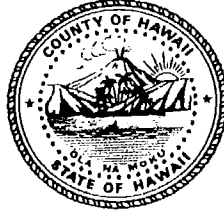


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**OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY**

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 148

A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO NUISANCE  
ABATEMENT

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

Sen. Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair  
Sen. Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 5, 2015, 9:00 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 016

Honorable Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor, the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai'i submits the following testimony in support of Senate Bill No. 148.


This measure includes gambling among the types of offenses that are subject to the nuisance abatement laws.

The sheer volume of money, cash in particular, that is generated by illegal gambling can lead to neighborhood and community nuisances by becoming a haven for organized crime. This Bill will supplement traditional policing by providing an additional tool to remedy illegal activity at specific buildings, premises, or places within Hawai'i.

Law enforcement has often used the nuisance abatement law to hold owners and landlords accountable for addressing known criminal activities occurring on their real property. Currently, there are no consequences for property owners to fail to take action to halt ongoing gambling activity occurring on their property. This nuisance abatement law must be amended to provide an additional course of action for law enforcement agencies to address illegal gambling activities.

The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai'i supports the passage of Senate Bill No. 148. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

Respectfully,

  
Mitchell D. Roth  
Prosecuting Attorney  
County of Hawai'i

POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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DAVE M. KAJIHIRO  
MARIE A. McCAULEY  
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE JI-TA

February 5, 2015

The Honorable Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
State Senate  
Hawaii State Capitol  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Keith-Agaran and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 148, Relating to Nuisance Abatement

I am Jerry Inouye, Major of the Narcotics/Vice Division of the Honolulu Police Department, City and County of Honolulu.

The Honolulu Police Department supports Senate Bill No. 148, Relating to Nuisance Abatement.

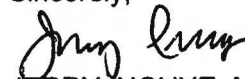
Illegal gambling establishments attract other types of criminal activity, including assaults, robberies, firearms offenses, and narcotics offenses. Enforcement action is taken regularly at these illegal establishments, but it appears that when one is closed down, another one opens in its place.

Passage of this bill would provide a long-term solution to a chronic problem. It would give law enforcement a necessary tool to dismantle an illegal gambling enterprise.

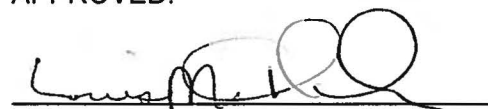
The Honolulu Police Department urges you to support Senate Bill No. 148, Relating to Nuisance Abatement.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

  
JERRY INOUYE, Major  
Narcotics/Vice Division

APPROVED:

  
LOUIS M. KEALOHA  
Chief of Police

*Serving and Protecting With Aloha*