

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



MIKE LAMBERT
DIRECTOR

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

JARED K. REDULLA
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1452, SENATE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO THE UNIFORM CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE ACT
Before the House Committee on
HEALTH

Wednesday, March 19, 2025, 9:05 AM

State Capitol Conference Room 329 & Videoconference

Testifiers: Jared Redulla

Chair Takayama, Vice Chair Keohokapu-Lee Loy, and members of the Committee:

The Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) supports Senate Bill 1452, Senate Draft 1, which updates chapter 329, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to make it consistent with amendments in the Federal Controlled Substances Act as required under section 329-11, HRS.

This bill proposes necessary updates to sections 329-14, 329-16, and 329-20 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, explicitly modifying the lists of controlled substances including opiates, hallucinogens, stimulants, and other regulated chemical compounds. These updates are essential to maintain alignment with federal standards and classifications, which is a requirement under existing state law.

The DLE supports this measure for several important reasons. First, maintaining consistency between state and federal controlled substances regulations is critical for effective law enforcement operations across jurisdictions. When state and federal laws are aligned, it eliminates potential gaps and ambiguities that could be exploited by those

engaged in illegal drug activities.

Second, these updates enhance public safety by ensuring that emerging substances with potential for abuse or harm are appropriately classified and regulated. The controlled substances landscape is constantly evolving, with new synthetic compounds and analogs being developed. Regular updates to our controlled substances schedules are necessary to address these emerging threats.

Third, this alignment provides clarity for healthcare providers, pharmacists, and other stakeholders who must comply with both state and federal regulations. Consistency between state and federal standards reduces compliance burdens and potential confusion for these professionals.

Additionally, these updates support the DLE's ongoing efforts to combat drug trafficking and substance abuse in Hawaii. By maintaining current and comprehensive controlled substances listings, law enforcement agencies can more effectively identify, investigate, and prosecute cases involving these substances.

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