name implies, DOCARE and its officers perform specialized conservation and resource protection functions vital to the interests of the state and the people served by the state, while at the same time being vital and effective members of SLEC and state law enforcement as a whole. DOCARE exemplifies why SLEC works as a framework to coordinate state law enforcement while preserving the reasons its member agencies exist.
8. Harbor Enforcement Officers (HEO) have specialized skills, training and proficiencies associated with their work on seacraft and the intricacies of commercial harbors. A Harbor Enforcement Officer would not be interchangeable with a Deputy Sheriff or Investigator. The skill set of a HEO and the work they perform specialized and focused to best serve in commercial harbors.
9. This legislation frequently mentions the Department of Transportation but does not address the contract Law Enforcement Officers serving at the airports. These are armed

airport police with full law enforcement authority. Whether the airport police should be contract or civil service employees is an issue for a different time, but this legislation does not bring the airport police into the proposed new department. This legislation omits what is, in effect, the second largest state law enforcement agency in Hawaii, with staffing second only to the Sheriff Division.

10. State law enforcement essentially serves defined interests and priorities of state government. The existing agencies and their focused areas provide effective, cost-efficient services that optimize services and accountability in their areas of expertise. State law enforcement contributes services that are not performed by county police. State law enforcement is not, nor should it become, a duplication of functions and services best-served by the county police. The state and counties each have roles in the overall safety and protection of our community.
11. This legislation would not accomplish its stated goals.
 - a. Goal (1) State law enforcement already partners with the Joint Terrorism Task Force to protect the State from both domestic and foreign threats. This legislation would not change that.
 - b. Goal (2) This legislation and a new state law enforcement agency would not accomplish “eliminating the narcotics epidemic that plagues Hawaii's communities through its commitment of investigators in the federal High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) task forces”. Eliminating drug trafficking and the destruction of lives from methamphetamine and the other dangerous drugs is a very worthwhile goal to protect our communities and our children, but this legislation is not the means to accomplish it.
 - b1. The county police are a much better option to counter narcotics trafficking if they can be supported with more resources. Attempts to duplicate their services at the state level would drain resources that would be better used by county police.
 - b2. The Honolulu Police Department has a very strong partnership with HIDTA and is highly effective in investigations and drug trafficking countermeasures, but the scope of the problem exceeds their resources. A new state law enforcement agency is not the answer to this dilemma. The state would better serve this goal by contributing money to support more Honolulu Police Department personnel, Maui Police Department personnel, and more Kauai police personnel

- b3. Should state law enforcement want to venture into this area, the state would need to significantly step-up commitment to community-based groups and programs to harden youth against social contributors and provide meaningful positive alternatives, improved the accessibility to rehabilitation and treatment to community members needing services in this area. are needed. Our whole community needs to be mobilized to save our youth and the victims of addiction. Reorganizing state law enforcement is not the answer and would not accomplish anything meaningful.
 - c. Goal (3) reorganizing state law enforcement is not needed to expand the narcotics canine program. State funding would be better used to support expanded canine services in the county police departments.
 - d. Goal (4) reducing gun violence and other violent criminal acts in island communities through participating in the federal Project Safe Neighborhoods program is an effective strategy. The county police are engaged at the community level and have direct involvement with communities through their roles as emergency first responders and their patrol officers. The county police have close ties with the neighborhoods they serve and have years of experience with community policing. The proposed state law enforcement department would add little or no value.
- 12. The county police are emergency first responders. Their patrol elements are 9-1-1 driven. All calls are serviced. Police Communications and dispatchers' function as a whole response engine with their field patrol personnel. This is the core of the county police departments. In general, state law enforcement agencies are not prepared to take on this responsibility. Only Harbor Police are actual emergency first-responders. In the 9-1-1 world, there is no such thing as "we're too busy" or "we don't have anyone available" and bouncing emergencies or calls for service to the police.
- 13. This proposed legislation states, "County police departments will continue to have full law enforcement authority and responsibility with respect to state parks, state buildings, state highways, Hawaiian home lands, and other state lands and facilities." It is clear this proposed legislation intends to leave responsibility for public safety emergency response and law enforcement patrol operations as the responsibility of the county police.
 - a. Jurisdiction and limited resources are issues between county and state level law enforcement, and this legislation perpetuates an unfunded mandate for county police to provide law enforcement services in areas of state responsibility. This legislation perpetuates the issues and does nothing to change the situation.

14. This legislation raises issues of training and professional standards in state law enforcement. These are very important considerations. The establishment of a training center for state and county law enforcement as described would be of significant value for law enforcement professionalism, standards, and the quality of services provided for the community. Combined with the work of the law enforcement standards board established in chapter 139, Hawaii would be well-served by this initiative. However, this legislation does not accomplish this and it would be many years and many millions of dollars in the future.
15. The reorganization of state law enforcement proposed in this legislation is not necessary to establish a training center and professional standards. In fact, placing this training center in a new state department would be detrimental. A much better model for accomplishing this would be a jointly managed and jointly operated training center in a cooperative agreement between the state and counties. Each would commit personnel and funding to the training center.
16. This legislation is, at best, neutral in meeting the goals and services Hawaii deserves. The reorganization of state law enforcement is not the way to meet the challenges and does not deliver any real value for the community.
17. This reorganization would not reduce costs. It would add significant costs and overhead. It would add more executives but would not add more personnel actually performing the work.
18. The proposed reorganization should produce something of clear, articulated value. The only concrete value proposed are the training center as an institution to promote professional standards and consistency in training.
19. The Department of Public Safety's current administration does not have the professional expertise, experience, or knowledge as an accredited law enforcement agency to lead this initiative in the creation of a new law enforcement department. One would get the impression after reading this bill that they are setting up positions so that certain members of their department and certain members of the Office of the Attorney General will have jobs after their at-will administration term comes to an end. The Special Assistant to the Attorney General once commented that it is logical for the Department of Public Safety to take the lead in this new law enforcement department because they have the largest amount of law enforcement officers in a state agency. That is not a logical answer in my view.
20. I agree with reservations expressed in the written testimony provided by the Department of the Attorney General during the Thirty-First Legislature in response to

House Bill No. 629 Relating to Law Enforcement. In this testimony, the OAG expressed, “There are myriad complex issues to discuss and consider in developing a structure and plan. For instance, the needs, capabilities, and responsibilities of each of the respective state law enforcement branches must be fully assessed before being consolidated under a single department. At a minimum, issues of infrastructure, funding, jurisdiction, responsibilities, federal mandates, parity, training, CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies), policies and procedures need to be considered. The issues of support staff and facilities also need to be addressed.”

- a. This current legislation does not resolve these aforementioned issues. This current legislation, in effect, asks for the creation of a whole new state department without a plan and without addressing these issues. Instead, this proposal offers a vague vision and wants to create new executive positions in the hope these issues can be resolved as they go along. They are asking for a blank check to pay for this vision. The legislature and the people of Hawaii are not being given details or the cost.
 - b. It is confusing at the least, based upon the prior standards that the Office of the Attorney General had requested, and without it in this current legislation, they now support it.
21. This reorganization will add costs without adding value. There are issues, but this is not the solution. There are better solutions. We need to improve policing in Hawaii holistically, with state and county law enforcement and our federal partners working together as a whole team for the benefit of our community.
 22. The Department of the Attorney General claims to work collaboratively in this bill, yet the affected investigators in its Investigations Division wasn’t given any opportunity to give input into this bill as it was being constructed. In fact, during a meeting of this new Law Enforcement Department, the First Deputy from the Department of Public Safety and the staff from the Office of the Attorney General stated to the investigators that it was inappropriate to show the drafted bill to them.
 - a. This behavior, by restricting the Attorney General’s investigator’s participation is contrary to, and violates the spirit of Hawaii Revised Statutes **§89-1 Statement of findings and policy**, where public employees have been granted the right to share in the decision-making process affecting wages and working conditions, they have become more responsive and better able to exchange ideas and information on operations with their administrators.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 10:45:13 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Chon Peters	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this bill SB3139 and all our fellow state law enforcement men and women. Thank you all for service.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 8:51:51 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Maria English	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB 3139 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 5:05:11 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

We do not need more Departments Juat better people who know what thay are Doing!!

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 11:05:34 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Candace Dobrowolsky	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Senators

I submit my testimony in full support of this bill. The merging of State Law Enforcement is a logical and pragmatic step in the right direction. It allows for standardization of policy, training, and recruitment. This bill and the benefits outlined above will provide the people of Hawaii a more professional agency that meets the evolving trends in law enforcement.

The creation of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation is an equally important part of this bill. The current model for Public Safety puts little emphasis on rehabilitating our inmate population. By creating a focused and accountable effort in rehabilitation we can expect a lower recidivism rate, increased safety for the public, and lesser demand for law enforcement intervention.

This bill makes sense on so many levels and I'm proud to support this measure.

Candace Dobrowolsky

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 9:20:59 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Bryson Nakamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 8:23:33 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jessica Hines	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the creation of a state law enforcement agency.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 8:52:37 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ryan Kamealoha	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB3139 and the creation of a State Department of Law Enforcement. The consolidation of State law enforcement agencies into one department will streamline operations, standardize training and provide accountability under one command structure.

Please support this Bill.

Sincerely,

Ryan Kamealoha

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 7:40:58 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Alan Urasaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I stand in support. Law enforcement must be seperated from corrections. Thank you.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 8:45:52 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Deven English	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB 3139 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

Thank you

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 8:20:32 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Lt Michael Oakland	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

TESTIMONY FOR: SB 3139

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair DeCoite and members of the committee:

I am Lt. Michael Oakland of the State Sheriffs', and I am writing in complete SUPPORT of SB3139 as it is the culmination of about 20 years of work and 176 years since the creation by King Kamehameha III via the Marshall of Hawaii in 1846.

This bill has come about in part due to the many reports and studies done on the feasibility of splitting the Dept of Public Safety. Stepping back in time we know that the blue-ribbon panel that was formed to separate the Sheriffs' out of the Judiciary was done to separate powers in 1986. Judiciary should not have law enforcement due to conflict of interest which is not best practice and is not done anywhere in the country.

Then stepping into a more current time there was the Response to Act 83, which was a feasibility study on the separation of corrections and law enforcement in 2005. Also, the audit of the Sheriff Division by the state Auditor in 2010 (we requested this audit). In addition to these, there was a separation working group that was formed in 2011.

What all these reports found is that no one director of Public Safety can give enough attention and resources to any one division without adversely affecting the other which has been the case since the creation of the Dept. of Public Safety.

To touch on the subject of "duplication of services". This is the furthest from the truth in that additional law enforcement is never a duplication but an enhancement of law enforcement to better serve our neighborhoods, communities and the state as well as provide for a check and balance in our law enforcement as is the case in every state in the nation.

All state law enforcement agencies (not counties) have much of the same issues as we have in the Sheriffs' in that none of these agencies are funded, manned, equipped and trained properly to even allow for us to perform our mandated and requested duties. Also, many of these agencies

are run by civilians that are not familiar with law enforcement and cannot be expected to request for those needs as they do not know and possibly not understand the needs.

So, to have all these state agencies in one department, consolidating all those resources will help with ensuring we meet the requirements that law makers set for us and then be able to meet the constant new requests by the public, the county police and state law makers.

We also will be able to provide better assistance to the county police departments with the many large-scale events we have had and will likely have again such as, the Asian Development Bank Conf (ADB), APEC, the NFL's Pro Bowl, the triathlon and most recently, the Honolulu Marathon.

In all these events as well as others, we have brought our Special Operations Sections resources to include our explosives K-9, law enforcement escort for foreign and domestic dignitaries and diplomats and line deputies providing traffic control out in the public to ensure for safe and secure movement around our cities and state.

With all I have mentioned, I again request and anticipate your continued support in passing this bill and please know that I am available at any time if anyone has any questions or would like me to elaborate on the examples I have given or provide additional examples of our service to the state and her people.

Please call me at, 808-722-3913 (pers cell), or my email at, oakraiderm@gmail.com, and I can help as much as possible.

Mahalo Nui Loa and Aloha,

Lt. Michael Oakland, Community Relations

Peer Support, Chaplain Corps and Sheriff Reserves

Hawaii State Sheriffs'

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 9:19:40 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Reef Makue	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB3139 and believe that consolidating State Law Enforcement services and creating a single LE agency, entitled the Department of Law Enforcement, will significantly improve the recruitment, training, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Moreover, the separate creation of a department for Corrections and Rehabilitation can begin to address the social issues of recidivism and reintegration among our incarcerated population and provide the necessary resources to address them in an efficient manner as an autonomous organization altogether.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 6:45:22 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Samuel Yarbrough	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support senate bill SB3139 to enhance the State of Hawaii Law Enforcement effectiveness and to improve the Department of Corrections rehabilitation processes.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 6:32:46 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Derek Ozaki	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

One unified chain of command and training will be beneficial for the public. If all law enforcement officers are trained the same and fall under one administration they will be able to service the public in the same way no matter which section are the responding officers. The public will know how every section works because they will all be trained the same, fall under the same policies and procedures, and will be held accountable by the same leadership statewide. There is nothing but positive for all persons involved if this bill passes.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 6:13:42 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Steven Miyamoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 9:15:51 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Delvin Honda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB3139

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 8:37:20 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Brandon Agena	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello, my name is Brandon Agena and I am writing to show my support for this bill.

I am a deputy sheriff with the State of Hawaii Sheriff department and I feel that the passage of this bill would move the state law enforcement agency as a whole forward into the future. The current separation of various law enforcement agencies adds confusion to the general public.

The idea that there should be one department that trains the various law enforcement is a great idea. It will show that there are standardized training and criteria for all. It would also equip the new recruits with a sense of pride knowing that they have the most current up-to-date training and resources available to the state.

By separating law enforcement from the corrections side of public safety, it will allow for a more focused look at making the best use of resources that are available. As it stands now the corrections side of the department gets the lion's share of the public safety budget and the sheriff's department is treated like the black sheep of the family.

I am submitting this testimony on my own behalf and again support the passage of this bill.

Mahalo,

Brandon Agena

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 7:46:51 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Scott Chong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support bill SB3139.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 6:55:01 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Michael V DeCenzo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am submitting my testimony in support of this bill! By creating a Department of Law Enforcement it will give the state law enforcement agencies involved a greater opportunity to serve the people of Hawaii. By splitting the department of public safety into two separate departments, it will give the departments the ability to focus attention to their different, and unique responsibilities.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 6:04:45 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
James Barnes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Testifying in strong support.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 1:35:49 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
AB	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB3139. This bill is more efficient and beneficial for both departments. More resources need to be focused on Corrections and Rehabilitation so past offenders can become productive members of society again.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/11/2022 8:28:26 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Steven Silva	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the creation of a state law enforcement agency.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 10:10:59 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Michele Muramoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 10:50:35 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Cory Nojima	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha no Committee:

I am ***STRONG SUPPORT*** of HB2171. The separation of the Law Enforcement and Corrections to stand alone state agencies is long overdue. The functions of both divisions are completely different and would be more effective separated. As a thirteen (13) year employee of the Sheriff Division I feel it would be more functional to separate us.

The consolidation of the various agencies will create a stronger foundation for the State of Hawai'i Law Enforcement functions, which will ultimately be an asset to all of us.

I humbly ask that you make a pono choice and vote in ***SUPPORT*** of HB2171.

Mahalo piha,

Cory Nojima

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 12:10:38 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Koa Dobrowolsky	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair DeCoite, and Members of the Committee:

I am Lanikoa Dobrowolsky, First Deputy of the Sheriff Division. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in SUPPORT of SB3139.

I fully support SB3139 and believe that consolidating the State Law Enforcement services under a single agency is long overdue. The consolidation will allow for streamlined command and control, increased accountability, consistent recruitment, training standardization, consistent operational procedures, and single agency policy oversight that will soon meet CALEA accreditation. Consolidation will also allow for ease in prosecution of criminal cases and the ability to deliver tailored manpower packages to the neighbor islands to assist in emergencies or critical incidents at the request of those county leaders. The creation of this agency will allow the State of Hawaii to have the ability to build out a state policing function in a manner that best serves its people and the needs of the State.

Over the past 30 years, the Hawaii State Legislature has ordered many studies and audits to address the deficiencies and inefficiencies of the Department of Public Safety. Every study conducted, leaned towards the conclusion that the current structure is cumbersome and difficult to manage at an executive level. Previous legislative proposals have recommended splitting the agency and consolidating state law enforcement functions under one department. Further, the legislative mandate to pursue CALEA accreditation and the great efforts of the **current** PSD administration to fulfill that mandate suggests that a single state LE agency that is CALEA accredited would be the best option and would serve the people in a manner that contemporary trends demand.

The problems plaguing law enforcement across the State reveals that consistently, agencies are suffering from shortages of qualified staff. Recruitment to fill vacancies is difficult, time

consuming, and slow, often taking one year or longer. The merging of State Law Enforcement provides the ability to focus manpower towards problem areas and may afford co-response to calls for assistance with county police to help lighten the heavy burden placed upon them.

I would also like to take a moment to express my support for the creation of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. The proposed organizational chart creating a deputy director of Rehabilitation suggests a focused effort on rehabilitating the inmate population. I believe that this effort has the possibility of lowering recidivism which may reduce law enforcement intervention in the future, save costs associated with continuing incarceration, and increase the safety of our residents and visitors alike.

I humbly request your support towards SB3139 and I'm optimistic and excited to see the great possibilities that this bill will afford the people of Hawaii.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lanikoa Dobrowolsky, First Deputy

State of Hawaii, Sheriff Division

FBINA256

Lanikoa.k.dobrowolsky@hawaii.gov

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 8:40:26 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Walter Mascorro	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel. With the additional responsibilities and support functions I am sure State LE will be able to better protect and serve the people of Hawaii.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 12:28:37 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Karyn Murphy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I urge passage of this Bill to create the Department of Law Enforcement. The consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department would improve the ability to effectively manage law enforcement tasks, as well as to set and meet goals. It would also increase accountability and provide standardization leading to accreditation under the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Standards.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 4:01:28 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
william keahi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support the creation of a Department for Law Enforcement. This bill will allow the law enforcement aspects of the Department of Public Safety to room to grow and give the people of the State of Hawaii the focus they deserve. Thank you.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 6:39:10 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Geoffrey Peterson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this Bill.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 9:35:02 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Geoffrey Hicks	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 1:41:09 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ernie	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB3139 the establishment of a Dept of Law Enforcement. This bill would streamline the activities of State Law Enforcement, create a cohesive and standardized process for the training of existing and future State law enforcement officers and provide a more centralized object for enforcement action oversight. A singular Dept of Law Enforcement entity would also make it easier for the public to discern the functions, services and enforcement actions of that lone entity.

Please support this bill into law.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 1:33:21 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Dexter Kauahi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB 3139. I have been a Deputy Sheriff for 16 years. The separation from corrections and consolidation and unity of all Law Enforcement agencies will help us better serve our community.

Thank you for your time,

Dexter Kauahi

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 12:53:31 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Anela Honda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this bill

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 12:26:18 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Edward Stankos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

Mahalo,

Ed Stankos

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 10:51:27 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Sean Sanchez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support bill SB3139. I believe that our Sheriff's department is an organization worth investing in, and I know that they will do everything within their power to keep our beautiful island, and community safe.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 11:33:01 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
montgomery chong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization and accreditation under CALEA. Thank you.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 1:19:12 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
John Mallari	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB3139 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 1:58:09 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Andrew Bayron	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA. As it is presently stands the Sheriff's Department is under The Department of Corrections, which has a different mission than law enforcement. We are one of the only states that has no state law enforcement organization. This bill would be a game changer for the better for the State of Hawaii.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 2:07:38 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Calvin Chaves	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB3139 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Thank you

Calvin Chavrs

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 12:44:30 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
lynne matusow	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

This is long overdue.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 2:08:05 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Keola Kekaulike	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

For the 20 years that I have been a Deputy and a Sergeant in the Sheriffs Division, rumors and conjecture of consolidation and separation has flowed through the ranks. I truly believe that this bill sets up the entire state law enforcement system up for long term success. This bill lays out a concrete plan for a streamlined rank structure, more efficient 911 response, data sharing, consolidation of personnel, criminal investigations, and much more. I highly support this bill and would like to be part of something that will benefit the State of Hawaii and the communities we serve even long after I am gone.

Mahalo,

Sgt. Keola Kekaulike, Sheriffs Airport Section

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 1:15:24 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Deputy Sheriff Leedo Anderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 2:32:54 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ryan Machado	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, I strongly support this bill. I feel it just makes sense for the State of Hawaii and it's citizens. A streamlined approach by combining these entities would cut the red tape and promote a higher level of accountability. This transparency and accountability is what the people of Hawaii deserve and the dedicated hard working law enforcement personnel call and crave for. Like anything else, I anticipate that there will be opposition and detractors to this bill. As I highly value their right to an opinion and position, I sincerely ask that you hear their position but think critically into the true motivation behind the opposition. I do not envy any of you as the job to do what is right for the people of Hawaii is not an easy one. I trust you will make the best decision. Mahalo for your time!

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 2:14:26 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Davin Mikami	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am in support of Bill SB 3139. Great things to come!

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 5:37:35 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
James McKay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support this bill!

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 2:58:39 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Emmalyn Hicks	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support the consolidation of state law enforcement through creation of the Department of Law Enforcement. Doing so would increase effectiveness of management, accountability, standardization, and allow for accreditation under CALEA.

Honorable Sirs and Madams,

I am submitting this testimony to express my full support of SB3139 (HB2171) in its true context and intent of re-organizing the current Department of Public Safety into creating two separate and independent bodies in the form of the Department of Law Enforcement and the Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation. Passage of this legislation would enable these two departments to administer, manage and operate more efficiently in addressing their distinctive needs and functions.

In creating a Hawaii Department of Law Enforcement, consolidation and centralization of State law enforcement assets and personnel under one umbrella would significantly improve recruitment, training, operations, and command & control. It will also allow for more effective management, accountability, and standardization that can lead towards law enforcement accreditation under CALEA.

I have been a Deputy Sheriff for twenty years. I began this law enforcement profession at the onset of the 911 tragedies. I took the oath to protect and serve the people of the State of Hawaii and, as a public servant, I have the responsibility to ensure the safety and security of our citizens and in providing them professional police services.

As our county police officers continuously dedicate themselves in providing safety and service to our families and communities, as a State law enforcement officer, I owe it to my county brothers and sisters to provide such services on the same level of professionalism and dedication as well.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 6:59:56 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Patrick M. Lewis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a Deputy Sheriff for the last 36 years I've seen the best and the worst of State Law Enforcement and this bill is the Best thing that could happen. Consolidation of State Law Enforcement makes complete sense.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 5:58:51 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Sarah McKay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 7:32:55 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Warren Haney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB3139 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 9:39:21 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
adam	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171/SB3139 and believe creating the Dept of LE and Dept of Correction and Rehabilitation will significantly improve in areas such as recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel. Consolidating these state LE agencies into one department will raise the standard and effectiveness of services provided by this newly created department. It would also set a common standard of training and practice.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 8:29:11 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Greg Mayo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support the intent of SB 3139. I believe that State Law enforcement entities should be consolidated under one department.

Greg Mayo Deputy Sheriff II Special Operations K9.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 8:36:27 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
christine kadekawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 9:12:27 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Christopher S H Lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Senators,

I fully support SB3139 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel. I hope you Senators in turn will also support this bill. There will be opposiiton from the county police departments because they fear that we will take responsibilites and funding away from them, but that is not the case. Please see both sides to this bill.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 9:24:35 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Adrian Kanoa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a Deputy Sheriff of 20 years, I support this bill and believe that the consolidation of State Law Enforcement agencies will significantly improve recruitment, training, operations and command while also managing control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel to the fullest.

Sgt. Kanoa

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 9:30:24 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
David Ray	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB3139 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

V/R

David J Ray

Deputy Sheriff

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 6:01:24 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Marcus Shaver	Testifying for Sheriff	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/12/2022 11:13:19 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ezra Furtado	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you Senators for hearing this bill. I testify in support of this bill and stand hopeful you will favorably support it as well.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 6:32:51 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Darryl Ng	Testifying for Sherrif Division	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB3139. Consolidating all State Law Enforcement just makes good sense. Being able to immediately force multiply will directly impact the shortage difficulties that face our Division currently. In the long haul it will improve the recruitment, training and operations of all State resources.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 9:38:32 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Charles Among Jr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Nishihara, Madam Vice-Chair DeCoite and Committee members,

I fully support SB3139 and believe consolidating state law enforcement and creating a Department of Law Enforcement will significantly improve operations, recruitment/retention, consistency and standardization in training, uniformity with policies and procedures and command and control of state law enforcement resources and personnel. Finally, consolidation will also create potential opportunities for cross-training and advanced career development.

As a former Adult Corrections Officer assigned to Oahu Community Correctional Center (OCCC) since 1994, and now a Deputy Sheriff assigned to Downtown Honolulu since 2002, I know there are many complexities and dynamics to both the Corrections and Sheriff Divisions, not one more important than the other. Both divisions have unique and distinct missions to the people to whom they serve, and both deserve separate departments to maximize their capabilities.

I humbly ask for your support of SB 3139. Thank you for letting me testify in this important matter.

Charles Among Jr

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 1:20:33 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ululani Makue	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha kākou,

I fully support SB3139 and believe that consolidating State Law Enforcement services and creating a single LE agency, entitled the Department of Law Enforcement, will significantly improve the recruitment, training, and command control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Moreover, the separate creation of a department for Corrections and Rehabilitation can begin to address the social issues of recidivism and reintegration among our incarcerated population and provide the necessary resources to address them in an efficient manner as an autonomous organization altogether.

Mahalo,

U. Māku‘e

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 1:35:46 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Brooke Sanchez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 1:55:52 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Keanula	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB3139 and believe that consolidating State Law Enforcement services and creating a single LE agency, entitled the Department of Law Enforcement, will significantly improve the recruitment, training, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Moreover, the separate creation of a department for Corrections and Rehabilitation can begin to address the social issues of recidivism and reintegration among our incarcerated population and provide the necessary recouses to address them in an efficient manner as autonomous organization altogether.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 2:39:46 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
robin james c robertson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 6:56:42 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Carl Rice	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support this bill. SB3139 will make law enforcement more effective and build in better accountability.

I fully support SB3139 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, and operations, and command and control of State law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of State Law Enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

V/R,

Annalyn Lozano

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 8:00:32 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
James Maeda	Testifying for Department of Public Safety / Sheriff Division	Support	No

Comments:

I would like to add my name to all those in support of this bill.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 10:40:34 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Rocky Ayala	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony. I have been with the Department of Public Safety, Sheriff Division for 29 1/2 years and have witnessed the department grow in a lot of ways. However, there is much to be done. I am pleased with this administration to have taken us this far in advancing towards the goal of separating law enforcement and corrections as both should be departments. Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

Thank you

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 3:07:21 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Sean Neilson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 4:35:16 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Tory Guillermo	Testifying for Sheriff Division - Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel. Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 6:03:59 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Michael Hirst	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Nishihara, Vice-Chair DeCoite, and members of the committee.

I would like to ask for your support of SB3139. As a member of state Law Enforcement for over twenty years I have seen firsthand how the status quo so many of our state Law Enforcement agencies attempts at progress. The opportunity to consolidate these separate agencies into a single department could provide momentous and far reaching advancements. Not only for the agencies, but the people they serve.

The improvements that can be realized by integrating into a single entity cannot be overstated. Standardized training, greater cohesion, enhanced transparency, and greater accountability are only some of the byproducts of the passage of this bill. The real and tangible benefits of these improvements will be to the ultimate end user, the people of Hawaii. Thank you for your consideration.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 7:06:23 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
gavin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I strongly support SB 3139. Reorganizing the Department of Public Safety into two distinct departments to focus independently on law enforcement and corrections would be beneficial to establish clarity and expertise within the respective areas. This action would also help to ensure duties, training and operational standards are consistent across state law enforcement agencies. By centralizing state law enforcement functions, the state would increase public safety, promote accountability, improve decision making, reduce duplication of efforts and decrease costs. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 7:53:58 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kawaiualani Makue	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB3139 and believe that consolidating State Law Enforcement services and creating a single LE agency, entitled the Department of Law Enforcement, will significantly improve the recruitment, training, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Moreover, the separate creation of a department for Corrections and Rehabilitation can begin to address the social issues of recidivism and reintegration among our incarcerated population and provide the necessary resources to address them in an efficient manner as an autonomous organization altogether.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 9:42:36 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Sean Springer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha members of the legislature,

I fully support SB3139 and believe consolidating state law enforcement and creating a Department of Law Enforcement agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, profession and command and control of state law enforcement resources and personnel.

In a time where the law enforcement field have become more complicated and law enforcement officers are evolving to find a new normal, while the public view for the need or evolution of the profession is being questioned like never before, now is the time to make this bill happen. As stated in the SB3139, centralization of all state law enforcement entities:

into a single state department will centralize state law enforcement functions to increase public safety, improve decision making, promote accountability, streamline communication, decrease costs, reduce duplication of efforts, provide uniform training and standards, and promote uniform standards of law enforcement services.

For those that are against this bill, one has to ask yourself what do they have to lose, on this common sense initiative, that has a lot of support, if this bill passed. They will say things like duplication of services; however, in reality when you look at all other states in the nation, they follow Federalism, which is a system of government in which the power is divided between the federal, state and local government. This is healthy and provides necessary checks and balances in government that prevent a one system party that has shown, can be ripe for corruption.

Finally, due to the fact that the corrections department and law enforcement department have different objectives, it is difficult to find a director that have experiences in leading and managing both entities simultaneously. By separating the two, you can find the right leadership within each specialty to effectively lead their respective agencies into the 21 Century.

R,

Deputy Sean Springer

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 11:05:10 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Avery Gomes	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support separating the Department of Public Safety as Corrections and Rehabilitation for the Correctional objectives and, Department of Law Enforcement to focus on Law Enforcement objectives.

Hawaii is far behind the national standards in both areas of Correctional Institutions and its State Law Enforcement. The passing of this bill will start us headed in the right direction.

“Corrections and Rehabilitation” benefits as a single focused part of the criminal justice system;

-Able to provide Correctional and Rehabilitation services to Hawaii’s communities which is Post Arrest and Post Charged for a crime.

-Separates the post effects an individual who has been arrested for a crime deals with and allows rehabilitation to begin knowing “Corrections and Rehabilitation” is separate from Law Enforcement and is not only throwing them behind bars but, is willing to help them deal with their issues.

-Allows the Directors office to better gather, maintain and strategize based on data regarding their efforts in progressing the Departments initiatives and reaching goals.

These are just a few examples of the obvious positive effects of having a section in Government who strictly focuses on the housing and rehabilitation of Hawaii’s offender population.

In the long run, budget will be spared in the hopes that providing a more consistent way of dealing with our offenders will lessen the chance of recidivism and promote a more positive impact on the families directly involved with the offender, especially the youth.

“Department of Law Enforcement”

Hawaii’s communities have been long over due for a united Law Enforcement Agency. As we have all seen through the years, the County Police on each island have been basically Managing/Policing every aspect of our State with very little help by other Departments within Hawaii.

In recent times, we see how society is changing and our Enforcement falls short.

We have seen Government corruption gone too far and too long due to the lack of Multi-Agency Diversity as the County Police will Investigate all cases including those which may be seen as a conflict of interest.

The creation of a State “Department of Law Enforcement” will bring Inter-Agency Diversity to our communities which will create a Check and Balance effect allowing the people of Hawaii to maintain trust in our communities Law Enforcement.

This separate Department will allow its leaders to collaborate with other agencies gathering important data to help work together for the safety and security of Hawaii’s communities.

There is an endless amount of information I could provide in support of this Bill but, I hope this short testimony had an impact on a decision for positive change in Hawaii.

As with any newly developed government services, there will be a lot of work to get this started. However, our community deserves progression out of our government and those of us who signed up to serve the people are willing to make it happen.

Mahalo!

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/13/2022 11:56:38 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Erich	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Senate committee,

I am writing in support of SB3139 as it relates to the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement. I believe the creation of this department will not only help the state government streamline law enforcement efforts within the state but coordinate resources within once separate agencies. This is a vital component in helping the people of Hawaii with a more complete state law enforcement element that did not previously exist.

Your support of this bill will ensure sole accountability and responsibilities for state law enforcement fall within a single department.

Respectfully,

Erich Mitamura

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 5:32:19 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Sandra Sorger	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass this bill. It will improve the way law enforcement functions in the state.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 7:27:29 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
R. Doug Aton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As a former Executive Officer (Captain) of the Honolulu Police Training Academy, and retiring as an Assistant Police Chief ... I am a staunch advocate of Senate Bill 3139. The concept of separating Corrections and Enforcement, two very different disciplines, is long overdue. I am also very concerned over what has happened to our once very proud Police Ohana. I believe that the Law Enforcement Standards Board is a significant first step towards regaining the trust and confidence of the very public that we took an oath to serve and protect.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 6:22:27 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Bryan Marciel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, Honorable Chair and Committee Members,

I want to express my full support for SB3139. I am, and have been a Deputy Sheriff for 24 years. This bill will finally solidify state law enforcement and streamline the all the processes involved, from recruitment, to training, personnel services, daily operations and special operations to create the foundation to provide the citizens of, and visitors to Hawaii a safer community in which to live, grow, play and strive. With the recent statement by SHOPO, the counties police union, of not being able to field the necessary numbers of police officers, thus jeopardizing the publics safety, we as state law enforcement want to be in a position to help our brothers and sisters in blue across the state to ensure that together we can all provide a safer community that our Keiki and Kapuna and everyone else deserve.

Mahalo.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 7:31:13 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Dina Paraon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB3139 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating a Law Enforcement agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of State LE under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization and accreditation under CALEA.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 7:36:04 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
JG	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill to create a state law enforcement. I believe this will allow a collaborative effort in the community to keep our citizens safer. I support the Dept of corrections being their own section.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 9:47:27 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Lynne Furuto	Testifying for Department of Public Safety/ Sheriff Division	Support	No

Comments:

February 14, 2022

To whom it may concern:

I, Deputy Lynne Furuto, would like to express my support of SB 3139. Though my career with the Sheriffs Division as a Deputy is only just beginning, I have spent several years working as an employee of the Judiciary. Throughout both of these positions I have seen firsthand how things work. With this varied perspective and exposure I can see how the passing of SB 3139 would be in the best interest of both the Sheriff division and Corrections. While both serve a critical role in the community, their respective roles are quite different. In my humble opinion, this seperation would allow each agency to have the autonomy needed in order to serve their vital and unique roles.

I thank you for taking the time to consider my testimony.

Respectfully,

Deputy Lynne Furuto

Kona Section

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 8:24:06 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kacie Kamoku	Testifying for Sheriffs Department-Kona	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support HB2171 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

Please support the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of state law enforcement under this newly created department. Consolidation would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under CALEA.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 9:26:05 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Neal Miyasato	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Sirs and Madams,

I support HB2171. This will enable State Law Enforcement Officers to be trained in the same Law Enforcement standards, be guided by one policy and procedure manual and will eliminate jurisdictional issues. It will also allow for the increase of manpower wherever there may be a shortage due to the small size of some of the agencies.

Respectfully Submitted,

Neal MIYASATO

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 8:28:56 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Carlito Mateo	Testifying for Kona sheriff division	Support	No

Comments:

As a former Correctional officer and as a current deputy sheriff, I support the Bill SB3139.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 7:50:25 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Tanny Cazimero	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am supporting this bill as a LEO veteran of both HPD and Sheriff Dept's.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 8:41:49 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Latoya Loke Lastimosa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB3139 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an Law Enforcement agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 8:21:17 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Delsonlee Evangelista	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 8:33:12 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Wesley H Taketa	Testifying for Kona Sheriffs Division	Support	No

Comments:

As a Deputy Sheriff II for the Kona Sheriffs Division I do support this bill SB3139

Aloha Chair Nishihara and esteemed members of the Committee-

My name is Michael Church and I am currently the Executive Director, Chief Operations Officer for Star Protection Agency in Honolulu Hawaii.

Star Protection Agency is the largest locally owned security company in Hawaii, with contracts on all the major islands. I have been with Star for the last 10 years. Prior to that I was a police officer/detective with the Honolulu Police Department.

I believe that the formation of this new Department of Law Enforcement is long overdue and will elevate the professionalism of law enforcement throughout the State of Hawaii. By merging various departments under one roof will not only end confusion but will enable all to work for one common goal. Accountability, recruiting and other issues can be addressed directly with the new Department's administration.

I want to express my appreciation and aloha to all of you for taking the time out of your busy schedules in reading my testimony of support for SB3139. Hopefully SB3139 will become a reality with your great support.

Mahalo,

Michael Church

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 9:07:52 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Herbert K. Laranang Jr	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB3139. This Bill of consolidating State Law Enforcement and the creation of a Law Enforcement agency will surely and significantly improve on recruitment, training (recruit and in-service), operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

I please ask for your support in the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of all State Law Enforcement Officers under this new Department. Consolidating our State Law Enforcement Officers would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 9:09:44 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Mark M. Hanohano	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha nui Senators,

I wholeheartedly support SB3139

In its current state, Hawaii law enforcement lacks structure, which mitigates stature, creates scattered focus, which results in poor performance. Consideration of these agencies should be given for a “coming together” as a “collective,” with a sincere commitment to cause, with cause being effective and efficient law enforcement services that promotes a sense of confidence and comfort in the various communities state law enforcement is responsible for. A single entity approach would be clear, consistent, organized and complete – a true professional police service provider supporting state government’s interest. Consolidation will ensure a consistent training curriculum and uniformed policies and procedures. Consolidation will provide opportunities for cross-training and advanced career development. Consolidation will streamline communications, allowing for increased coordinated efforts. The current approach is antiquated and organizationally obsolete. Consolidation will allow for correct law enforcement designation of titles, recognizing rank responsibilities and expectations, which allows for the clear appearance of the chain of command. Administration would have an acute understanding of function of mission and focus on fruition, as those in authority would have a background in the profession, law enforcement, and should have risen to their position through the ranks, with wisdom and knowledge provided by years of service. Jurisdiction would be resolved, as the consolidation of entities would put responsibilities under one authority, with that authority designating components of the new division/department the duty of service by enforcing laws/regulations related to that specific venue. Consolidation provides for career opportunities of experiencing the various functions through transfer or reassignment. It will also allow for advancement, an opportunity to “climb the ladder.”

Me ka mahalo nui for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Mark M. Hanohano

United States Marshal (ret.)

District of Hawaii

6/2003 – 2/2010

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 9:17:37 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Seta Aiolupotea	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support SB3139

Mahalo,

Seta Aiolupotea

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 9:32:45 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Ralph P Aguon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Consolidation will provide for more effective command and control not only within the newly created department but also greater command and control (oversight) for the Executive Branch;

A streamlined agency will be better able to utilize resources with greater efficiency and reduce costs due to duplication of efforts of separate agencies;

Separating Corrections and Law Enforcement Divisions will allow both entities better autonomy in carrying out their “very different” responsibilities.

Approval of this bill will provide for better accountability, reduce duplication of efforts, enhance training standards and provide better overall service to the public.

Thank you for allowing me to provide this statement in **SUPPORT** of SB3139.

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 3139
RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

COMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS, MILITARY, & VETERANS
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senator Lynn DeCoite, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 15, 2022; 1:30 PM
Via videoconference

Senator Nishihara, Senator DeCoite and Members of the Committee:

I would like to take this opportunity to request for your **strong support** of SB 3139, which would establish a Department of Law Enforcement to consolidate and administer criminal law enforcement and investigations functions of the State.

The consolidation of law enforcement responsibilities into a single state department would centralize state law enforcement functions to increase public safety, improve decision making, promote accountability, streamline communication, decrease costs, reduce duplication of efforts, provide uniform training and standards, and promote uniform standards of law enforcement services.

The State Auditor's, June 2010, Report #10-06, "Audit of the Department of Public Safety, Sheriff Division" stated, "In 1987, prior to the formation of the Department of Public Safety, the Legislature created the Department of Corrections by removing correctional services from the Department of Social Services and Housing (DSSH). The Legislature determined that the state corrections program had grown too large and complex to remain under the umbrella of DSSH and that in order to "properly address the magnitude of the problems within the state corrections system, a separate department that can provide the focus and continuous attention the system desperately needs is essential." During that time, the Legislature initially sought to transfer the Office of the Sheriff, Capitol Security, and state law enforcement officers from the Department of the Attorney General into the new department of Corrections.

Concerns arose over the potential conflict between the new department's responsibility for corrections. It was argued that the transfer of law enforcement functions into the Department of Corrections was undesirable. Accordingly, state law enforcement functions were not included in the new department, and the legislation was amended to remove state law enforcement officers from the bill. Nevertheless, two years later, the Legislature passed Act 211, SLH 1989, which made a single department, the Department of Public Safety, responsible for both vital functions of the preservation of public safety – law enforcement and corrections.

Act 83, SLH 2003, required the director of the Department of Public Safety to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of dividing the Department of Public Safety into a Department of Corrections and a Department of Law Enforcement. According to a 2005 Department of Public Safety report to the Legislature by Interim Director Richard Bissen, this created a situation in which the department “must attempt to establish resource priorities for each function without adversely impacting the other.” According to the previous Director of Public Safety, Clayton Frank, it is a challenge to manage both correctional and law enforcement in the same department since there is no direct correlation between the two functions

More importantly, the separation of the law enforcement and corrections functions would allow the reestablished Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to, as intended by the 1987 Legislature, “properly address the magnitude of the problems within the state corrections system.” The issues relating to corrections, such as persistent overcrowding, offender treatment programs, inmate management, development of alternatives to incarceration, health care, and facility maintenance, are exceedingly complex and require the full focus of a director”.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Lieutenant Robin Nagamine
Sheriff Division

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 10:10:52 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Edward Trevino	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I stand in strong support of this bill. It will greatly help the State Law Enforcement community.

Thank You.

Edward Trevino

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 10:31:00 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kurt Enos	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I unequivocally support SB3139. Consolidating State Law Enforcement agencies will improve operations and resources.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 11:15:01 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Zach Nye	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Creating the Department of Law Enforcement would consolidate all state law enforcement officers for the pupose of stream-lining state LEO operations and coordinating state LEO agencies with each other for maximum effeciency in public safety. Effectiveness of LEO functions and operations is paramount with coordination of all involved law enforcement and prosecuting agencies. This change makes for a "best practices" blueprint in unifying, simplifying and coordinating the major state LEO agencies for effective mission success in execution & prosecution of the law. Please vote in favor of SB3139

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 12:07:00 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Donald Yanagi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Consolidation will provide for more effective command and control not only within the newly created department but also greater command and control (oversight) for the Executive Branch;

A streamlined agency will be better able to utilize resources with greater efficiency and reduce costs due to duplication of efforts of separate agencies;

Separating Corrections and Law Enforcement Divisions will allow both entities better autonomy in carrying out their “very different” responsibilities.

Approval of this bill will provide for better accountability, reduce duplication of efforts, enhance training standards and provide better overall service to the public.

Thank you for allowing me to provide this statement in **SUPPORT** of SB3139.

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 1:12:03 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
ty	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

In strong support of this bill.



LATE

U.S. Department of Justice

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
Firearms and Explosives
1521 First Avenue S., STE 600
Seattle, WA 98134

February 14, 2022

www.atf.gov

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) supports the enactment of SB 3139. The Honolulu ATF Field Office (HFO) has the responsibility for the enforcement of federal firearm and explosives laws, as well as regulating the firearm and explosives industries in the State of Hawai'i. The establishment of a new Department of Law Enforcement to incorporate these many law enforcement agencies under one command would increase efficiency with a uniform command structure, providing one standard for accountability and training. This would be beneficial to the enforcement and regulation of federal firearm and explosive laws and regulations across all counties.

The HFO has limited personnel. This office supports and is supported by agencies under this proposed bill. Under this new department, a unified training center would be of great benefit to both State and federal partners. Cooperative training with these various law enforcement agencies in tactical and investigative techniques would enhance law enforcement officers' safety and provide a better service to the community.

Jonathan T. McPherson
Special Agent in Charge
Seattle Field Division

LATE

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 3:05:41 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Craig Okano	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Sir/Ma'am, I am in full support of HB2171 for several reasons but many of have already been mentioned and I will spare you the burden of redundant reading. However, my main issue pertaining to this bill is the separation of Corrections and Law Enforcement. To the best of my knowledge, the State of Hawaii is the only state in the union which still has a combined Corrections and Law Enforcement division under a single department. This concept is not only a hindrance but an absolute detriment to both entities. The basic philosophy of each division is absolutely diverse at its core. In 2018, the State of Virginia realized such a distinction, and made amendments to their State's statues. Amendments to 6VAC20-20. Rules Relating to Compulsory Minimum Training Standards for Law-Enforcement Officers and 6VAC20-100. Rules Relating to Compulsory Minimum Training Standards for Correctional Officers of the Department of Corrections, Division of Adult Institutions. Basically, these amendments clearly defined the roles, training, responsibilities, qualifications and more importantly the true definition of a Corrections officer and a Law Enforcement officer for the State of Virginia. This amendment also clearly defines the necessity to separate Corrections and Law Enforcement and to ensure that all the training and qualifications for both Corrections and Law Enforcement officers are standardized and equal throughout the State of Virginia. In closing, I truly believe that HB2171 is long overdue and is vital to the safety and security for the State of Hawaii.

LATE

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 3:25:35 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Troy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill

Separating the State Sheriff from Public Safety and Correction is a positive move to make a State Law Enforcement agency.

Hawaii is the only state that does not have a State Law Enforcement agency.

Mergenging all law enforcement agencies into one organization make sense.

Honolulu Police Department pushes back about jurisdiction but the state has jurisdiction

Honolulu Police Department is short officer, Having more State Sheriff will cover the gap that Honolulu Police Department is short.

This gives a great opportunity for the state to modernize its Law Enforcement.

I urge the name of Hawaii State Sheriff is kept.

LATE

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 3:47:27 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Alvin Turla	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

In Support Of SB-3139 :

We are writing this in support of developing a new Hawaii Statewide Law Enforcement Agency.

We hope to create a new department that is more transparent and that provides improved resources and security for our community.

the legislative blessing and approval, we hope the new agency would be a collaboration of State Sheriffs, State AG's investigators and other state law enforcement officers.

This would allow its officers to investigate crimes and enforce laws independently from county police departments which would decrease confusion and therefore, expedite the process.

We feel that that there should be two separate departments as there are two main functions that need to be concentrated on.

One department would oversee the state's correctional system and the other would consolidate state officers under a new Department of Law Enforcement.

We were once separate entities but were combined into the current Department of Public Safety in 1990.

Over time, the State considered dividing the department many times in the last two decades.

These sections are different and separate and should be treated as such.

We, are in favor of DPS splitting our Sheriffs Division into a separate agency with other state officers. That is, State officers who oversee harbors and airports may also be moved into this new agency.

We know how beneficial this new state police agency would be if they can focus on investigation of crimes and it makes sense that the AG's office would make determination case assignments.

This reorganization is necessary to help the state address issues on state lands.

Historically, we have encountered many challenges and barriers obtaining assistance from the City and County on many issues

In greater efforts to address state protection on state lands and state buildings, this new department, that is versed in these types of matters, should be created.

A alliance of sheriffs, certain AG's investigators possible conservation enforcement officers from the state Department of Land and Natural Resources would be supreme.

Each specific director could focus on either corrections or law enforcement, accordingly, and then each area will get their unique needs fulfilled leading to optimal service and protection to all.

We humbly ask this for the good of all Hawaii.

LATE

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 7:44:38 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Jazzlynn Wood	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support these men and women getting a raise because they deserve to be paid fairly for the dangerous self less work that they do each & everyday. Realistically Hawaii is a very expensive state to live in so I feel like these men and women deserve to get a raise that is first enough to support them here in Hawaii and secondly enough for them to not want to branch into another career to be able to support themselves. Therefore, it is clear that these amazing hero's deserve a raise that is worth as much as they are to us here in each and every community of Hawaii.

LATE

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 7:12:09 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
james Lupo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I wholeheartedly agree to this bill! It has my full support! It is time for us to modernize corrections and state law enforcement. They are two very different jobs and should not be under one roof. I truly believe that this is a win-win situation!

LATE

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 7:27:20 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
jayden oliveira	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

We should give all these hardworking men and woman who put their lives on the line to protect all of us citizens a raise, we need to make sure these people and their families get taken cared of, we never know if the sheriff deputy might not make it home we need to make sure all of there families are taken cared of... thank you so much god bless

LATE

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/15/2022 8:13:45 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Kanamu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha All,

I **support** SB3139 and ask that you do as well.

Mahalo

LATE

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 3:52:23 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Guy Ogimoto	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support Sb3139 and believe consolidating State Law Enforcement and creating an LE agency will significantly improve the recruitment, training, operations, command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

LATE

I am submitting this written testimony in **opposition** to SB3139; Relating to Public Safety. As a taxpaying citizen resident of the state of Hawaii and retired police officer with over 32 years of service with the Honolulu Police Department I see this proposal a wasteful use of my tax dollars when there are so many critically dire projects currently draining the State's limited budget.

The bill lacks a plan and proposed budget to implement, build and sustain this undertaking. I am all too familiar with bills passed with "unfunded mandates" that result in creating more than financial issues. Such mandates adversely affect current and future plans established by our existing law enforcement entities. It results in departments having to reduce promised and counted on services to our communities. It costs staffing hours needed to make adjustments and implement the changes to operational plans already in practice. The loss or reduction of services promised to communities because of the changes negates the goodwill and trust of those communities, which are often the most underserved ones.

Hawaii presents a very unique situation from other law enforcement jurisdictions throughout our country. Our cities and counties are physically separated by ocean. MOAs between law enforcement agencies (Federal, State and County), the Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTF), the High Intensity Drug Tracking Areas (HIDTA), the State Law Enforcement Coalition (SLEC), and the Hawaii State Law Enforcement Officials Association (HSLEOA), are some of the coordination already in place to address and overcome statewide problems. All three county police departments have achieved Commission Accreditation of Law Enforcement Accreditation (CALEA) certification creating for consistency in hiring, training, and operational practices making a totally new law enforcement agency unnecessary at this time.

If the primary purpose is to merge the existing law enforcement duties currently handled by the state under one umbrella one could take a look at the model used by our federal counterparts. Each of the federal agencies have their own enforcement arms because of the uniqueness of the laws each respective agency is responsible for. There is no mention of including the State's Department of Conservation and Resources Enforcement and State Narcotics leading one to

believe the bill being introduced is being rushed and in need of much more research.

If the formation of a State Department of Law Enforcement is so important, why did the Ige administration wait until the waning months of his tenure to make the “big push.” Moving forward so late in the Ige administration leaves the new governor an unfair mandate; a monumental project with virtually no say in the direction he/she would like to move forward with their vision of the future of the law enforcement in Hawaii. That is totally unfair to the incoming governor.

The lack of specifics in the bill (plan and costs) are disconcerting. The timing and lack of information and opportunities presented for public input in this bill raise real concerns with my cohorts and me about the intent of this bill. It has been rumored that the current leadership of the Department of Public Safety and Prisons will be leading the formation of Law Enforcement side of the house. If so, why are they not being kept to use their expertise and familiarization of the problems to fix long time issues plaguing the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. It makes no logical sense to do otherwise. Either way, this reeks of having the appearance politicians “taking care” of buddies. So much for your expressed need to “rebuild public trust” given the scandals facing all levels of our current local governments, both of our State House and Senate, inclusive.

I believe the monies to form this new department would be better served to fix the long, ongoing problems with our prisons statewide. Why are we taking on new challenges with more expenditures when we cannot even manage and address our current problems? For example, even with a change in leadership, the ongoing problems with our prisons is not improving, in fact it has gotten worse.

In closing, this bill represents a very costly “Nice to Have” proposal that lacks the essential elements of a comprehensive plan, anticipated budget, and identified leadership team. We have in place an already existing plan that is working, evidenced by Honolulu specifically, and the State of Hawaii in general being touted as the “Safest City” and state to live in and to visit. Yes, there is always room for improvement and the entities (Federal, State, and County) responsible

for our safety have demonstrated their abilities to work jointly to effectively keep all of our communities safe throughout the State of Hawaii. It is totally fiscally irresponsible to undertake a costly “Nice to Have” project that duplicates much of what is being handled effectively with so many broken long languishing problems (Aloha Stadium, Department of Public Safety the only non-CALEA certified local law enforcement agency, DOE, Covid-19 recovery, State highways, technological updating, and perceived and/or real corruption to name just a few).

LATE

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 4:28:20 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Connie Shaw-Fujii	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

I strongly OPPOSE this bill because as a taxpaying citizen, I don't see how creating a separate agency with additional administrators will improve decision making, promote accountability, increase public safety, streamline communication or DECREASE costs. If anything, this bill will increase costs to the taxpayers.

From what I read of the bill, the \$4M plus requested for the first year appears to be for salaries of new positions requested. The biggest expenditures appear to be for top administrators, rather than the line-officer who really would be able to make a difference in public safety. As costs continue to rise, how is this going to be cost-saving to the public? Law enforcement across the country is having trouble recruiting qualified personnel, so I feel the focus and money (if there is any) should be geared toward recruiting, training, and maintaining qualified law enforcement personnel first, as well as requiring existing State law enforcement agencies become more efficient.

The bill also includes establishing a training center. What are the costs and logistic hurdles going to be for this? Has any research been done regarding this? It does not appear that the budget proposed in this bill even addresses this.

The recently mandated Law Enforcement Standards Board is not even ready to begin the certification process, and appears to have pushed back the deadline for implementation to June 2024. Shouldn't we have that process up and successfully running first? That way, the training provided to this new State Law Enforcement Agency will comply with the standards set by the board. Has any consideration been made to those who are already law enforcement officers? I believe before we spend money on a new agency, we should think about potential additional training that the existing law enforcement officers would need in order to become certified, should they be lacking in any way.

The concept of a state-wide law enforcement agency sounds promising, but only if done correctly and in the right order. Please put more time and research into this before you make a decision regarding this bill. All of the stakeholders should also have a say in how this is to be implemented as it will ultimately affect them and their organizations as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this opinion.

Connie Shaw-Fujii

LATE

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/14/2022 10:30:57 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Joseph Maiava	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I, Joseph Maiava, owner of 24 Hour Bail Bonds Oahu, have had a working relationship with the Hawaii State Sheriffs for 24 years doing bailbonds and fugitive recovery. I am in support of SB3139 and HB2171.

Mahalo

MEASURE TITLE: SB 3139 RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

HEARING DATE: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2022

TIME: 1:30 P.M.



To Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair DeCoite and committee members,

I would like to submit testimony in Support of SB 3139, Relating to Public Safety.

It is said that one cannot serve two masters and I believe we can agree that both divisions of Public Safety, the Law Enforcement Division and the Corrections Division are each very important and of great significance to the State.

To be able to maintain excellent service to the State and our communities for which we are responsible to protect, serve, work alongside, and help. But also, to help rehabilitate, re-introduce into society and aid in becoming productive, healthy neighbors and family members. These are two great tasks need to be organized separately to be done well.

Sincerely,

Sue Ellen Bader

LATE

SB-3139

Submitted on: 2/15/2022 8:15:03 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/15/2022 1:30:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Remote Testimony Requested
Aaron Fuke	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I fully support SB3139. This Bill of consolidating State Law Enforcement and the creation of a Law Enforcement agency will surely and significantly improve on recruitment, training (recruit and in-service), operations, and command and control of State Law Enforcement resources and personnel.

I please ask for your support in the creation of the Department of Law Enforcement and the consolidation of all State Law Enforcement Officers under this new Department. Consolidating our State Law Enforcement Officers would allow for effective management, accountability, standardization, and accreditation under Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA).