



**TESTIMONY OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA  
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2024**

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**ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:**

S.B. NO. 2758, RELATING TO SEX TRAFFICKING.

**BEFORE THE:**

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

**DATE:** Tuesday, February 13, 2024      **TIME:** 10:00 a.m.

**LOCATION:** State Capitol, Room 016 and Videoconference

**TESTIFIER(S):** Anne E. Lopez, Attorney General, or  
Justine Hura, Deputy Attorney General

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Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General (Department) provides the following comments on the bill.

This bill's stated purpose is to support survivors of sex trafficking by authorizing civil claims to be made against a business, owner, or operator of a transient accommodation, or other commercial entity that profits from sexual exploitation.

Current law already allows a cause of action against a person for sex trafficking. Among other things, the bill amends section 663J-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to add a cause of action for coercion into sexual exploitation or sex trafficking against a business, owner, or operator of a transient accommodation, or other commercial entity for using various forms of coercion into sexual exploitation or for profiting from sexual exploitation or sex trafficking.

The proposed amendments to section 663J-3, at page 4, lines 11-12, add "business, owner, or operator of a transient accommodation, or other commercial entity." but the placement in the section and the modifiers of the words make the meaning unclear. A clearer way of amending the section might be:

"An individual has a cause of action against a person, a business, an owner of a business, or an operator of a business who:

- (1) Coerced the individual into [~~prostitution~~] sexual exploitation or to remain in [~~prostitution,~~] sexual exploitation, or subjected the individual to sex trafficking;

- (2) Used coercion to collect or receive any of the individual's earnings derived from [~~prostitution~~] sexual exploitation or from being the subject of sex trafficking; [~~or~~]
- (3) Hired, or attempted to hire the individual to engage in [~~prostitution,~~] sexual exploitation, when a reasonable person would believe that the individual was coerced into [~~prostitution~~] sexual exploitation by another person or was being subjected to sex trafficking[~~-~~]; or
- (4) [~~Profits~~] Profited from the coercion of the individual into sexual exploitation or subjection of the individual to sex [~~into sex~~ trafficking;

For purposes of this section "business" includes a transient accommodation or other commercial activity."

(Additional technical edits are suggested to paragraph (4), above, for consistency with paragraphs (1) to (3).)

Similar revisions should be made to section 663J-6, at page 8, lines 7-14, as follows:

"(a) In the discretion of the court, two or more individuals may join in one action under this chapter as plaintiffs if their respective actions involve a person, a business, an owner of a business, or an operator of a business who [~~engages in promoting prostitution by coercion or subjecting~~] subjects or profits from the subjection of the individuals to sexual exploitation or sex trafficking. For purposes of this section "business" includes a transient accommodation or other commercial activity."

And also to section 663J-7, at page 8, line 17, through page 9, line 11 and 20, page 9, line 1:

[(a)] A claim under this chapter may [~~not~~] be brought against a person [~~more than six years after an act of promoting prostitution by coercion or sex trafficking by that person.~~], a business, an owner of a business, or an operator of a business at any time. For purposes of this section, "business" includes a transient accommodation or other commercial activity."

[(b)] ~~The limitation period provided for in this chapter is tolled:~~

- (1) ~~During the minority of the individual who engages in prostitution; or~~
- (2) ~~Any time there is a criminal offense investigation being actively conducted against the defendant by a governmental agency or there is a criminal offense charge, information, or indictment pending against the defendant.]"~~

And also to section 663J-9, at page 10, lines 1-11:

The remedies provided under this chapter do not restrict the right of any individual to bring an action under other law, including common law, to recover damages arising out of the use of the individual in [~~prostitution,~~] sexual exploitation, or subjecting the individual to sex trafficking, or the coercion incident to the individual being used in [~~prostitution~~] sexual exploitation or sex trafficking; nor does this chapter limit or restrict the liability of any person, a business, an owner of a business, or an operator of a business at any time. For purposes of this section "business" includes a transient accommodation or other commercial activity under other law."

The amendment of section 663J-4(16), HRS, at page 7, lines 5-9, relating to evidence of sexual exploitation or sex trafficking, appears to be broader than intended, because the amendment's use of the word "neglecting" at page 7, line 5, may imply there is an existing standard of care. The current wording of that amendment may be interpreted as requiring the complainant to prove a different, unintended element, and might be clearer as follows (changes to paragraph (16) shown in Ramseyer as compared to the bill):

[Acts that may serve as evidence in support of a claim under section 663J-3 include but are not limited to: . . .]

(16) [~~Neglecting~~] Disregarding notification or other indications that an individual is being coerced into sexual exploitation or sex trafficking on premises controlled by [~~another~~] the person, a business, an owner[-] of a business, or an operator of a [~~transient accommodation, or other commercial entity.~~] business that profits from the sexual exploitation or sex trafficking of the individual.

For purposes of this section "business" includes a transient accommodation or other commercial activity."

Section 663J-5(3), HRS's currently enacted "exemplary damages" is a phrase that is commonly understood to mean punitive damages. Punitive or exemplary damages are generally defined as those damages assessed in addition to compensatory damages for the purpose of punishing the defendant for aggravated or outrageous misconduct and to deter the defendant and others from similar conduct in the future." *Masaki v. General Motors Corp.*, 71 Haw. 1, 6, 780 P.2d 566, 570 (1989), *see also Howell v. Associated Hotels, Ltd.* 40 Haw. 492, 496 (1954). As such, the

proposed amendment at page 8, line 1, to add as paragraph (4) "punitive damages" appears to be redundant.

If the bill's intent is also to increase the statute of limitations for this cause of action, the Department respectfully recommends amending section 663J-7, HRS, to expand the time limit to a maximum period of time instead of making it open-ended with no limitation, and to retain the tolling provisions presently in section 663J-7(b).

Abolishing the statute of limitations (see amendment to section 663J-7, page 8, lines 17-20, and page 9, lines 1-11) may create potential due process or evidentiary issues for future litigants.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

REBECCA VILLEGAS  
Council Member  
District 7, Central Kona



PHONE: (808) 323-4267  
FAX: (808) 323-4786  
EMAIL: [Rebecca.villegas@hawaiicounty.gov](mailto:Rebecca.villegas@hawaiicounty.gov)

## HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL

*West Hawai'i Civic Center, Bldg. A  
74-5044 Ane Keohokalole Hwy.  
Kailua-Kona, Hawai'i 96740*

TESIMONY OF REBECCA VILLEGAS COUNCIL MEMBER  
HAWAI'I COUNTY COUNCIL  
ON SB 2758 RELATING TO SEX TRAFFICKING (CIVIL REMEDIES)  
Senate Committee on Judiciary  
February 12, 2024

Chairperson Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to SUPPORT SB2758. My testimony is submitted in my individual capacity as a member of the Hawaii County Council.

Service providers estimate that there are between 125 and 150 high-risk sex trafficking establishments in Hawai'i. Many of these places are in business districts or tourist areas.

Sadly, the owners of these businesses are often not held accountable for facilitating exploitation on their premises, even when they are aware of the problem and fail to take action to stop it from happening. Please pass this measure to empower survivors of sexual exploitation to seek civil remedies from the owner and operators of the establishments in which they have been harmed.

For these reasons stated above, I urge the Senate Committee on Judiciary to support this measure. Should you have any questions, please contact me at, (808) 323-4267.

Mahalo for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rebecca Villegas".

Rebecca Villegas  
Council Member, Hawai'i County Council





## SB 2758, RELATING TO SEX TRAFFICKING

FEBRUARY 13, 2024 · JDC HEARING

**POSITION:** Support.

**RATIONALE:** Imua Alliance supports SB 2758, relating to sex trafficking, which authorizes civil claims to be made against a business, owner, or operator of a transient accommodation, or other commercial entity that profits from sexual exploitation.

Imua Alliance is a victim service provider for survivors of sex trafficking. Over the past 15 years, we have provided comprehensive direct intervention (victim rescue) services to over 200 victims, successfully emancipating them from slavery and assisting in their restoration, while providing a range of targeted services to over 1,000 victims and individuals at risk of sexual exploitation. During the pandemic, demand for victim services to our organization skyrocketed by 330 percent, driven in part by a fivefold increase in direct crisis calls.

Each of the victims we have assisted has suffered from complex and overlapping trauma, including post-traumatic stress disorder, depression and anxiety, dissociation, parasuicidal behavior, and substance abuse. Trafficking-related trauma can lead to a complete loss of identity. A victim we cared for in 2016, for example, had become so heavily trauma bonded to her pimp that while under his grasp, she couldn't remember her own name. Yet, sadly, many of the victims with whom we work are misidentified as so-called "voluntary prostitutes" and are subsequently arrested and incarcerated, with no financial resources from which to pay for their release.

Sex trafficking is a profoundly violent crime. At least 23 percent of trafficking victims in Hawai'i report being first exploited before turning 18, according to a recent report, with the average age of trafficked keiki's initial exposure to exploitation being 11. Based on regular outreach and monitoring, we estimate that approximately 150 high-risk sex trafficking establishments operate in Hawai'i. In a recent report conducted by the State Commission on the Status of Women, researchers from Arizona State University found that 1 in every 11 adult males living in our state buys sex online. When visitors are also counted, that number worsens to 1 in every 7 men walking the streets of our island home and a daily online sex buyer market of 18,614 for O'ahu and a total sex buyer population for the island of 74,362, including both tourists and residents.

ASU's findings are grim, but not surprising to local organizations that provide services to survivors of sex trafficking. Imua Alliance, for example, has trained volunteers to perform outreach to victims in high-risk locations, like strip clubs, massage parlors, and hostess bars. More than 80 percent of runaway youth report being approached for sexual exploitation while on the run, over 30 percent of whom are targeted within the first 48 hours of leaving home. With regard to mental health, sex trafficking victims are twice as likely to suffer from PTSD as a soldier in a war zone.

Greater than 80 percent of victims report being repeatedly raped and 95 percent report being physically assaulted, numbers that are underreported, according to the United States Department of State and numerous trauma specialists, because of the inability of many victims to recognize sexual violence. As one underage survivor told Imua Alliance prior to being rescued, "I can't be raped. Only good girls can be raped. I'm a bad girl. If I *want* to be raped, I have to *earn* it."

Accordingly, **we support measures to advance our state's fight against sexual servitude, including this bill's effort to empower survivors to pursue civil claims against businesses that willingly turn a blind eye to exploitation that happens on their premises.** Too often, the owners and operators of such businesses are allowed to escape culpability for their role in facilitating sex trafficking, as they overlook exploitation to pad their profit margins.

**Kris Coffield · Executive Director, Imua Alliance · (808) 679-7454 · [kris@imuaalliance.org](mailto:kris@imuaalliance.org)**



**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 11:38:56 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Grace Parubrub	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in favor of this bill.

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 4:20:23 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Veronica Simao	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Please SUPPORT this bill. Hawaii's 2023 report card by Shared Hope is currently an "F" based on response to victims, care, access to justice, & prevention & training! More than 64% of survivors identified as being part Native Hawaiian and 75% of sex trafficking victims reported being homeless with minors being abused. Please vote to PASS this bill.**

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 4:20:40 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Terri Yoshinaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 4:37:20 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Patti Yasuhara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for supporting this Bill!

Patti Yasuhara

Honolulu, HI

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 8:34:40 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jessica Hudson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Please SUPPORT this bill. Hawaii's 2023 report card by Shared Hope is currently an "F" based on response to victims, care, access to justice, & prevention & training! More than 64% of survivors identified as being part Native Hawaiian and 75% of sex trafficking victims reported being homeless with minors being abused. Please vote to PASS this bill.**

**<https://reportcards.sharedhope.org/year2023/hawaii/>**

**<https://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2020/02/04/new-study-reveals-average-age-child-sex-trafficking-victims-hawaii-is-under-years-old/>**

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 8:16:54 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tammy Godoy	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Please SUPPORT this bill. Hawaii's 2023 report card by Shared Hope is currently an "F" based on response to victims, care, access to justice, & prevention & training! More than 64% of survivors identified as being part Native Hawaiian and 75% of sex trafficking victims reported being homeless with minors being abused. Please vote to PASS this bill.**

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 9:00:25 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tracy Hokama	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Stop sex trafficking profiteers.Allow civil claims against businesses transient Accommodations,Commercial entities that profit from sexual exportations.

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 2:29:01 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alice Abellanida	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill. People need to be held accountable for perpetrating this evil.



**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 2:42:27 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Chanara Caey Richmond	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I Chanara Casey Richmond support this bill

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 3:52:08 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Rita Wong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I SUPPORT SB2758

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 8:50:38 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rochelle Tamme	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Please SUPPORT this bill. Hawaii's 2023 report card by Shared Hope is currently an "F" based on response to victims, care, access to justice, & prevention & training! More than 64% of survivors identified as being part Native Hawaiian and 75% of sex trafficking victims reported being homeless with minors being abused. Please vote to PASS this bill.**

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 5:44:08 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Edna Kido	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this bill. It will only aid the prevention of child trafficking.

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 9:23:06 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tracy Gillard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill as the victims should not be limited to a timeframe of when they can file against the people who did harm.

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 9:24:50 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
TERI SAVAIINAEA	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of SB2758, in stopping sex trafficking profiteers.

Thank you,

Teri Savaiinaea

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 11:17:21 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Steve Lipscomb	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I agree with this effort to hold businesses that profit from sexual exploitation accountable.

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 2:09:08 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alice Rogers	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I definitely support this bill authorizing civil claims against persons/companies involved in this despicable enterprise.



**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 2:15:00 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rita Kama-Kimura	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**I support the passing of this bill [SB2758](#). Yes we must prosecute these businesses that support this type of illegal abuse. Sex exploitation of adults and children for money, how disgusting!**

**It is estimated that about “*one hundred fifty establishments participate in the commercial sex trade in the State*”, I venture to say it is probably much higher than that.**

**I say, go after them as they are just as guilty, no mercy ... so let's pass this bill.**

**Respectfully Rita Kama-Kimura**

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 6:17:08 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Roxanne T Jim	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Committee members:

I am in SUPPORT of this bill to hold businesses or anyone perpetrating sex trafficking to be violating law. We need this to be law in the fight against sex trafficking. Please vote YES.

Aloha ke Akua,

Roxanne Jim, District 25

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 7:33:32 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lorraine Nip	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Sexual exploitation, prostitution, sex trafficking for profit is unjust and morally wrong.

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 9:17:58 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lynette Honda	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Please SUPPORT this bill. Hawaii's 2023 report card by Shared Hope is currently an "F" based on response to victims, care, access to justice, & prevention & training! More than 64% of survivors identified as being part Native Hawaiian and 75% of sex trafficking victims reported being homeless with minors being abused. Please vote to PASS this bill.**

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 10:08:08 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Magoon Ohana	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support.

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 10:23:05 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
JOHN L PANG	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

**Stop Sex Trafficking Profiteers  
Allows civil claims against businesses,  
transient accommodations, commercial  
entities that profit from sexual exploitation.**

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 11:10:39 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Glen Malone	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please SUPPORT this bill. I have heard victims give testimony that at a very young age, they were forced to have sex with strangers by people who should have been protecting them. Additionally, Hawaii's 2023 report card by Shared Hope is currently an "F" based on response to victims, care, access to justice, & prevention & training! More than 64% of survivors identified as being part Native Hawaiian and 75% of sex trafficking victims reported being homeless with minors being abused. Please vote to PASS this bill.

<https://reportcards.sharedhope.org/year2023/hawaii/>

<https://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2020/02/04/new-study-reveals-average-age-child-sex-trafficking-victims-hawaii-is-under-years-old/>

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 11:20:50 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Catherine Collado	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of SB2758 relating to sex trafficking. It is imperative that our laws provide the utmost highest level of conviction against those who profit from sexual exploitation. We require stricter laws against sex trafficking to protect the children and adults of Hawaii. This sex trafficking business affects all socioeconomic levels. We are required to provide safety for those exploited and those who are vulnerable to sex trafficking in Hawaii. Please support SB2758. Thank you.



**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 2:30:19 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Vernelle Oku	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

thank you for holding businesses that profit from trafficking to be held accountable.

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 6:25:58 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Keith Kido	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

To All Concerned,

All businesses should be responsible to monitor to the best of their abilities to protect our keiki from exploitation. Civil action would ensure business to implement policies to curtail any exploitation activities.

Sincerely,

Keith Y. Kido

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 6:40:50 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Anna-Marie Musico	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hawaii's 2023 report card by Shared Hope is currently an "F" based on response to victims, care, access to justice, & prevention & training! More than 64% of survivors identified as being part Native Hawaiian and 75% of sex trafficking victims reported being homeless with minors being abused. Please vote to PASS this bill.

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 8:05:48 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Naomi Edwards	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please **SUPPORT** this bill. Hawaii's 2023 report card by Shared Hope is currently an "F" based on response to victims, care, access to justice, & prevention & training! More than 64% of survivors identified as being part Native Hawaiian and 75% of sex trafficking victims reported being homeless with minors being abused. Please vote to PASS this bill.

<https://reportcards.sharedhope.org/year2023/hawaii/>

<https://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/2020/02/04/new-study-reveals-average-age-child-sex-trafficking-victims-hawaii-is-under-years-old/>

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 8:26:34 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Jennifer Cabjuan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support this bill

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 9:15:34 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
janice guggino	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please **SUPPORT** this bill. Hawaii's 2023 report card by Shared Hope is currently an "F" based on response to victims, care, access to justice, & prevention & training! More than 64% of survivors identified as being part Native Hawaiian and 75% of sex trafficking victims reported being homeless with minors being abused. Please vote to PASS this bill.

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 9:51:52 AM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Alfred Hagen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Please vote "yes" on SB 2758.

Mahalo,

Alfred Hagen

**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 12:28:57 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dara Carlin, M.A.	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Stand in SUPPORT



**SB-2758**

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 4:03:11 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/13/2024 10:00:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shirley David	Testifying for St. Michael the Archangel Church, Kailua Kona	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Senate Judiciary Committee Chair Rhoads and members,

This bill changes the term prostitution to what is truly is: sex trafficking and sexual exploitation. Service providers who work with those who have been trafficked estimate that there are at least 125 high-risk trafficking establishments in Hawai`i. SB2758 holds accountable those establishments for their actions of knowingly renting for trafficking purposes.

We all have the responsibility to right wrongs. Thank you for bringing this wrong to your committee's attention. I humbly ask you to pass this measure and move it along so the individuals harmed by establishments because they looked the other way can seek civil remedies for the harm done them.

Shirley David, Pastoral Council Chair