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STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

February 13, 2024

LATE

S.B. 2631: RELATING ARREST PHOTOS

Chair Keohokalole, Vice-Chair Fukunaga, and Members of the Committee:

The Office of the Public Defender SUPPORTS S.B. 2631.

The publication of mugshots on commercial websites can have a severe and damaging impact on individuals who have been arrested.

The availability of mugshots for commercial consumption is extremely harmful to one's reputation, compromises possible employment opportunities and is extremely distressing for those who are the subject of such photos. Mugshots are often misleading and without appropriate context suggests someone is guilty of a crime they have merely been arrested for.

Arrests regularly occur without resulting in actual criminal charges. Additionally, there are many individuals charged with criminal offenses who are found not guilty or whose criminal cases results in dismissal of the charges.

Efforts to regulate and prohibit commercial profit from the publication of arrest photos is necessary to ensure individuals will not be subjected to the damaging and often inaccurate implications of such photos.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

SB-2631

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 8:12:25 AM

Testimony for CPN on 2/14/2024 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Ben Robinson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support