



SB2757
RELATING TO SEX TRAFFICKING
Senate Committee on Judiciary

February 13, 2024

10:00 am

Conference Room 016

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers **SUPPORT** for **SB2757**, which would align sex trafficking laws in Hawai‘i with federal laws regarding the exploitation of a minor. This crucial initiative represents a significant step towards combating the heinous crime of sex trafficking and providing justice for victims, particularly Native Hawaiians who are disproportionately impacted by this form of exploitation.

Sex trafficking is a pervasive and devastating crime that preys on the most vulnerable members of our society, including minors. By aligning Hawai‘i's sex trafficking laws with federal standards regarding the exploitation of minors, we can ensure that perpetrators who exploit children for commercial sex are held accountable to the fullest extent of the law. This alignment would streamline prosecution efforts and provide law enforcement agencies with the necessary tools to effectively investigate and prosecute cases of child sex trafficking.

Aligning Hawai‘i's laws with federal standards sends a clear message that our state is committed to protecting the rights and well-being of all individuals, especially our most vulnerable populations. Native Hawaiians, in particular, are disproportionately affected by sex trafficking due to a combination of factors such as socioeconomic disparities and historical trauma. Studies have shown that Native Hawaiian women are especially vulnerable to trafficking. The majority (43%) of sex trafficking cases are kānaka maoli girls trafficked in Waikīkī, O‘ahu.¹ 57% of participants served through the Mana‘olana Program at Child & Family Services are Native Hawaiian females who have experienced human trafficking. Therefore, enacting legislation to strengthen sex trafficking laws is especially critical for protecting Native Hawaiian communities and ensuring that they receive the support and resources they need to combat this issue.

¹ Office of Hawaiian Affairs and Commission on the Status of Women, Missing and Murdered Native Hawaiian Women and Girls Task Force Report p.5 (2022)



SB2757

RELATING TO SEX TRAFFICKING

Senate Committee on Judiciary

Furthermore, aligning our state laws with federal standards can facilitate greater collaboration and coordination between state and federal law enforcement agencies, enhancing our ability to address sex trafficking across jurisdictional boundaries. This collaboration is essential for effectively dismantling trafficking networks and bringing perpetrators to justice. It is important to note that while aligning state laws with federal laws is beneficial, it should be part of a comprehensive approach that includes prevention, education, victim support, and community engagement. Additionally, cultural sensitivity is crucial in addressing the unique needs and experiences of Native Hawaiians who may be affected by sex trafficking.

In conclusion, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs urges this committee to **PASS SB2757**, By doing so, we can strengthen protections for victims, hold perpetrators accountable, and provide much-needed support to Native Hawaiian communities who are disproportionately affected by this crime.

Mahalo piha for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



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

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 2757, 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
Albert Cook, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

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

The bill's stated purpose is to align Hawaii's sex trafficking laws with federal law by making the commercial sexual exploitation of a minor a form of sex trafficking.

This bill seeks to:

- (1) Move the offense of commercial sexual exploitation of a minor from being a standalone offense under section 712-1209.1, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to being charged as a form of sex trafficking under section 712-1202, HRS;
- (2) Change the state of mind for the offense of sex trafficking from "knowingly," to "intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly";
- (3) Add the offense of commercial sexual exploitation of a minor--now a form of sex trafficking--as an enumerated offense that qualifies for the offense of habitual commercial sexual exploitation under section 712-1209.5, HRS; and
- (4) Make the offense of habitual commercial sexual exploitation a class A felony in certain circumstances.

The proposed addition of paragraph (c) to section 712-1202(1), HRS, on page 5, line 12, through page 6, line 2, takes the wording of the offense of commercial sexual exploitation of a minor under section 712-1209.1, HRS. In doing so, the bill changes the

structure of 712-1209.1(1), HRS, making the requirement that the defendant be over the age of eighteen apply only to “solicits, offers to engage in, or requests to engage in sexual conduct with a minor in return for anything of value;” while the original wording of 712-1209.1(1), HRS, makes the age requirement applicable to all the various ways to commit the offense of commercial sexual exploitation of a minor. To retain the original effect of 712-1209.1(1), HRS, the Department suggests amending page 5, line 12, through page 6, line 2, to read as follows:

- (c) (i) Offers or agrees to provide anything of value to a member of a police department, deputy sheriff, or other law enforcement officer who represents that person's self as a minor to engage in sexual conduct;
- (ii) Provides anything of value to a minor or third person as compensation for having engaged in sexual conduct with a minor;
- (iii) Agrees to provide or offers to provide anything of value to a minor or third person for the purpose of engaging in sexual conduct with a minor; or
- (iv) Solicits, offers to engage in, or requests to engage in sexual conduct with a minor in return for anything of value; and the person is eighteen years of age or older.

The Department also suggests amending the new subsection added as section 712-1202(6), on page 6, line 19, through page 7, line 7, to read as follows:

(6) Subsection (1)(c)(iii) and (iv) shall not apply to any member of a police department, deputy sheriff, or other law enforcement officer acting in the course and scope of duties; provided that the member of a police department, deputy sheriff, or law enforcement officer is engaging in undercover operations; provided further that under no circumstances shall sexual contact initiated by the member of a police department, deputy sheriff, or law enforcement officer; sexual penetration; or sadomasochistic abuse be considered to fall within the course and scope of duties.

It is not necessary for the exception to apply to subsection (1)(c)(i) or (ii), because a law enforcement officer representing that person’s self as a minor should not engage in any of the conduct outlined in the proposed subsection (1)(c)(i), nor should any undercover officer engage in sexual conduct with a minor, as outlined in the proposed subsection (1)(c)(ii).

As written, section 4 of the bill, on page 7, line 8, through page 8, line 17, proposes to add the offense of commercial sexual exploitation of a minor--now a form of

sex trafficking under new section 712-1202(1)(c), HRS--to the list of enumerated offenses that can be used to define someone as a habitual commercial sexual exploitation offender under section 712-1209.5(2), HRS. Nevertheless, based on the bill's reference to this potentially being "the instant offense" (see page 8, lines 15-17, adding, "[] provided that habitual commercial sexual exploitation is a class A felony when the instant offense is sex trafficking under section 712-1202(1)(c)"), we believe the bill actually intends to add commercial sexual exploitation of a minor--now a form of sex trafficking under section 712-1209.5(1), HRS--as one of the "triggering" offenses for habitual commercial sexual exploitation.¹ If that was indeed the intent, we believe that is unnecessary and ask that section 4 be deleted in its entirety, as it would always be easier for prosecutors to charge and prove sex trafficking under the new section 712-1202(1)(c), HRS--a class A felony--as a standalone offense, rather than proving section 712-1202(1)(c) merely as a qualifying offense for habitual commercial sexual exploitation under 712-1209.5, also a class A felony.

That said, if the Committee wishes to add commercial sexual exploitation of a minor--now a form of sex trafficking under section 712-1202(1)(c)--as one of the enumerated offenses for the definition of "habitual commercial sexual exploitation offender" (instead of a triggering offense for habitual commercial sexual exploitation), that could address a possible, though highly unlikely, scenario. In theory, if someone is convicted of sex trafficking under 712-1202(1)(c), which is a class A felony with a twenty-year prison term and no possibility of probation (see section 712-1202(2)); and

¹ Based on section 4's addition of the phrase "instant offense," we believe the intent was actually to amend section 712-1209.5(1) as follows:

(1) A person commits the offense of habitual commercial sexual exploitation if the person is a habitual commercial sexual exploitation offender and [~~provides,~~]:

(a) Provides, agrees to provide, or offers to provide a fee or anything of value to another person to engage in sexual conduct[-]; or

(b) Commits a new offense of sex trafficking under section 712-1202(1)(c).

However, as we believe such an amendment is unnecessary, as explained above, we do **not** recommend that these amendments to section 712-1209.5(1).

that person is released on parole after serving less than ten years in prison; and that person then commits the “triggering” offense of commercial sexual exploitation² (i.e. involving a prostituted person over the age of 18 years old) while still on parole; and that person already had another prior conviction within the past ten years for one of the offenses enumerated under section 712-1209.5(2); then that person could now be charged with habitual commercial sexual exploitation as a class A felony. Thus, if the Committee prefers that the triggering offense of commercial sexual exploitation, typically a petty misdemeanor, be charged instead as a class A felony in this particular type of scenario, the Department suggests amending section 712-1209.5(3) on page 8, line 16, as follows:

(3) Habitual commercial sexual exploitation is a class C felony[.];
provided that habitual commercial sexual exploitation is a class A felony
when one or more of the prior convictions used to meet the definition of
“habitual commercial sexual exploitation offender” is sex trafficking under
section 712-1202(1)(c).

To maintain consistency in the state of mind requirement pertaining to the age of the minor (or undercover officer posing as a minor), the Department also suggests amending 712-1202(4), HRS, found in the bill on page 6, lines 13-16, to read as follows:

(4) The state of mind requirement for the offense under subsection (1)(b) and (c)(ii) is not applicable to the fact that the victim was a minor. A person is strictly liable with respect to the attendant circumstance that the victim was a minor.

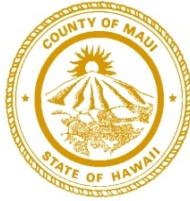
Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this bill.

² Pursuant to section 712-1200.5(1), HRS: “A person commits the offense of commercial sexual exploitation if the person **provides, agrees to provide, or offers to provide a fee or anything of value to another** [i.e. another adult] **to engage in sexual conduct.**” (Emphasis added.) This is the same language used as the triggering offense for habitual commercial sexual exploitation under section 712-1209.5(1), HRS.

RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor

ANDREW H. MARTIN
Prosecuting Attorney

SHELLY C. MIYASHIRO
First Deputy Prosecuting Attorney



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TESTIMONY ON S.B. 2757
RELATING TO SEX TRAFFICKING

TO: Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair
Honorable Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Judiciary

FROM: Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui

DATE: February 12, 2024

SUBJECT: **SUPPORT OF SB 2757, SEX TRAFFICKING**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of SB 2757. This bill amends Hawai'i's Penal Code to align it with federal law regarding the sex trafficking of minors by, *inter alia*, repealing the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of a Minor offense under HRS § 712-1209.1 and creating an equivalent offense within HRS § 712-1202 and related statutes. We support this measure because it recognizes the severity of child sexual exploitation by making the sex trafficking of minors a Class A felony offense, on par with the penalty for the sex trafficking of adults. We also support this measure because it allows convictions for sex trafficking of minors to count as prior convictions for the offense of Habitual Commercial Sexual Exploitation under HRS §712-1209.5.

For these reasons, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui supports the passage of SB 2757. Please feel free to contact our office at (808) 270-7777 if you have any questions or inquiries.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/8/2024 9:55:53 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Golojuch Jr	Testifying for Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

The Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i; Hawai'i's oldest and largest policy and political LGBTQIA+ focused organization fully supports SB 2757.

We hope you all will support this important piece of legislation.

Mahalo nui loa,

Michael Golojuch, Jr. (he/him)
Chair and SCC Representative
Stonewall Caucus for the DPH



HAWAI`I YOUTH SERVICES NETWORK

677 Ala Moana Blvd., Suite 904

Honolulu, Hawai`i 96813

Phone: (808) 489-9549

Web site: <http://www.hysn.org> E-mail: info@hysn.org

Vonnell Ramos, President
Cyd Hoffeld, Vice President
Sione Ford Naeata, Treasurer
Greg Tjapkes, Secretary

Judith F. Clark, Executive
Director

Network Membership

*Big Brothers Big Sisters Hawai`i
Big Island Substance Abuse
Council*

*Bobby Benson Center
Child and Family Service
Coalition for a Drug-Free Hawai`i
Collins Consulting, LLC
Domestic Violence Action Center
EPIC `Ohana, Inc.*

*Family Programs Hawai`i
Family Support Hawai`i
Friends of the Children's Justice
Center of Maui*

*Get Ready Hawai`i
Hale Kipa, Inc.*

*Hale `Opio Kaua`i, Inc.
Hawai`i Children's Action
Network*

*Hawai`i Health & Harm
Reduction Center
Hawai Island Community`
Health Center*

*Ho`ola Na Pua
Ho`okele Coalition of Kaua`i
Ka Hale Pomaika`i*

*Kahi Mohala
Kokua Kalih Valley
Kaua`i Planning and Action
Alliance*

*Maui Youth and Family Services
Na Pu`uwai Molokai Native
Hawaiian Health Care
Systems*

*P.A.R.E.N.T.S., Inc.
Parents and Children Together
PHOCUSED*

*PFLAG - Kona, Big Island
Planned Parenthood of the
Great Northwest, Hawaii
Alaska, Kentucky, Indiana*

*Residential Youth Services
& Empowerment (RYSE)
Salvation Army Family
Intervention Services*

*Sex Abuse Treatment Center
Susannah Wesley Community
Center
The Catalyst Group*

February 10, 2024

Senator Karl Rhoads, Chair
And members of the Committee on Judiciary

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2757 RELATING TO SEX TRAFFICKING

Hawaii Youth Services Network (HYSN) supports SB 2757 Relating to Sex Trafficking.

Homeless youth who are living on their own on the streets have few options for meeting their basic survival needs. Homeless youth often trade sex for food, money or a place to sleep. They are vulnerable to being recruited into prostitution and other forms of commercial sex work by adults.

I would like to share the story of one of these victims., When Maile (name changed to protect privacy) was 13, she ran away from home. She told me, "I met an older man, he was like an uncle to me. He put me up in a hotel room and I thought I was safe. . . But then I found out the true meaning of 'Nothing in life is free.'"

Minors who engage in sex work do it out of desperation or because they were deceived by someone they trusted.. They are victims, not criminals. And the people who recruit and exploit them are truly engaged in sex trafficking.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Judith F. Clark
Executive Director



SB 2757, RELATING TO SEX TRAFFICKING

FEBRUARY 13, 2024 · JDC HEARING

POSITION: Support with amendments.

RATIONALE: Imua Alliance supports and suggests amendments for SB 2757, relating to sex trafficking, which aligns state sex trafficking laws with federal law by making the commercial sexual exploitation of a minor a form of sex trafficking.

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 alignment of state law with federal law by making buying sex from a minor a form of sex trafficking, something that will significantly help with the proper identification of child survivors.** That said, we urge you to amend this measure by leaving section §712-1209.1 in place as a lesser included offense to maximize the tools available to law enforcement to address child sexual exploitation that occurs on our shores.

Kris Coffield · Executive Director, Imua Alliance · (808) 679-7454 · kris@imuaalliance.org

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 3:29:53 PM

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

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

Comments:

Senate Judiciary Chair Rhoads and committee members:

It is important that state law aligns with federal law in the area of sexual exploitation so that survivors receive the trauma-informed care that is needed to heal. Currently buying sex from a minor is not defined as sex trafficking in Hawaii Law. SB 2757 would align the state law with the federal law.

It is important that those who have been traumatized by sexual exploitation are offered the care they need to become healthy.

Our children and grandchildren should not be for lessened the status of commodities. When this happens it is our responsibilities as adults to do everything we can to make them whole.

Shirley David, Pastoral Council Chair

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 11:37:32 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Grace Parubrub	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in favor of this bill.

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 4:19:36 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-2757

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 4:20:03 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Terri Yoshinaga	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 4:36:13 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Patti Yasuhara	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Thank you for supporting this bill!

Patti Yasuhara

Honolulu, HI District 17

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/9/2024 8:33:39 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-2757

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 8:15:42 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-2757

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 8:57:30 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tracy Hokama	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Stop sex trafficking of minors. Align state and federal laws To make commercial exportation Of a minor A form of sex trafficking.

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 12:45:07 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
kamakani de dely	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 12:48:52 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mallory De Dely	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 12:49:40 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Susan Dedely	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 2:27:41 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alice Abellanida	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill. Child trafficking needs to stop! Stop exploiting children.

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 2:41:27 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Chanara Casey Richmond	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I, Chanara Casey Richmond, support this bill.

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 3:50:54 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rita Wong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB2757

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 7:00:31 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Roberta	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 8:19:12 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-2757

Submitted on: 2/10/2024 8:52:04 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-2757

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 5:37:02 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Edna Kido	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support this bill. We need to do something to prevent this terrible crime.

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 9:22:59 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
TERI SAVAIINAEA	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of SB2757 in stopping sex trafficking of minors.

Thank you,

Teri Savaiinaea

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 10:31:02 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Caroline Azelski	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

In support of SB 2757. Thank you.

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 11:13:47 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Steve Lipscomb	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this effort to align Hawaii law with Federal law.

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 1:59:00 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 stand in strong support of SB2757, to stop the (Sex Trafficking; Commercial Sexual Exploitation of a Minor) we have been aware of this disgusting act for a very long time. How sad that this act of child sex trafficking has become “so established here in Hawaii.” We should be ashamed, humiliated to have allowed this to happen.

When I read in the bill “... one out of every eleven adult male residents of Hawaii are online sex shoppers. The report also estimated that there were 74,362 potential sex buyers in Hawaii” how disgusting and embarrassing for us as residence of Hawaii.

Even more troubling the bill goes on to say, “estimates that one hundred fifty establishments participate in the commercial sex trade in the State,” I am glad following this bill there is SB2758 that will deal with these individuals as well.

Let not overlook the following also contained in the bill “The legislature further finds that Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders are disproportionately overrepresented in the State's sex trafficking survivor population.”

The need for this bill is way overdue! Again, I support the passing of this bill SB2757.

Respectfully, Rita Kama-Kimura

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 2:06:56 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alice Rogers	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I definitely support the passage of this bill - sex trafficking must be stopped against any and all persons - in particular young persons. I note that persons were arrested in Wahiawa recently after discovering a young person dead - probably subjected to abuse and food loss.

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 6:11:33 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Roxanne T Jim	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha e Committee members:

I SUPPORT this bill to be consistent with Federal law. Please vote YES.

Aloha ke Akua,

Roxanne Jim, District 25

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 7:25:33 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lorraine Nip	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Sexual exploitation of a minor is never okay. Protect our children.

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 10:06:36 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Magoon Ohana	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support. Open borders, as we have, adds greatly to the sex trafficking as well!

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 10:21:39 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 of Minors
Aligns state & federal laws to make the
commercial exploitation of a minor a form of
sex trafficking:**

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 11:04:07 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
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-2757

Submitted on: 2/11/2024 11:06:44 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Catherine Collado	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I am in support of SB2757 relating to sex trafficking. There are disturbing numbers of sex trafficking of the children of Hawaii of the youngest ages imaginable. There must be stricter laws against the exploiters and customers who perpetuate sex trafficking in an attempt to stop sex trafficking of our children. Those who exploit our children need to be punishable by law in the most highest degree. Sex trafficking of our children especially, but of any age for that matter, must be stopped. Please support SB2757.

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 12:34:55 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jonathan Kamai	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill to stop the sex trafficking of all minors however there should be several amendments made to this current bill. The bill states native Hawaiians and Pacific islanders are over represented..What are you considering to be Pacific islanders? Are they all legal citizens of the United States of America? What area of the Pacific are they from? Also. Of the 64% identified as Native Hawaiian in the Arizona State University study, what is it meant by identified as? Are they Indigenous or just legal residents of the state of hawaii? In this bill's (SB2757) current form there are too many gray areas. Too many holes that can be manipulated to possibly serve unscrupulously evil characters possibly creating a whole nother group of victims. Please clean up this bill. Lots more to go over. As mentioned in the bill about not relying on the enforcement of the law as it is, please write it better. I support the stopping of all sex tracking of all minors period.

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 2:26:02 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vernelle Oku	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill.

Thank you for voting to protect our keiki!

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 6:20:40 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Keith Kido	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We must make sure our children are protected from sexual predators, therefore I am in support of SB2757.

Sincerely,

Keith Y. Kido

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 6:40:13 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
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-2757

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 7:53:29 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Vlad Sosa	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this Bill. Let's keep our kids safe and prosecute those who seek to harm them in this way.

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-2757

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 8:04:27 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
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-2757

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 8:25:55 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Jennifer Cabjuan	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support this bill

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 9:14:49 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
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-2757

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 9:53:24 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Alfred Hagen	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

Please vote "yes" on SB 2757.

Mahalo,

Alfred Hagen

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 11:03:19 AM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Tracy Gillard	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

We need to protect our children as they can't protect themselves. If we make it easier for minors to fight back.

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 12:28:26 PM

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

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

Comments:

Stand in SUPPORT

SB-2757

Submitted on: 2/12/2024 8:14:59 PM

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

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Raymond Catania	Testifying for Hawaii Workers Center/Kauai volunteer	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Hello Committee Chairs and members,

I fully support SB2757. More than 80% of America's workforce does not have paid family leave. As a union member when I was working for the State of Hawaii, I had the great opportunity to have paid family leave in helping my wife when she gave birth. All workers need this right. Most caregivers are women who should have not to choose in caring for a sick or elderly family member and a paycheck. Please pass this bill.

Mahalo,

Ray Catania, Kauai- Hawaii Workers Center/Kauai volunteer