

# SB 2396

## **RELATING TO HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY**

*Description:*

Changes the two part-time members of the Hawaii paroling authority to full-time members. Requires the governor to establish the salaries of the Hawaii paroling authority. Repeals authorization of paroling authority members to receive appropriations by the authority for travel expenses and incidentals. Appropriates funds for the increase in salary and additional equipment needs.

**NEIL ABERCROMBIE**  
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**  
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No. \_\_\_\_\_

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2396  
RELATING TO THE HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY**  
by  
**Jodie F. Maesaka-Hirata, Director  
Department of Public Safety**

**Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs  
Senator Will Espero, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair**

**Tuesday, January 31, 2012, 3:15 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224**

**Chair Espero, Vice Chair Kidani, and Members of the Committee:**

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) would like to express our appreciation for Senate Bill (SB) 2396 and its intent to change the two part-time members of the Hawaii Paroling Authority (HPA) to full-time members.

The PSD believes that this issue is covered under SB 2776, which grants the HPA additional part-time members. We would like to respectfully request support for the HPA through SB 2776, which proposes a five (5)-member parole board comprised of one full-time chair and four (4) part-time board members. This measure provides greater flexibility, while simultaneously allowing for an increased hearing schedules to meet the needs of the HPA.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE  
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII  
**HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY**  
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No. \_\_\_\_\_

TESTIMONY SENATE BILL 2396  
RELATING TO THE HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY

HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY  
Bert Y. Matsuoka, Chairman

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs  
Senator Will Espero, Chair  
Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

Tuesday, January 31, 2011; 3:15p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Kidani and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Paroling Authority (HPA) appreciates the legislature's interest in the composition and compensation of the parole board. Senate Bill 2396 seeks to allow the Governor to determine the salary of the Chair and to convert the two current part-time board members to full-time exempt employees. As written, the HPA supports the intent of this measure, but respectfully requests that the legislature consider adding two additional part-time board members instead of converting the two current part-time board members to full-time exempt employees.

A five (5) member parole board comprised of one full-time chair and four (4) part-time board members provides a much greater degree of flexibility while simultaneously addressing the needs of the Authority with respect to ever increasing hearing schedules and required administrative session decision making. With a five-member parole board, a simple majority of three of the five members would be required to conduct hearings. Further, the addition of two part-time board members would be less costly to the state and more fiscally prudent.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.