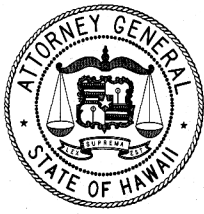




SB2374

Measure Title:	RELATING TO APPROPRIATIONS TO THE HAWAII COUNTY OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY.
Report Title:	Appropriations; Hawaii County Office of the Prosecuting Attorney (\$)
Description:	Appropriates funds to the Hawaii county office of the prosecuting attorney for the career criminal prosecution unit.
Companion:	HB1688
Package:	None
Current Referral:	PSM/JDL, WAM
Introducer(s):	INOUYE, RUDERMAN, Gabbard, Green, Kidani, Shimabukuro



TESTIMONY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE, 2016

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 2374, RELATING TO APPROPRIATIONS TO THE HAWAII COUNTY OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY.

BEFORE THE:

**SENATE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS AND ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR**

DATE: Wednesday, February 10, 2016 **TIME:** 8:30 a.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 016

TESTIFIER(S): Douglas S. Chin, Attorney General, or
Julie Ebato, Crime Prevention and Justice Assistance Division

Chairs Nishihara and Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committees:

The Department of the Attorney General supports this bill as these funds are for needed and worthy services provided by the Hawaii County Office of the Prosecuting Attorney to fulfill the requirements of chapter 845, Career Criminals, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to the extent that these funding amounts can be supported within the State's financial plan.

The Legislature established the Career Criminal Prosecution (CCP) program because it found that a substantial and disproportionate amount of serious crime is committed by a relatively small number of multiple and repeat felony offenders, commonly known as career criminals. The Legislature's intent was to support increased efforts by prosecuting attorneys' offices to prosecute career criminals. By their nature, CCP cases are often labor intensive and require experienced and well-trained deputy prosecutors. Since fiscal year 2007-2008, funding for the CCP program has been significantly reduced, which has resulted in positions being held vacant. This funding request is needed to fully staff the CCP program so that the prosecution of career criminals can be pursued to the greatest extent.

We urge the Committees to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

MITCHELL D. ROTH
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

DALE A. ROSS
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OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 2374

A BILL RELATING TO APPROPRIATIONS TO THE HAWAII COUNTY OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR

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

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Sen. Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Sen. Will Espero, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 10, 2016, 8:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Senate Conference Room 016

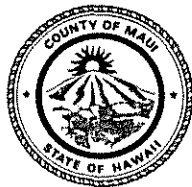
Honorable Chairs, Keith-Agaran and Nishihara, Honorable Vice-Chairs Shimabukuro and Espero, and members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor, and the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs, the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai'i submits the following testimony in support of Senate Bill No. 2374.

This measure appropriates funds to the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai'i, Career Criminal Prosecution (CCP) unit.

The CCP unit was established because a disproportionate amount of serious crimes are committed against the public by a relatively small number of multiple and repeat-felony offenders, commonly known as "career criminals." Money spent on this unit is an efficient use of resources, in terms of providing citizens with swift and effective justice.

This unit consist of highly qualified staff, who are committed to justice and prosecuting career criminals. Continued funding will have a positive impact within our community by providing citizens with swift and effective justice, and will reduce long court delays in the prosecution of serious crimes. In addition, state law mandates that certain qualifying defendants be prosecuted under the CCP program (HRS Chapter 845).

The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai'i supports the passage of Senate Bill No. 2374, which will provide the funding needed to maximize our services to our community in the field of Career Criminal. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.



DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
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CONTACT: PETER HANANO
Deputy Prosecuting Attorney
Appellate, Asset Forfeiture and Administrative Services Division

TESTIMONY
ON
SB 2374 - RELATING TO APPROPRIATIONS TO
THE HAWAII COUNTY OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

February 10, 2016

The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara
Chair
The Honorable Will Espero
Vice Chair
and Members
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran
Chair
The Honorable Maile L. Shimabukuro
Vice Chair
and Members
Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Chairs Nishihara and Keith-Agaran, Vice Chairs Espero and Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committees:

The Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui, SUPPORTS SB 2374 - Relating to Appropriations to the Hawaii County Office of the Prosecuting Attorney. SB 2374 appropriates funds to the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of Hawaii County for the career criminal prosecution unit program.

State law mandates that certain qualifying defendants be prosecuted under the Career Criminal Prosecution (CCP) program (HRS Chapter 845). In order to avoid the unfunded mandate prohibition provided by the Hawaii State Constitution, it was the practice for the State to provide funding for these services. This bill will provide the necessary funding required for these programs that are required by state law.

Accordingly, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui, SUPPORTS the passage of this bill. We ask that the committee PASS SB 2374.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to provide testimony on this bill.