

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. 1319, RELATING TO IDENTIFICATION PROCESSING.

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

Elyse C.N. Oyama, Deputy Attorney General

Chair Rhoads and Members of the Committee:

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

The purposes of this bill are: (1) to require the Hawaii Criminal Justice Data Center (HCJDC) to obtain and maintain data regarding criminal convictions, deferred acceptance of guilty or nolo contendere pleas, and conditional discharges, in misdemeanor, petty misdemeanor, or violation level cases that were initiated via citation; and (2) to require that courts facilitate this process by ordering identification processing in such cases.

Hawaii's courts, law enforcement agencies, and other entities within the criminal justice system routinely use and rely upon information collected by HCJDC, to provide complete and accurate criminal history record information. Currently, section 846-2.5(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), requires and authorizes HCJDC to collect such information in cases initiated by arrest or penal summons, but does not account for any convictions from misdemeanor, petty misdemeanor, or violation level cases that were initiated by citation. As a result, none of those convictions has ever been included in HCJDC's data, and the courts and other authorized entities have unintentionally been operating based on an incomplete criminal history for many individuals.

The proposed amendment to section 846-2.5(b), HRS, would ensure that all convictions and sentences handed down by our court system are accurately processed

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and recorded by HCJDC. This change will enhance the accuracy and reliability of Hawaii's criminal history record information.

We respectfully ask the Committee to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

HONOLULU POLICE DEPARTMENT KA 'OIHANA MĀKA'I O HONOLULU

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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ARTHUR J. LOGAN CHIEF KAHU MÄKA'I

KEITH K. HORIKAWA RADE K. VANIC DEPUTY CHIEFS HOPE LUNA NUI MÄKA"

OUR REFERENCE CL-DNK

February 7, 2025

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

Dear Chair Rhoads and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 1319, Relating to Identification Processing

I am Carlene Lau, Acting Major of the Records and Identification Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports Senate Bill No. 1319, Relating to Identification Processing. The HPD recognizes the importance of accurately maintaining a criminal history database. This bill allows for a more complete criminal history database maintained by the State by identifying persons who were convicted of a criminal offense after being cited or granted a deferred acceptance of guilt or nolo contendere plea or conditional discharge, to include fingerprinting.

The HPD supports Senate Bill No. 1319, Relating to Identification Processing, and thanks you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

Arthur J. Logan Chief of Police

Sincerely,

Carlene Lau, Acting Major

Records and Identification Division