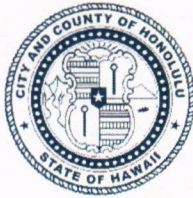


HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT  
KA 'OIHANA MĀKA'I O HONOLULU  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813  
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OUR REFERENCE **VL-BT**

February 11, 2025

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Judiciary  
State Senate  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 016  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Chair Rhoads and Members:

**SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 112, S.D. 1, Relating to Police Reports**

I am Vince Legaspi, Captain of the Criminal Investigation Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD opposes Senate Bill No. 112, S.D. 1, Relating to Police Reports.

Requests for closing reports cannot be granted because, in most cases, no such report exists due to the investigation remaining open. Investigators who cannot solve cases at the time of the investigation, document their efforts in follow-up reports. Releasing these reports to family members could compromise the integrity of the investigation. It would grant access to witness information, potential witness details, and specific evidence, potentially leading family members to conduct their own investigations. This could also jeopardize the case, hinder future progress, and reduce the likelihood of identifying a suspect and securing a prosecution.

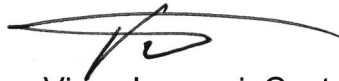
Typically, families interested in the status of a case may meet with a detective to discuss and review the case. However, as with other investigations, detailed information will not be disclosed until a suspect is identified and the case is prosecuted. The risk of jeopardizing justice for the victim and their family far outweighs the benefit of providing partial closure or information at this stage.

The Honorable Rhoads, Chair  
and Members  
February 11, 2025  
Page 2

The HPD urges you to oppose Senate Bill No. 112, S.D. 1, Relating to Police Reports.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Vince Legaspi, Captain  
Criminal Investigation Division

APPROVED:



Arthur J. Logan  
Chief of Police



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

**RE: Testimony with comments on S.B. 112 S.D. 1, Relating to Police Reports**  
Hearing: February 11, 2025 at 10:00 a.m.

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

My name is Ben Creps. I am a staff attorney at the Public First Law Center, a nonprofit organization that promotes government transparency.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony with **comments** on S.B. 112 S.D. 1. We **recommend reverting to the original bill draft** to better effectuate the intent of this measure.

As originally drafted, this measure promoted reasonable transparency for the surviving family members of individuals subject to a police investigation. The S.D. 1, however, presents an illusory promise of that by providing disclosure *only* upon “conclusion of all criminal proceedings related to the incident.” Not all police investigations lead to criminal proceedings. And some investigations never close – there is no statute of limitations for the crime of murder, for example.

Surviving family members deserve to understand the government’s investigation into the death of a loved one. Five years from the completion of a closing report, or seven years from the underlying event, is a long time to wait for that understanding – and more than enough time for the resolution of criminal proceedings.

The trial-related concerns expressed in opposition testimony are adequately addressed by criminal rules of procedure and the judges who preside over such proceedings.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify with comments on S.B. 112 S.D. 1.



**SB-112-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/8/2025 1:09:28 PM

Testimony for JDC on 2/11/2025 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:

Standing in Support