POLICE DEPARTMENT

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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OUR REFERENCE KS-LS

March 13, 2008

The Honorable Cindy Evans, Chair and Members Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs House of Representatives State Capitol Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Evans and Members:

Subject: Senate Bill No. 2958, S.D. 1, Relating to Enhanced 9-1-1 Services for Mobile Telephones

I am Kenneth Simmons, Major of the Communications Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports Senate Bill No. 2958, S.D. 1, as this bill seeks to immediately reduce the surcharge on wireless telephones.

The HPD, which is the main Public Safety Answering Point for the State of Hawaii, has only just begun to see all the effects and identify problems from deploying the Enhanced Wireless 9-1-1 system. We have yet to even successfully deploy this system at our Alternate Communications Center. As such, we are just starting to request monies from the existing fund.

Because more than 60 percent of all 9-1-1 calls are from wireless service providers, we believe that this fund will need to be continued. Also, this reduction is a far better solution than eliminating the fee. There will always be costs to maintain a system that is able to provide excellent service to the community at the level that they expect.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to express our support of Senate Bill No. 2958, S.D. 1.

APPROVED:

Sincerely,

BOISSE P. CORREA

Chief of Police

KENNETH SIMMONS, Major Communications Division

Major Kenneth 3 Semmons