TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE, 2013

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:
S.B. NO. 888, RELATING TO CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT.

BEFORE THE:
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES

DATE: Thursday, March 14, 2013 **TIME:** 9:30 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 329

TESTIFIER(S): David M. Louie, Attorney General, or
Garry L. Kemp, Administrator, Child Support Enforcement Agency

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Chair Carroll and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General supports this bill.

The provisions of this bill amend section 576D-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), in order to bring the Hawaii Child Support Enforcement Agency into compliance with federal law.

The Trade Adjustment Assistance Extension Act of 2011 (Public Law 112-40) amended section 453A(a)(2) of the Social Security Act by adding a definition of the type of employees that are to be reported to the state directory of new hires. This change went into effect on April 21, 2012, and requires that all states comply with the new federal mandate by adopting the wording listed in this bill. The amended wording will become part of the state's New Hire reporting requirements.

The amendment to section 576D-16, HRS, adds a definition of new hires to include an employee who has not previously been employed by the employer and an employee who was previously employed by the employer but has been separated from the prior employment for at least sixty consecutive days. The wording being proposed is what is required under the new federal law.

Compliance with this new requirement is necessary to maintain eligibility for federal welfare funding and federal funding of child support enforcement programs.

We respectfully ask the Committee to pass this bill.