POLICE DEPARTMENT

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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KIRK CALDWELL MAYOR



OUR REFERENCE JM-NTK

April 1, 2016

The Honorable Karl Rhoads, Chair and Members Committee on Judiciary House of Representatives Hawaii State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Rhoads and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 2107, Relating to Pen Registers

I am John McCarthy, Captain of the Criminal Investigation Division of the Honolulu Police Department, City and County of Honolulu.

The Honolulu Police Department supports Senate Bill No. 2107, Relating to Pen Registers.

The current definition of pen register uses the dated term of a device using a "telephone line." While telephone lines are still used, a greater number of cellular devices are being utilized. The passage of this bill would clarify that cellular telephones are the subject to pen registers.

The Honolulu Police Department urges you to support Senate Bill No. 2107, Relating to Pen Registers.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

Louis M. Kealoha Chief of Police

Sincerely,

John D. McCarthy, Capitain

Criminal Investigation Division

LOUIS M, KEALOHA Chief

MARIE A. MCCAULEY CARY OKIMOTO DEPUTY CHIEFS

Serving and Protecting With Aloha

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

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THE HONORABLE KARL RHOADS, CHAIR SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

> Twenty-Eighth State Legislature Regular Session of 2016 State of Hawai`i

> > April 1, 2016

RE: S.B. 2107; RELATING TO PEN REGISTERS.

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair San Buenaventura, members of the House Committee on Judiciary, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu ("Department") submits the following testimony in <u>strong support</u> of S.B. 2107. This bill is part of the Department's 2016 legislative package.

The purpose of this bill is to update the definition of a "pen register" to include devices that do not use a landline but still make phone calls, such as cellular telephones and electronic devices that make phone calls via the Internet, and software applications such as Skype, Google Voice, and iCall. In short, the proposed language makes the statute "technology neutral".

The current statutory definition of a "pen register" was adopted in the 1980's, and still refers to numbers dialed on a landline. Specifically, HRS §803-41 defines a "pen register" as a "device that records or decodes electronic or other impulses that **identify numbers dialed or otherwise transmitted on a telephone line** to which such device is attached" (emphasis added). Cellular phones transmit numbers via *radio frequencies*, not landlines, and Internet phone calls transmit phone numbers via communications systems maintained by Internet Service Providers.

The language of S.B. 2107 would make the definition of "pen register" technology neutral, and more applicable to current forms of communication. Significantly, however, this proposal would not change the "probable cause" standard, or burden of proof that law enforcement must meet, to obtain a court order for a pen register or trap and trace device. Those standards, set forth in HRS § 803-44.5 and 803-44.6, would remain unaffected by this proposal.

For these reasons, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu strongly supports S.B. 2107. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

KEITH M. KANESHIRO PROSECUTING ATTORNEY