LATE TESTIMONY

From:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Thursday, March 17, 2011 3:01 PM

To:

PGM Testimony

Cc:

harry.matsuura@co.maui.hi.us

Subject:

Testimony for HB551 on 3/17/2011 2:55:00 PM

Testimony for PGM 3/17/2011 2:55:00 PM HB551

Conference room: 224 Testifier position: support Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Harry W. Matsuura Sr.

Organization: Individual

Address: Phone:

E-mail: harry.matsuura@co.maui.hi.us

Submitted on: 3/17/2011

Comments:

PGM COMMITTEE:

I am Field Supervisor Harry W. MATSUURA SR. with the Department of Liquor Control for the County of Maui. I have been to Taser International located in Scottsdale Arizona for training and have completed the 2 day course to be an instructor. I have been trained in the use of the X-26 model which is an electronic control device or more commonly know as an ECD.

During the training I was shot with the X-26 and endured a five second period of electrical shock. It is a very useful, powerful and effective device that is beneficial to officer safety and the safety of the individual used upon. It has no residual effect and when the power is off you are back to normal. On the same day that I was shot with the X-26, I volunteered to be a "Lab Rat" and got tased twice more with the potential of instead of 5 seconds which the X-26 puts out, to a 20 second potential shock. If I do not walk across a room while under the influence of the shock and press a button and turn off the power, I will be shocked for 20 seconds. I did both the test and endured being shocked three times on that day. I am a qualified instructor right now and waiting for the law to be passed.

I am also a victim of violence by patrons while on my tour of duty. I was attacked by 5 men on March 29, 2008. I managed to fend them off using my Vexor Capsun pepper spray and my own physical abilities. I did sustain physical injuries to my right calf muscle which was torn in two places while wrestling with one of the combatants. I was lucky they did not have any weapons and was fortunate to fend them off until the police arrived. It has been almost three years since the attack and two of the combatants have felony charges on them right now. The case has dragged on for three years now and finally will be done in April 2011.

I will be 61 years old in about 17 days on April 2, 2011. If this happened to a person of lesser stature as I, the result could be serious for that officer. I urge you to pass this bill for the protection of non-weapon caring officers as myself and fellow Liquor Control Officers throughout the state of Hawaii. The question is. Who will be the first liquor officer seriously hurt or killed in the line of duty before this safety concern is addressed. This ECD is a tool to be used for our safety.