A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO LAW ENFORCEMENT CAMERAS.

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that an increasing number

of states are addressing the issue of law enforcement agencies'

3 use of body-worn video cameras and vehicle cameras as a means to

4 protect civilians and law enforcement officers. A body-worn

5 video camera worn by a law enforcement officer acts as a third-

6 party, independent witness in disputes by clarifying testimony

obtained in the field. Vehicle cameras are video cameras that

8 are typically mounted on a vehicle's dashboard.

9 The legislature further finds that people who are aware

10 that they are being videotaped are more inclined to alter their

11 behavior, as they know that they will likely be held accountable

12 for their actions. In light of the recent incidents involving

13 law enforcement officers and the alleged use of unnecessary

14 force, body-worn video cameras and vehicle cameras can provide

15 law enforcement officers and civilians the security of knowing

16 that a law enforcement officer's or civilian's statements about

- 1 an incident may be corroborated by the video or audio recording
- 2 obtained through the body-worn video camera or vehicle camera.
- 3 Law enforcement agencies in this country spend
- 4 approximately \$2,000,000,000 annually investigating complaints
- 5 against law enforcement officers. The use of body-worn video
- 6 cameras and vehicle cameras may reduce complaints against law
- 7 enforcement officers and allow complaints to be resolved more
- 8 quickly, thus freeing up valuable resources and reducing
- 9 financial losses.
- 10 The legislature also finds that the use of body-worn video
- 11 cameras and vehicle cameras can assist law enforcement agencies
- 12 with training, assessment, and disciplinary decisions.
- Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to promote
- 14 transparency, accountability, and protection for law enforcement
- 15 officers and civilians by:
- 16 (1) Establishing requirements for the use; and
- 17 (2) Appropriating funds to each county for the purchase,
- 18 of body-worn cameras and vehicle cameras.
- 19 SECTION 2. Chapter 52D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 20 amended by adding a new part to be appropriately designated and
- 21 to read as follows:

1		PARI . LAW ENFORCEMENT CAMERAS							
2	§52D	Definitions. As used in this part:							
3	"Body-worn camera" means a recording device that is:								
4	(1)	Capable of recording, or transmitting to be recorded							
5		remotely, video and audio; and							
6	(2)	Worn on the person of a police officer, and shall							
7		include being attached to the police officer's							
8		clothing or worn as glasses.							
9	"Vehicle camera" means a recording device that is:								
10	(1)	Capable of recording, or transmitting to be recorded							
11		remotely, video and audio; and							
12	(2)	Mounted in or on a law enforcement vehicle.							
13	§52D- Body-worn cameras; police department policies.								
14	(a) Each	county police department shall adopt policies for the							
15	use of boo	dy-worn cameras and vehicle cameras that prohibit the							
16	activation of either type of camera for non-law enforcement								
17	purposes and shall establish requirements that provide for the								
18	following:								
19	(1)	When a police officer shall and shall not activate a							
20		camera or discontinue a recording currently in							
21		progress;							

1	(2)	Data	rete	ntion,	inclu	ding r	requiring	the	retention	of
2		data	for a	a mini	mum of	ninet	y days;			

- 3 (3) Storage of video and audio recordings, creation of
 4 backup copies of the video and audio recordings, and
 5 maintenance of data security;
- 6 (4) Public access, including requests made pursuant to
 7 chapter 92F;
- 8 (5) Allowing a police officer access to any recording of
 9 an incident involving the police officer before the
 10 police officer is required to make a statement about
 11 the incident;
- 12 (6) Procedures for supervisory or internal review; and
- (7) The handling and documenting of equipment andmalfunctions of equipment.
- 15 (b) No county police department policy shall require a
 16 police officer to keep a body-worn camera activated for the
 17 entire period of the police officer's shift.
- 18 §52D- Training. (a) No police officer shall use a
 19 body-worn camera or vehicle camera without first being trained
 20 by the applicable county police department on the proper use of
 21 the body-worn camera or vehicle camera.

- 1 (b) No law enforcement personnel shall come into contact
- 2 with data obtained from the use of a body-worn camera or vehicle
- 3 camera without first being trained by the applicable county
- 4 police department on the proper handling of the data.
- 5 (c) The department of the attorney general shall develop
- 6 or approve a curriculum for training programs under this
- 7 section.
- 8 §52D- Prohibited acts. (a) No police officer on duty
- 9 shall operate a body-worn camera or vehicle camera that is not
- 10 issued and maintained by the applicable county police
- 11 department.
- 12 (b) No person shall tamper with, delete, or make an
- 13 unauthorized copy of data obtained through the use of a body-
- 14 worn camera or vehicle camera under this part.
- 15 (c) No person shall release a recording created with a
- 16 body-worn camera under this part unless the person first obtains
- 17 the permission of the applicable county police department.
- (d) No recording created by a body-worn camera documenting
- 19 an incident that involves the use of deadly force by a police
- 20 officer or that is otherwise related to an administrative or

- 1 criminal investigation of a police officer shall be deleted or
- 2 destroyed without court order."
- 3 SECTION 3. Chapter 52D, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 4 amended by designating sections 52D-1 to 52D-16 as "Part I.
- 5 General Provisions".
- 6 SECTION 4. Each county police department that receives a
- 7 grant-in-aid pursuant to section 5 of this Act, shall submit to
- 8 the legislature reports no later than twenty days prior to the
- 9 convening of the 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021 regular
- 10 sessions, which shall include the costs of implementing and
- 11 maintaining the body-worn camera and vehicle camera program and
- 12 the equipment, data storage, and other costs of the program.
- 13 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
- 14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,350,000 or so much
- 15 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2016-2017 for a
- 16 grant-in-aid to each county for the purchase of body-worn video
- 17 cameras and law enforcement vehicle cameras to be used by each
- 18 county police department, to be allocated as follows:
- 19 \$700,000 to the city and county of Honolulu;
- 20 \$250,000 to the county of Maui;
- 21 \$250,000 to the county of Hawaii; and

- 1 \$150,000 to the county of Kauai,
- 2 provided that no funds appropriated to a county under this Act
- 3 shall be expended unless matched dollar-for-dollar by the
- 4 county.
- 5 The sum appropriated shall be expended by each county for
- 6 the purposes of this Act.
- 7 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2016.

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INTRODUCED BY: AC. Kurts

SB LRB 16-0586.doc

Report Title:

Body-Worn Cameras; Vehicle Cameras; Law Enforcement; Grant-in-Aid; Appropriation

Description:

Establishes requirements for body-worn cameras and vehicle cameras for county police departments. Appropriates funds as a grant-in-aid to each county for the purchase of body-worn video cameras and law enforcement vehicle cameras; provided that no funds appropriated to a county shall be expended unless matched dollar-for-dollar by the county.

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