



**TESTIMONY OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
TWENTY-NINTH LEGISLATURE, 2018**

ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:

S.B. NO. 2746, RELATING TO INCOME WITHHOLDING FOR CHILD SUPPORT.

BEFORE THE:

SENATE COMMITTEES ON LABOR AND ON JUDICIARY

DATE: Thursday, February 1, 2018 **TIME:** 2:50 p.m.

LOCATION: State Capitol, Room 229

TESTIFIER(S): Russell A. Suzuki, First Deputy Attorney General, or
Lynette J. Lau, Administrator, Child Support Enforcement Agency

Chairs Tokuda and Taniguchi and Members of the Committees:

The Department of the Attorney General supports this bill.

This bill amends sections 571-52.2, and 576E-16 of the Hawaii Revised Statutes in order to bring the State of Hawaii into compliance with federal law.

Under 42 U.S.C. § 666(b)(6)(D), each state must have in effect laws requiring the imposition of a fine against any employer who (a) discharges from employment, refuses to employ, or takes disciplinary action against any noncustodial parent subject to income withholding or (b) fails to withhold support from income or pay the amounts to a child support agency.

Compliance with this requirement is necessary to maintain the Department of Human Services' eligibility for federal welfare funding and federal funding of child support enforcement programs. In addition, amending the income withholding requirements increases the effectiveness of the income withholding process and protects the obligor parent from employment discrimination due to the income withholding order.

We respectfully ask the Committee to pass this bill.