SHOPO



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VICE PRESIDENT
Malcolm Lutu

TREASURER
James "Kimo" Smith

SECRETARY Michael Cusumano

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HAWAI'I CHAPTER CHAIR Darren Horio

KAUA'I CHAPTER CHAIR Jesse Guirao

MAUI CHAPTER CHAIR Barry Aoki

Main Office & Honolulu Chapter 1717 Hoe Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96819-3125 Ph: (808) 847-4676 "84 SHOPO" (800) 590-4676 Toll Free Fax: (808) 841-4818

Hawai'i Chapter Office 688 Kino'ole Street, Room 220 B Hilo, Hawai'i 96720 Ph: (808) 934-8405 Fax: (808) 934-8210

Maui Chapter Office 1887 Wili Pa Loop, Suite #2 Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793 Ph: (808) 242-6129 Fax: (808) 242-9519

Kaua'i Chapter Office 4264 Rice Street, Lihue Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1708 Lihue, Hawai'i 96766 Ph: (808) 246-8911 TO: The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

The Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

FROM: Tenari Ma'afala, President

State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers

DATE: February 25, 2015

SUBJECT: Testimony on S.B. No. 497 SD1, Relating to Police

Departments

HEARING DATE: Friday, February 27, 2015

9:05 a.m. Conference Room 016

This bill repeals an exemption under 92F-14, Hawaii Revised Statutes, which protects the privacy interest of police officers who are suspended. The State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers ("SHOPO") opposes this bill.

The State of Hawaii Org. of Police Officers v. Soc'y of Professional Journalists- University of Hawaii Chapter, 83 Haw. 378, 927 P.2d 386 (Haw. 1996) was decided before the privacy exemption for police officers was passed by the legislature. The Office of Information Practices Opinion 04-05 provides that "current or former officers who have not been discharged from duty will, in ordinary circumstances, have a significant privacy interest in the Honolulu Police Commission's closed investigative records that are about them."

Further, the legislature receives annual misconduct reports from each of the four county police departments. Additionally, the Chiefs of Police of the county police departments have internal policies in place to investigate police misconduct and to impose discipline. The Chiefs are accountable to their respective Police Commissions for handling police misconduct. These Commissions are made up of citizens from our community.

Additionally, release of officers' names that have been suspended may have a chilling effect on the extent of action taken by officers who often have to make split second decisions. It impacts not only the officers but their families, too. Though other employees are subject to release of their names for suspensions, rarely, if ever, does that happen because of the level of news worthiness.

Committee on Judiciary and Labor S.B. 497 SD1 Page 2

Finally, if this bill is not deferred, we request that Section 4 be amended as follows:

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval <u>and shall not have retroactive</u> <u>application for request of county police department records specified in subparagraph (B) of section 92F-14(b)(4).</u>

The amendment comports with officers' due process rights. The release of any misconduct records that were made prior to the effective date of this bill, when the officers were not subject to release of those records, would violate their due process rights, amongst other things. If this bill is enacted, to avoid any lengthy and costly litigation on whether records made before the effective date of this bill and requested after the effective date of this bill, we strongly request clarity with the wording referenced above.

Thank you for your consideration.

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SHOPO



PRESIDENT Tenari R. Ma'afala

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Kaua'i Chapter Office 4264 Rice Street, Lihue Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1708 Lihue, Hawai'i 96766 Ph: (808) 246-8911 TO: The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

The Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Members of the Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor

FROM: Tenari Ma'afala, President

State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers

DATE: February 26, 2015

SUBJECT: SUPPLEMENTALTestimony on S.B. No. 497 SD1.

Relating to Police Departments

DECISION- Friday, February 27, 2015

MAKING DATE: 9:05 a.m. Conference Room 016

SHOPO hereby supplements its earlier testimony presented in opposition to SB497. The supplementation is to apprise the Hawaii Legislature of the pending court appeal that is before the Hawaii Supreme Court and relates to SB497.

The following is a brief synopsis of the pending case that will be decided by the Hawaii Supreme Court:

- On 10/14/13, Civil Beat requested that the City and County of Honolulu disclose the disciplinary information of 12 HPD officers who were not discharged from HPD, including the employee's name, the nature of the employment-related misconduct, HPD's summary of the allegations of misconduct, findings of fact and conclusions of law and the disciplinary action taken by the agency. Other than the officers' names, the other requested information is already required to be disclosed under current law.
- On 10/15/13, the City denied Civil Beat's request pursuant to HRS §§ 92F-13(1) ("Unwarranted invasion of privacy"), 92F-14(b)(4) ("Incidents did not result in discharge") and an earlier court order issued by the Honorable Dan Kochi dated 3/21/01, wherein Judge Kochi ruled that the City was precluded and prohibited from releasing the disciplinary records of officers who were disciplined but not discharged.
- More than a decade after Judge Kochi's valid order was issued, Civil Beat on 11/7/13 filed a lawsuit in the Circuit Court seeking the release of the disciplinary information for the same 12 officers. It was obvious that Civil Beat was primarily interested in seeking the names of the officers for publication.

- On 1/17/14, SHOPO was permitted to intervene in Civil Beat's lawsuit.
- On 2/10/14, the Honorable Karl K. Sakamoto ruled in complete contradiction to Judge Kochi's order and found that police officers had "non-existent" privacy interests in their disciplinary records. Judge Sakamoto further ruled that the City was required "to open to public inspection and copying by Plaintiff the requested records of the twelve police officers identified in the October 4, 2013 letter." Judge Sakamoto's finding that police officers had no privacy interests in their disciplinary records contradicted the plain reading of HRS 92F-14(4)(B)(v), wherein the legislature stated that county police officers had a "significant privacy interest" in their disciplinary records that did not result in discharge.
- On 6/13/14, SHOPO appealed Judge Sakamoto's order.
- On 7/2/14, the Intermediate Court of Appeals granted SHOPO's request to stay Judge Sakamoto's order so that the names of the 12 police officers were not released.
- On 1/27/15, the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press filed its Amicus Brief.
- On 2/10/15, the Hawaii Supreme Court accepted Civil Beat's Application for Transfer of the case.

The matter has been fully briefed and the case is presently pending before the Hawaii Supreme Court. There has been no oral argument scheduled yet and it is unknown when the Court will render a decision in the matter.

THE CIVIL BEAT LAW CENTER FOR THE PUBLIC INTEREST

700 Bishop Street, Suite 1701 Honolulu, HI 96813 Office: (808) 531-4000 Fax: (808) 380-3580 info@civilbeatlawcenter.org

Senate Committee on Judiciary & Labor Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Chair Honorable Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

RE: Testimony Supporting S.B. 497 S.D. 1, Relating to Police Departments Hearing: February 27, 2015 at 9:05 a.m.

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee:

My name is Brian Black. I am the Executive Director of the Civil Beat Law Center for the Public Interest, a nonprofit organization whose primary mission concerns solutions that promote government transparency. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on S.B. 497 S.D. 1. The Law Center supports this bill.

S.B. 497 requires mandatory disclosure of specified disciplinary information about suspended police officers (as already required for all other government employees), notwithstanding the officers' privacy concerns.

In 1995, the Legislature removed the mandatory disclosure provision for suspended officers out of concern that police departments more frequently suspend for minor departmental infractions. H. Stand. Comm. Rep. No. 1584, in 1995 House Journal at 1627 ("Your Committee finds that police officers, unlike most government and private employees, are subject to para-military discipline which manifests itself in the form of frequently applied suspensions from duty for misconduct or violation of departmental rules. Your Committee further finds that the use of such tough disciplinary measures is accepted by most officers because they realize the necessity for strict regulation of the broad powers they wield."). As Representative Alcon expressed at the time, "You mean to say, just because the policeman did not shine his shoes that we will have to publish his name in the paper?" 1995 House Journal at 682.

The 1995 Legislature, however, only had anecdotal information on police discipline. Now, there is empirical evidence based on the annual HRS § 52D-3.5 reports. Those reports reveal that officers are suspended for serious misconduct concerning their performance of police duties, not minor infractions. One-day suspensions (presumably the least significant misconduct) for the Honolulu Police Department last year involved: hit-and-run; assault, bullying, or harassment; falsified reports; improper use of public resources; and failure to properly investigate.¹

¹ Contrary to SHOPO's written testimony to the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental & Military Affairs, the HPD report reveals that officers are *not* suspended for "split second decisions."

Senate Committee on Judiciary & Labor February 27, 2015 Page 2

Moreover, S.B. 497 merely conforms the UIPA to judicial and OIP interpretations of existing law.² *State of Hawai'i Organization of Police Officers v. Society of Professional Journalists, University of Hawai'i Chapter*, 83 Hawai'i 378 (1996); OIP Op. No. 97-01.

Nevertheless, for more than 10 years, SHOPO has pressured county police departments into asserting that the 1995 Legislature granted **absolute confidentiality** to any document that mentions police misconduct (unless the officer was discharged).³ Under SHOPO's interpretation, no information about police misconduct may be distributed to the public – except the HRS § 52D-3.5 annual reports – unless the officer was discharged.⁴ Applying that interpretation, police departments routinely refused access to any document that described police misconduct. SHOPO even goes so far as to claim that police departments cannot release de-identified misconduct information that has been redacted to remove any personal information that would identify the disciplined police officer. *E.g., SHOPO v. City & County of Honolulu*, Civil No. 14-1-2625-12 KKS.

A pending lawsuit is expected to resolve the interpretation of existing law. But if this Legislature wants to ensure that the public may access information about police misconduct beyond the annual reports, S.B. 497 would provide clarity.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.

² The Law Center represents the online publication Civil Beat in a lawsuit to enforce the judicial and OIP interpretations of existing law. *Peer News LLC v. City and County of Honolulu*, Civil No. 13-1-2981-11 KKS. In that case, after the circuit court ordered disclosure of police disciplinary suspension files, SHOPO appealed; HPD did not appeal the disclosure order. SHOPO's appeal is pending before the Hawai'i Supreme Court, No. SCAP-14-889.

³ Before 2013, two circuit court decisions on the issue were split, and neither case was appealed. As noted above, there is a case currently pending on appeal that would address the validity of OIP Opinion 97-01.

⁴ In written testimony to the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental & Military Affairs, SHOPO misleadingly referenced OIP Op. No. 04-05 to imply that OIP treats police suspension records as confidential. To the contrary, in footnote 17 – attached to the sentence quoted in SHOPO's testimony – OIP expressly reaffirmed its conclusion in OIP Op. No. 97-01 that disclosure of information about suspended police officers "would not be a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy."



49 South Hotel Street, Room 314 | Honolulu, HI 96813 www.lwv-hawaii.com | 808.531.7448 | voters@lwvhawaii.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND LABOR Decision Making Scheduled 9:05 am, Friday, February 27, 2015, Conference Room 016 SB 497, SD 1 RELATING TO POLICE DEPARTMENTS TESTIMONY

Douglas Meller, Legislative Committee, League of Women Voters of Hawaii

Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice-Chair Shimabukuro, and Committee Members:

The League of Women Voters of Hawaii strongly supports SB 497, SD 1 which amends the Uniform Information Practices Act (UIPA) to implement court rulings which require disclosure of the names of county police officers who have been suspended but not discharged for misconduct. UIPA should apply exactly the same way to county police officers who have been suspended for misconduct as to other public employees who have been suspended for misconduct. There is no compelling public benefit from keeping secret the name of any public employee who has been suspended for misconduct.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.



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Media Council Hawai'i

Since 1970

February 26, 2015

Chris Conybeare
Conybeare@msn.com

Senate Committee on Judiciary and Labor Honorable Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Chair Honorable Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Testimony Supporting SB 497 SD1 Relating to Police Departments

Hearing: February 27, 2015, 9:05 A.M., Room 016

Chair and Members of the Committee

Media Council Hawaii (MCH) joins with other community organizations and individuals that are seeking to end secrecy regarding police disciplinary suspensions.

I should preface these remarks with the fact that MCH has the highest regard for the men and women who serve the public as police officers. We also believe that "democracy dies behind closed doors "and that this is nowhere more true than when the misuse of police power and violation of the public trust are kept secret.

I have a somewhat personal view of these matters, since my first job out of law school was as Senior Civil Service Examiner in charge of the Cleveland Ohio Safety Department. From this experience I have learned that accountability to the public should be of paramount concern and that openness will actually help increase public support of police in our community.

I urge this committee to take favorable action on this measure.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

From: hanababa5@aol.com
To: Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran

Subject: RE: SB 497

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 2:43:55 PM

Dear Senator Gilbert Keith-AGARAN,

I am 10 year veteran with the Hawaii Police Department on the Big Island of Hawaii and also a Hawaii chapter board member for SHOPO. I can only imagine the tremendous negative impact this bill will have on all of us who have sworn to serve and protect should it pass.

I sincerely request that your committee kill this bill.

Thank you,

Pernell HANOA

From: <u>James Steffen</u>

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: SB497

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 3:22:08 PM

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran,

RE: SB497

I am a 8 year veteran of the Hawaii Police Department .

I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by them.

Thank you for your consideration.

James D Steffen

From: <u>Stan</u>

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: SB497

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 3:22:39 PM

Dear Senator Kieth. Agaran

I am a 22 year veteran with Hawaii Police Department I am the second Vice Chairman , and district union representative for the district of North Hilo.

I am requesting your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by it.

Thank you for your consideration

Stanley K Kaina Jr. Sent from my iPad From: jhooser4203

To: Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran

Subject: SB497

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 3:34:01 PM

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran,

RE: SB497

I am a 9 year veteran of the Hawaii Police Department, and I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Justin Hooser

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

From: <u>Mountain</u>

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: SB497

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 3:47:39 PM

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran,

RE: SB497

I am a 22 year veteran of the Hawaii Police Department and a current member of SHOPO.

I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Paul M. Fukuda Sgt. Hilo patrol

Sent from my iPhone

From: <u>mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov</u>

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>

Cc:

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB497 on Feb 27, 2015 09:05AM

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 3:54:23 PM

SB497

Submitted on: 2/25/2015

Testimony for JDL on Feb 27, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jason N. Grouns	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: As a 15-year veteran with the Hawaii Police Department, I strongly oppose this bill. Mahalo!

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: John Mac Kalauli Jr.

To: Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran

Subject: SB497

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 3:56:45 PM

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran,

RE: SB497

I am a 13 year veteran of the Hawaii Police Department and the current Hamakua District Representative for the Hawaii Island Chapter of SHOPO.

I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by them.

Thank you for your consideration.

John Mac Kalauli Jr.
Police Officer II
Hawaii Police Dept.
Hamakua District SHOPO Representative

From: <u>Daniel kuwabara</u>
To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: SB497

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 4:02:36 PM

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran,

RE: SB497

I am a 7 year veteran of the Hawaii County Police Department and a current member of SHOPO.

I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Daniel M. Kuwabara Police Officer II Hilo Patrol From: Zachary Fernando
To: Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran

Cc: <u>DARREN HORIO</u> Subject: SB 497

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 4:02:53 PM

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran,

RE: SB497

I am a 11 year veteran of the Hawaii Police Department and the current West Hawaii Sergeants/Detectives (alternate) representative for the Hawaii Island Chapter of SHOPO.

I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Zachary O. Fernando

From: <u>Joseph Passmore</u>
To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: SB497

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 4:05:43 PM

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran,

RE: SB497

I am a 9 year veteran of the Hawaii Police Department and I work in the Hamakua district.

I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sent from my iPhone

From: Nelson

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: SB497

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 4:10:15 PM

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran,

RE: SB497

I am a 6 year veteran of the Hawaii Police Department and a current member of SHOPO.

I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Nelson Cacho Police Officer. South Hilo patrol

Sent from my iPhone

From: <u>K Kahuli</u>

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: Re: SB497

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 4:18:30 PM

Senetor Keith-Agaran,

RE: SB497

I am a 8 year veteran of the Hawaii Police Department.

I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kayla K. KAHULI

From: <u>Corey Kaneko</u>

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: SB497

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 4:22:24 PM

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran,

RE: SB497

I have been employed with the Hawaii Police Department for approximatley 5 years and am a current member of SHOPO.

I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Corey M. Kaneko Police Officer II, Hilo patrol From: <u>aaron kaeo</u>

To: Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran; Sen. Maile Shimabukuro

Subject: SB497

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 4:34:09 PM

Dear Senators Gilbert Keith-Agaran and Maile Shimabukuro,

I am a 4 year veteran of the Hawaii County Police Department and a current member of the Hawaii Island Chapter of SHOPO.

I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Aloha,

Aaron Kaeo

From: <u>Jared Cabatu</u>

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: SB497

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 4:53:32 PM

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran

RE: SB497

I am a 7 year veteran of the Hawaii County Police Department and a current SHOPO representative for the South Hilo Patrol District.

I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Jared Cabatu

Sent from my iPhone

From: <u>Marco Segobia</u>

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: RE: SB497

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 6:11:57 PM

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran,

I am an 8 year veteran of the Hawaii Police Department.

I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by them.

Thank you for your consideration!

Marco K. Segobia

From: Ryan Pagan

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: SB497

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 6:58:47 PM

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran,

RE: SB497

I am a 6 year veteran of the Hawaii Police Department and a current member of SHOPO.

I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ryan K N PAGAN
Police Officer II, Hilo patrol

From: <u>Marvin Tevaga</u>

To: Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran; Sen. Maile Shimabukuro

Subject: OPPOSE bill SB 497 SD1

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 7:37:07 PM

To: Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran and Senator Maile Shimabukuro

From: Officer Marvin TEVAGA, Maui Police Department.

Subject: Opposition of SB 497 SD1 Bill.

Aloha!

I am writing to you as a concerned Police Officer of Hawai'i. This bill will have a huge effect on Police departments throughout Hawai'i as it will allow for Officers to have their names printed on disciplinary actions. Here are some of the reasons why I see it will hurt Police work.

As an Officer we make up a small percentage of the population of Hawai'i and we have a job that requires spilt second decision making. The first things we think about is Officer and Public safety, acting in a safe a quick manner and making the best decision we can in seconds. Being human we do make errors however we are willing to act where as a civilian would be shy to do so. If an Officer is disciplined and their names are made public I personally would have my first thought be "Is the decision I am going to make going to get me into trouble? Should I act? Maybe I should not act? Maybe I need to spend a few minutes to think about me rather then addressing a threat?" All theses thoughts could be running through my mind all the while someone is being hurt, property is being damaged or a life may have been lost due to lack of response.

If this bill is passed, Police Departments will see a rise in Police injury in the line of duty, civilians being hurt, moral will drop and possibly older Officers who have enough time to retire will retire and not be around to contribute their experience and knowledge

to our community.

This bill will only be beneficial to media and anti Police persons to use this information to degrade demoralize Police. If an Officer as in many cases has been disciplined however their case, through grievance was over turned. The damage to the Officers name had been tarnished as some grievances may take months and years to go through.

The community's in which we live in are small and to be able to get Officers credibility and respect back will be near impossible to do so if they have their names published.

Please take into heart that these Officers are already being disciplined for making mistakes in the eyes of the Department however, not every case grieved as stated above is sustained and the discipline can be over turned. How do we go back and fix what was published? Would their be another publication saying the officer was cleared? If so this will still not satisfy those who are stuck on their presception of the officer as it was painted out before as was published months or years before.

This bill is not a good bill and should not be passed.

Mahalo for your time in reading my testimony.

Officer Marvin Tevaga Maui Police Department From: <u>Ericlee Correa</u>

To: Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran
Subject: Please Kill SB 497

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 8:44:17 PM

Aloha,

I am writing in opposition to SB 497. Police Officers are already targeted heavily in the news and social media. Police Officers are subject to 24/7 accountability and held to higher standards in the court system. Release of discipline information would subject the families of police officers to undeserved misinterpretations, false assumptions and exaggerations of the officers discipline. These families already pay a high price by worrying that there loved Officer could be hurt in the line of duty, spending holidays without the Officer who has to work, being subject to shift work and long hours even during times of emergency and natural disasters. There is no compensation for what the families of Police Officers endure.

Police are unique in that they are called upon to make a split second decision to take a life in order to save a life. Then only to be subjected to all the Monday morning analysis after the fact. Their names are plastered all over the media and social media for doing their job, that he public does not understand, because some may disagree with the decision. This media driven bill would do more harm than good. Please kill SB 497.

Thank you.

Ericlee K. Correa

Kahului, Maui, Hawaii.

From: <u>Laweo@aol.com</u>
To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: SB 497

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 11:03:07 PM

To Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran (Chair),

I respectfully request that SB 497 be deferred or killed in committee for various reasons related to my profession in providing the best service to our community. I stand behind the written testimony submitted by the State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers, Tenari Ma'afala, President in opposition of SB497. There is no compelling reason for disclosure of a police officer's name to be publicized. County Chief's already provide a report of serious misconducts by police. Name disclosure only causes shame that extends beyond the individual, what corrective action taken should be the public's concern on how to make the police department better.

Mahalo, Stanley Aquino From: Tyson Matsumura

To: Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran

Subject: RE: SB497

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 11:43:43 PM

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran,

RE: SB497

I am a 20 year veteran of the Hawaii Police Department. I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tyson H. MATSUMURA Hawaii Police Department Badge# S-72 SERGEANT AREA I/ HAMAKUA PATROL

PH: (808)775-7533 FAX: (808)775-7530

E-mail: <u>tmatsumura@co.hawaii.hi.us</u>



From: <u>matt lewis</u>

To: Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran
Subject: SB 497 KILL THIS BILL !!!

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 2:56:38 AM

Dear Senator Keith Agaran,

RE: SB 497

I am a seven year veteran of the Hawaii Police Department, I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. I do stand by the testimony which has been submitted by SHOPO.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Please feel free to contacting me at any time regarding this bill.

Matthew Lewis

From: Fisher, Michael A.

To: Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran

Subject: SB497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 6:10:51 AM

Aloha Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran,

I respectfully request that SB 497 be deferred or killed in committee for various reasons related to my profession in providing the best service to our community. I stand behind the written testimony submitted by the State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers, Tenari Ma'afala, President in opposition of SB497. There is no compelling reason for disclosure of a police officer's name to be publicized. County Chief's already provide a report of serious misconducts by police. Name disclosure only causes shame that extends beyond the individual, what corrective action taken should be the public's concern on how to make the police department better.

Mahalo,

Michael Fisher

From: <u>Lei Fa"anunu</u>

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: SB497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 7:33:52 AM

I am a 11 year veteran of the Hawaii County Police Department and currently assigned to North Hilo Patrol.

I am requesting your committee to reconsider SB497.

I am supporting my union, SHOPO, stance in fighting this bill.

Your consideration in this matter is much appreciated.

Much Aloha

Sent from my iPhone

From: <u>Yamamoto, Halford K.</u>
To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: SB 497 SD1

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 7:38:49 AM

Aloha Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran,

I respectfully request that SB 497 be deferred or killed in committee for various reasons related to my profession in providing the best service to our community. I stand behind the written testimony submitted by the State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers, Tenari Ma'afala, President in opposition of SB497. There is no compelling reason for disclosure of a police officer's name to be publicized. County Chief's already provide a report of serious misconducts by police. Name disclosure only causes shame that extends beyond the individual, what corrective action taken should be the public's concern on how to make the police department better.

Mahalo,

Halford Yamamoto Detective Honolulu Police Department Criminal Investigation/District 8 1100 Kamokila Blvd., Kapolei, Hawaii 96707

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From: <u>Daniel Murray</u>

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: SB497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 8:15:34 AM

I am a 5 year veteran of the Hawaii Police Department and a patrol police officer in the district of Puna.

I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Daniel Murray

From: <u>Surendar Singh</u>

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: SB 497 SD1

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 8:19:11 AM

Aloha Senator Keith Araran - I am a Police Officer & Shopo member and I am writing to you to OPPOSE bill SB 497 SD1.

Please defer or kill Senate Bill 497.

Thank you,

Surendar Singh Shopo member From: Dior

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: Kill Bill SB497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 8:23:08 AM

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran,

RE: SB 497

My name is Dion Santiago, and I am a police officer for the Hawaii Police Department. I have been a police officer for 15 years.

I am requesting that your committee kill bill SB497. There has been testimony submitted by SHOPO against this bill and I stand by SHOPO.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dion Santiago

Police Officer II, Hawaii Police Department

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>

Cc:

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB497 on Feb 27, 2015 09:05AM

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 9:16:12 AM

SB497

Submitted on: 2/26/2015

Testimony for JDL on Feb 27, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jason Thompson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I feel this bill will undermine the integrity of Police Departments in the State of Hawaii. It will help to degrade the trust the community has in THEIR police departments and breed mistrust. Thank you, aloha.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From: <u>Audra M. Sellers</u>
To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: strong opposition and request that you defer or kill SB 497 SD1

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 11:05:06 AM

Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran:

I have been a public employee/sworn police officer with the Maui Police Department since May of 2002. I am highly concerned about the recent proposed bill including but not limited to bill SB 497 SD1. I am in **strong opposition** and request that you **defer or kill SB 497 SD1**.

In my current assignment as a Sergeant with the Community Relations Sections and as a secondary Public Information's Officer, I work closely with the media and public, giving information while adhering to all laws including: Hawaii Revised Statues, Office of Information Practices and Uniform Information Practices Act.

The legislature receives an annual misconduct report from our department and makes it available to the public via the web. Misconduct investigations are conducted throughout the year and there are internal policies in place to investigate police misconduct and impose discipline. The County Chief is accountable to their respective Police Commission for the handling of police misconduct and the Commission is made up of citizens from the community.

I understand "transparency" and the desire to ensure a system, in this case police departments, are working the way it is intended to. I am in **strong opposition** regarding the release of officers' names that have been suspended or disciplined. When looking at the totality, what good does the release of officer's names do? Does it deter the actions or better the system? The answer to both is NO. However, the release of the information could have a serious negative effect on not only the officer, but their families. Living in a small community, families can be affected by retaliation, denial of service and or harassment. It would further perpetuate the distrust in police.

If you look at other companies, public and private, would their records of workplace misconduct be publicized or even news worthy? How about the Senate or County Council, are their internal records and names released? If you support this bill, would you in turn allow the release of your department's misconduct reports including names?

On a personal note, I served twelve (12) years in the Hawaii Air National Guard, defending our Country and State. I was taught to believe that one person really can make a difference. I then chose a career in service with the Police Department because of the benefits, stability and my desire to continue community service. Please don't let them pass a bill that would have a negative impact on our families and further perpetuate a distrust in law enforcement. We make this state and county a safer place while putting our lives on the line each and every day.

As our elected official I hope that you take my/our concerns seriously and OPPOSE this bill! I know there is no easy answer, but I/We do know that if this bill passes, there will be unnecessary catastrophic long term repercussions. There are no true benefits to the passing of this bill. Looking at the totality, no good comes from the release names, nor does it deter actions or better the system. Again, I am in **strong opposition** and request that you **defer or**

kill SB 497 SD1.

My family and I thank you for your time and hopeful consideration. Audra Sellers

Sergeant Audra Sellers Maui Police Department Community Relations Section 55 Mahalani Street Wailuku, Hawaii 97693 From: Thomas Chun-Ming
To: Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran

Subject: SB497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 11:36:21 AM

Dear Senator Keith Agaran

I have been a police officer for the last 9 years, 7 years in Honolulu and 2 years in Hawaii county.

I am requesting that your committee kill this bill because making officers address public record places them and their family in danger and makes us more susceptible to acts of retaliation. SHOPO has submitted testimony in regards to this matter and I fully support them.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Thomas Chun-Ming

From: <u>k Kobs</u>

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: SB497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 12:00:31 PM

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran

RE: SB497

I am a 4 year veteran of the Hawaii County Police Department.

I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kelsey Kobayashi

From: henry

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: SB 497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 2:29:01 PM

Sir,

I respectfully request that SB 497 be deferred or killed in committee for various reasons related to my profession in providing the best service to our community. I stand behind the written testimony submitted by the State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers, Tenari Ma'afala, President in opposition of SB 497. There is no reason for disclosure of a police officer's name to be publicized. County Police Chief's already provide a report of serious misconducts by police. Name disclosure only causes shame that extends beyond the individual, what corrective action taken should be the public's concern on how to make the police department better.

Thank You, Henry Roberts From: Barry Aoki

To: Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran
Subject: OPPOSE SB 497 SD1

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 2:20:56 PM

The Honorable Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran,

I am Barry Aoki and I am a police officer in Maui County and OPPOSE SB497 SD1 in its entirety.

If this bill passes, it will only cause harm to all of the police officers and their families in the State of Hawaii. In my opinion, the departments do a good job of policing their own even to the extent of going beyond what would happen in the private sector.

Please defer or better yet, kill this bill.

Thank You, Barry Aoki

Lahaina, Maui, HI

From: <u>Kuilee DelaCruz</u>

To:Sen. Gilbert Keith-AgaranCc:Sen. Maile Shimabukuro

Subject: SB497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 1:56:45 PM

Dear Senator Keith Agaran and Senator Maile Shimabukuro,

RE: SB497

I have been a police officer in the County of Hawaii for 14 years. I am requesting in this email, that your committee kill this bill. I stand by SHOPO's testimony against it.

Mahalo for your consideration,

Ofcr. Kuilee DELA CRUZ

Community Police Area II Hawaii Police Department 74-0611 Hale Makai Place, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740 From:

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: RE: SB497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 2:12:24 PM

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran,

RE: SB497

I am a 7 year veteran of the Hawaii Police Department and currently assigned to Kealakehe Intermediate School as a School Resource Officer. I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Aloha,

Chere Rae Kalili

From: Floyd Richards

To: Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran
Cc: Sen. Maile Shimabukuro
Cottiert Sent Bill 197

Subject: Senate Bill 497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 11:41:47 AM

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran and Senator Maile Shimabukuro,

RE: SB497

I am an 18 year veteran of the Hawaii Police Department and a Sergeant currently assigned to the Kona Community Policing Section in Kailua-Kona on the Island of Hawaii.

I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against this bill and I stand by them completely.

I thank both of you for your consideration in this matter.

Sergeant Floyd Richards Hawaii Police Department Kona Community Policing Unit 74-611 Hale Makai Place Kailua-Kona, Hawaii From:

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: Senate Bill 497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 11:17:49 AM

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran,

RE: SB497

I am a 20 year veteran of the Hawaii Police Department and the current Chairman for the Hawaii Island Chapter of SHOPO.

I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by them.

Thank you for your consideration.

David Reis III

From:

To: Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran
Subject: kill Senate Bill 497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 10:51:13 AM

Aloha,

I am a Maui police officer of 21 years. I have had my share of issues, late to work, minor auto collisions and not turning in paperwork on time for which I have been disciplined. I have taken my licks and kept on doing my best to be an honest hard working officer. Bill 497 would have my name published after each and every time I was disciplined. That is not right.

We all make mistakes...it is part of life, it's part of growing and learning from your mistakes. The disciplinary system in place within the department and with our union, SHOPO, have very strict standards for which every officer is held accountable for their actions. Having your name published after being disciplined is another level of discipline, even harsher then the original punishment.

Sure....maybe it will cut down on a small percentage of officers that are disciplined, but what about the end result? Does the public need to know that an officer was disciplined for coming to work late? It won't matter what the reason is, all that stick out is the name of the officer and he/she will have have to live with it forever.

There are those out there that will exploit the reporting. It will be posted on social media and used over and over to show the most negative side of the officer and police department possible.

Bottom line, if this bill is passed, then EVERY state and county employee's disciplinary record should also be published. Fair is fair.

Thank you for your time and please take into consideration the officers, their family and loved ones.

Leif Adachi, Maui Police Department From: <u>Hawaii Police</u>

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: SB 497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 11:21:22 AM

Aloha Senator Keith-Agaran:

I am writing to ask for your support in deferring or voting against Senate Bill 497 which if passed will have a detrimental affect on all law enforcement officers and their families.

I appreciate your time on this issue and thank you in advance for your support.

Sincerely,

Lieutenant Alan Kimura Hawaii Police Department 349 Kapiolani Street Hilo, Hawaii 96720 **From:** Bermudes, Ray [mailto:rbermudes@honolulu.gov]

Sent: Thursday, February 26, 2015 12:56 PM

To: Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran

Subject:

Aloha Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran,

I respectfully request that SB 497 be deferred or killed in committee for various reasons related to my profession in providing the best service to our community. I stand behind the written testimony submitted by the State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers, Tenari Ma'afala, President in opposition of SB497. There is no compelling reason for disclosure of a police officer's name to be publicized. County Chief's already provide a report of serious misconducts by police. Name disclosure only causes shame that extends beyond the individual, what corrective action taken should be the public's concern on how to make the police department better.

Mahalo,

Ray Bermudes

From: Marjorie-Ann L. Kahookele
To: Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran
Cc: Sen. Maile Shimabukuro
Subject: OPPOSE KILL BILL SB 497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 3:05:18 PM

I do not think it is relevant that the disciplinary record of police officers should be released to the public. There is no need for anyone to have that information it only gives more ammunition or power to people to use against officers and the department in an already criticized department. You will subject officers as well as their families to all sorts of repercussions including ridicule from peers, family and friends. Kill this bill, we already found guilty before we are proven innocent in the eyes of the media.

Thank

From: <u>Chester Franco</u>

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>
Subject: Kill Senate Bill 497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 3:07:26 PM

Please defer or kill senate bill 497.

Thank you,

Officer Chester Franco, H.P.D., South Hilo Patrol

From: <u>Marcos A Santos</u>

To: Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran; Sen. Maile Shimabukuro

Subject: Senate bill 497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 3:27:24 PM

I am requesting your support in terminating (killing) senate bill 497. Thank you very much

Marcos A. Santos

From: <u>Kaena Brown</u>

To:Sen. Gilbert Keith-AgaranSubject:Strongly opposing SB 497 AD1

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 3:55:36 PM

Aloha Mr. Gilbert Keith-Agaran,

I've been a police officer for the Maui Police Department since July 2001. I am emailing you regarding bill SB 497 SD1. I am strongly opposing same.

I am currently assigned as a police officer in the Community Relations Section at the Wailuku Police Station. I am concerned about this bill because as officers we are held to a higher standard and we are human and not perfect. At times, officers may choose to make a bad decision and get disciplined. That officer will then take his/her discipline, learn and move on. I feel that if it is posted with their name, the public will always associate that officer with that bad choice and how will that be fair? Like I said, we are human first and like any other job, we don't have their discipline posted for the world to see and judge. There aren't a lot of people that can see things through an officer's perspective unless you have a family member or you are one. An officers credibility is everything. Posting their names will definitely have an effect on their credibility.

I am not one of the officers that have been disciplined, so I am not opposing it from that end of things, but as an officer, I am strongly opposing this bill and hope you will take my thoughts into consideration and do the right thing and defer or kill SB 497 SD1.

Mahalo for your time.

Officer Ka Ena Brown Maui Police Department Community Relations Section

D.A.R.E. to be Violence and Drug Free

From:Stephen T. OrikasaTo:Sen. Gilbert Keith-AgaranSubject:SB 497 SD1 OPPOSED

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 4:18:02 PM

Attachments:

Honorable Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran,

I wirte to you to express my opposition to SB 497 SD1, as it would adversely affect the privacy of commission officers.

Thank you!

Captain Stephen T. Orikasa

Maui Police Department Kihei District 2201 Pi'ilani Highway Kihei, HI 96753

Phone: (808) 875-8190 Facsimile: (808) 875-8550

Main Station: 55 Mahalani Street Wailuku, HI 96793 Phone: (808) 244-6400







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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>

Cc:

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB497 on Feb 27, 2015 09:05AM

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 4:37:12 PM

SB497

Submitted on: 2/26/2015

Testimony for JDL on Feb 27, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
lan B. Lee Loy	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: To: Senator Will Espero, Chair Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair Members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs From: Ian B. Lee Loy Re: Testimony in OPPOSITION, SB 497 SD1, Relating to Police Departments I OPPOSE SB 497 SD1, which would repeal the privacy exemption under the Uniform Information Practices Act ("UIPA") for county police department officers and would have unintended yet grave negative impact on the officers affected by this legislation and their families. The responsibilities of a Police Officer are unlike any other government employees' and require the execution of these responsibilities uniformly, unbiasly and sometimes immediately without hesitation. These demands sometimes carry potentially grave consequences, from denial of civil liberties to the ultimate loss of life. All allegations of misconduct must be handled by the appropriate County Police Commission. SB497 SD1 is a response to public out cry after a notorious video showed a Honolulu Police Sergeant involved in a domestic dispute, but this Bill would encompass all disciplined officers whose misconduct resulted in suspension and termination. The Bill is supported by those who claim Police families have a higher than average rate of domestic violence incidents but whose victims do not come forward for fear of not being believed; I suspect that the true reason many alleged victims do not come forward is because of socail shame and fear of lost income as a result in employment termination. This Bill could have far reaching and chilling unintended consequences. The conflict this Bill is attempting to find balance between is providing the public with necessary information and the public's appetite for "dirty laundry"; privacy for police officers mistakenly is not a credible argument worth consideration anymore. This Bill should be deferred until such time the Committee can adequately study the matter and understand the consequences of releasing information stemming from misconduct of officers resulting in suspension(s). The privacy of Police Officers who are not involved in domestic violence incidents deserve the privacy exemption provided by the UIPA. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in OPPOSITION to SB497 SD1.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

From: <u>Dale E. Ku</u>

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: SB 497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 5:19:12 PM

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran,

RE: SB497

I am a 13 year veteran of the Hawaii Police Department and the current North Kohala representative for the Hawaii Island Chapter of SHOPO.

I am requesting that your committee kill this bill. SHOPO has submitted testimony against it and I stand by them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Dale E. Ku

Sent from my iPhone

From: Stacy Leialoha

Date: February 26, 2015 at 9:12:15 PM HST To: <senkeithagaran@capitol.hawaii.gov>
Subject: Senate Bill 497

Please defer Senate Bill 497.

Thank you.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

To: <u>JDLTestimony</u>

Cc:

Subject: Submitted testimony for SB497 on Feb 27, 2015 09:05AM

Date: Friday, February 27, 2015 1:55:15 AM

SB497

Submitted on: 2/27/2015

Testimony for JDL on Feb 27, 2015 09:05AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jesse Guirao	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose SB 497.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov

From:

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Cc:

Subject: Re: Senate Bill 497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 11:52:49 PM

Dear Senator.

Allow me to introduce myself. My Name is Stephen Gerona. I am a Lieutenant in the Honolulu Police Department, a 30-year veteran, and a second generation police officer in this city. Over half of my life has been devoted to protecting and serving the citizens of this county and, as a subject matter expert in the use of force, police policy, and police training, have defended the municipality of the City and County of Honolulu against civil claims resulting in litigation.

I am writing you to express my strong disagreement with Senate Bill 497 and urge you to kill or defer the measure for the following reasons:

- No other profession and its members are subject to such criticism and/or
 ridicule from members of both the public and government representatives.
 Although police officers are fully aware of the scrutiny that they will be
 subjected to while in the performance of their duties, their children, spouses,
 and family need not be penalized or subjected to the same humiliation or
 ridicule as a result of the officers' public service.
- 2. The public release of the names of the individual officers whom have been disciplined serves no purpose except to satisfy curiosity and fuel the agendas of anti-law enforcement and anti-government groups.
- Such a measure would give officers pause or hesitation in the performance of their duties. Placing concerns for their children and family reputations first could have disastrous results, compromising public safety as well as the personal safety of the officer.
- 4. Police officers would begin to err on the "safe" side by not taking action when the normally would. Not wanting to risk a personnel complaint, the resulting administrative investigation, and potential discipline and the public release of their names.

Is this what you really want from your police response? If you, your family, friends, loved ones were a victim of a crime, would you want to hear these words from a police officer "sorry, there's nothing that I can do". If Bill 497 passes you better get used to hearing that phrase more and more often. Then what? Do you think your constituents would be pleased with the lack of police response and police service and that this was a direct consequence of their government representatives?

This Bill implies that there is a problem with law enforcement in this state and that there is widespread abuse of power and police authority. Where is the data to support this?

Here are some facts for you:

There are over 18,000 police departments nation wide. Honolulu is the 20th largest. The ratio of personnel complaints to officer contact in Honolulu is 10,000 to 2. That's 2 complaints for every 10,000 law enforcement contact made by Honolulu Police Officers with our citizens! Measure that against any other major metropolitan city and their police force.

I caution you to be careful of what you wish for. You just might get it.

Regards,

Stephen Gerona Lieutenant Honolulu Police Department Central Patrol Bureau District 5 From:

To: Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran
Subject: STOP Senate Bill 497

Date: Friday, February 27, 2015 3:11:54 AM

To Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran and Senator Maile Shimabukuro,

I respectfully request that Senate Bill 497 be deferred for a variety of reasons related to my occupation in providing service to our community. I believe that it not only causes more shame to the individual but I am concerned about retaliation to the individual as well as their family. Reports are already provided by serious misconduct by police.

Your kind consideration on this matter is greatly appreciated,

Cathlyn Beluso

From: Bushaw,

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: Senate Bill 497

Date: Friday, February 27, 2015 4:23:29 AM

Good morning Senator Keith-Agaran,

I'm writing to you regarding Senate Bill 497 and humbly ask for your support in deferring or even better, killing this bill.

Have a great day,

Officer. B. Bushaw

From:

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: RE: SB 497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 6:16:22 PM

Aloha Senator Keith-Agaran,

I am a 25 year veteran of the Hawaii Police Department. In regards to SB 497, I am asking for this bill to be "killed!" The reason for this is I believed the bill needs to be examined completely before a decision is made and the repercussions it may have on other services that we provide.

Thank You,

S. KURASHIGE

From: Runnels

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: Bill SB 497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 9:45:57 PM

Dear Senator Keith-Agaran,

I humbly ask that SB 497 be killed in committee for various reasons as were expressed in the written testimony submitted by the State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers, Tenari Ma'afala, President in opposition of SB497. There is no compelling reason for disclosure of a police officer's name to be publicized. County Chief's already provide a report of serious misconducts by police. Name disclosure only causes shame that extends beyond the individual, what corrective action taken should be the public's concern on how to make the police department better.

Look at what's been happening on the mainland. Good officers that were involved in actions that were justified by law & in court had their past performance records brought before the public to cast doubt on the officers character & thus his actions to allow doubt to enter the picture. This will only cost the community in officers being afraid or slow to react because of possible ridicule or lawsuits & will cost the department, City & State in additional legal fees.

Thank you for your time, Elroy Runnels Sent from my iPad From: <u>Caitlin Frias</u>

To: Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran; Sen. Maile Shimabukuro

Subject: Vote No to SB497

Date: Friday, February 27, 2015 2:06:14 AM

Senator Agaran and Senator Shimabukuro,

I would like to voice my opinion that you should vote No to SB497 for the main reason that it does not effect just the officers in question, but their families as well. I believe that it would be unfair to have their information publicly available twice. If an officer is arrested then their information becomes public information, however the disciplinary actions should be kept private without having to fear harassment for their families.

It is truly unfair that this bill targets only police officers and no other public service offices. There is a huge discrepancy in the way officers are being treated and targeted and I believe this bill enables the perception of bad officers.

Thank you for your time.

From: Kim McCumsey

To: <u>Sen. Gilbert Keith-Agaran</u>

Subject: SB497

Date: Thursday, February 26, 2015 3:48:07 PM

To Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran (Chair),

I respectfully request that SB 497 be deferred or killed in committee for various reasons related to my profession in providing the best service to our community. I stand behind the written testimony submitted by the State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers, Tenari Ma'afala, President in opposition of SB497. There is no compelling reason for disclosure of a police officer's name to be publicized. County Chief's already provide a report of serious misconducts by police. Name disclosure only causes shame that extends beyond the individual, what corrective action taken should be the public's concern on how to make the police department better.

Mahalo,

Kim McCumsey