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OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 834 SD1 HD1

A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO ESTABLISHING A FELONY OFFENSE OF IMPORTATION, SALE, OR POSSESSION OF A CHILDLIKE SEX DOLL

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS Representative Mark Nakashima, Chair Representative Scot Matayoshi, Vice Chair

Honorable Chair Nakashima, Honorable Vice Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs, the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Hawai'i submits the following testimony in support of Senate Bill No. 834 SD1 HD1

The purpose of this bill is to prohibit the importation, sale, or possession of childlike sex dolls. Our Office agrees "that the widespread availability of childlike sex dolls enables the exploitation, objectification, abuse, and sexual assault of minors."

Proponents argue and our Office agrees that possession of child-like sex dolls not only condones pedophilia fantasies, but promotes urges among pedophiles, and encourages them to get one step closer to abusing a real child. These childlike sex dolls pose a significant risk to children and public safety necessitating the prohibition of its importation, sale, or possession.

The County of Hawai'i, Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, remains committed to protecting our keiki and seeking the pursuit of justice with integrity and commitment. For the foregoing reasons, our Office, supports the passage of Senate Bill No. 834 SD1 HD2. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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THE HONORABLE MARK M. NAKASHIMA, CHAIR HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS Thirty-first State Legislature Regular Session of 2021 State of Hawai`i

March 30, 2021

RE: S.B. 834, S.D. 1, H.D. 1; RELATING TO CHILDLIKE SEX DOLLS.

Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and members of the House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu ("Department") submits the following testimony in <u>support</u> of S.B. 834, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, <u>with suggested amendments</u>.

The purpose of this bill is to prohibit the importation, sale or possession of childlike sex dolls. While the Department has not yet come across any of these dolls, it is quite possible that they have been coming into or through Hawaii undetected, as they are not yet prohibited.

Given the strong likelihood for these dolls to be used to reinforce pedophilic thoughts, or to groom potential child victims, the Department strongly agrees that these objects present a serious risk to public safety and should be prohibited. The Department appreciates the thoughtful amendments made by the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Commerce: lowering the number of dolls (from 10 dolls to 5 dolls) at which the offense increases to a higher class felony; and amending "puberty" to "a person below the age of eighteen years." However, because children tend to develop differently and at different paces, it may be problematic to define a childlike sex doll based on a specific age. In anticipation of this challenge, <u>the Department</u> respectfully requests that the committee return that portion of the definition to its original language, referencing "puberty."

For all of the foregoing reasons, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu <u>supports</u> the passage of S.B. 834, S.D. 1, H,D. 1, <u>with amendments</u>. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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RICK BLANGIARDI MAYOR



SUSAN BALLARD CHIEF

JOHN D. MCCARTHY AARON TAKASAKI-YOUNG DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE RP-KK

March 30, 2021

The Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Chair and Members Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs House of Representatives Hawaii State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street, Room 325 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Nakashima and Members:

SUBJECT: Senate Bill No. 834, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, Relating to Childlike Sex Dolls

I am Randall Platt, Captain of District 4 of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports Senate Bill No. 834, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, Relating to Childlike Sex Dolls.

Sexual abuse and assault of children are among the most heinous of crimes. The HPD supports the efforts of the legislators to protect the children of Hawaii (who are among the most vulnerable in society) from sexual predators.

The HPD urges you to support Senate Bill No. 834, S.D. 1, H.D. 1, Relating to Childlike Sex Dolls. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

APPROVED:

Gop -Susan Ba Chief of Police

Since

Randall Platt, Captain District 4

Serving and Protecting With Aloha

<u>SB-834-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/27/2021 8:05:01 PM Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dana Keawe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support sb834 sd1 hd1

<u>SB-834-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/28/2021 12:55:24 PM Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Victoria Anderson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass this important bill. Also, please have this bill take effect upon its passage.

<u>SB-834-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/30/2021 7:14:49 AM Testimony for JHA on 3/30/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John D. Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill and pass it through.