

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



JORDAN LOWE
DIRECTOR

MICHAEL VINCENT
Deputy Director
Administration

JARED K. REDULLA
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

SYLVIA LUKE
LT GOVERNOR
KE KE'ENA

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Ka 'Oihana Ho'okō Kānāwai

715 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2457, HOUSE DRAFT 2
RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

Before the Senate Committee on
Public Safety and Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Monday, March 11, 2024; 3:00 p.m.
State Capitol Conference Room 225, Via Videoconference
Testifier: Jordan Lowe or Michael Vincent

Chair Wakai, Vice Chair Elefante, and members of the Committee:

The Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) **strongly supports**, House Bill 2457, House Draft 2.

This Administration measure expands the requirements of section 353C-9, HRS, to require the Department of Law Enforcement to pursue and obtain accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. for all divisions and sections within the Department of Law Enforcement. The bill also creates the positions needed for the proper administration of CALEA accreditation and maintenance of that accreditation.

The Sheriff Division has been required to pursue CALEA accreditation since 2011 with the passage of Act 111, Hawaii Session Laws, 2011, which has been codified in §353C-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), which provides:

[§353C-9] Department accreditation required. The department shall pursue and obtain accreditation for the sheriff division from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc.

While CALEA accreditation is important, the DLE has determined that the requirement of §353C-9, HRS is insufficient for a state law enforcement agency and supports expanding the requirement for CALEA accreditation to all divisions and sections within the DLE with nationally recognized standards that are the foundation for modern-day law enforcement agencies. For the DLE to be the law enforcement agency the Legislature and public expect, CALEA accreditation is essential.

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



LATE

STATE OF HAWAII ORGANIZATION OF POLICE OFFICERS
" A Police Organization for Police Officers Only "
Founded 1971

March 8, 2024

The Honorable Glenn Wakai, Chair
The Honorable Brandon J.C. Elefante, Vice-Chair
Senate Committee on Public Safety and Intergovernmental & Military Affairs
Hawaii State Capitol, Rooms 407, 217
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Re: **HB 2457 HD2 – Relating to the Department of Law Enforcement**

Dear Chair Wakai, Vice-Chair Elefante, 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 **strong support** of HB 2457 HD2, which expands the requirement that the Department of Law Enforcement (“Department”) pursue and obtain accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (“CALEA”), to all divisions and sections within the Department and establishes five (5) CALEA coordinator positions within the Department.

According to this bill, the Department must “provide core and continuing education and training,” which “would be made available to state and county law enforcement agencies” where said “curriculum is intended to ensure individuals trained there have the highest level of education and training with knowledge and skills to protect and serve the public.” As you may already know, 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. In fact, all four (4) county police departments and their respective police academies are already accredited by CALEA.

We thank you for allowing us to be heard on this very important issue and we hope your committee will unanimously support HB 2457 HD2.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT “BOBBY” CAVACO
SHOPO President

RC jmo

Main Office & Honolulu Chapter Office
1717 Hoe Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819-3125
Tel: (808) 847-4676 "84 SHOPO"
www.shopohawaii.org Fax: (808) 841-4818

Hawaii Chapter Office
688 Kinoole Street, Room 220B
Hilo, Hawaii 96720-3877
Tel: (808) 934-8405
Fax: (808) 934-8210

Kauai Chapter Office
3176 Oihana Street, Suite 104, Lihue
Mailing Add: P. O. Box 1708
Lihue, Hawaii 96766-5708
Tel: (808) 246-8911

Maui Chapter Office
1887 Wili Pa Loop, Suite 2
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793-1253
Tel: (808) 242-6129
Fax: (808) 242-9519