

TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA THIRTY-THIRD LEGISLATURE, 2025

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 1310, RELATING TO CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECKS.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

DATE: Friday, February 7, 2025 **TIME:** 9:25 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 016

TESTIFIER(S): Anne E. Lopez, Attorney General, or

Philip D. Higdon, Administrator, Hawaii Criminal Justice Data

Center

Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General supports this bill and offers the following comments.

This bill amends sections 28-17(b) and 846-2.7(b)(49), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), by deleting the term "agents of contractors."

These amendments are required by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). Statutes authorizing states to conduct fingerprint-based criminal history record checks for non-criminal purposes are subject to the approval of the FBI. Upon its review of sections 28-17 and 846-2.7(b)(49), HRS, the FBI determined that the term "agents of contractors" was overly broad, as it failed to specifically identify the subject of the criminal history record check. The amendments are necessary because the Department of the Attorney General needs to be able to conduct fingerprint-based background checks on people who have access to federal tax information held by the Department.

We respectfully ask the Committee to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.