

P. O. Box 3378 Honolulu, HI 96801-3378 doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

Testimony for SUPPORT on HB2338, HD1 RELATING TO THE STATE DRUG AND ALCOHOL TOXICOLOGY TESTING LABORATORY SENATOR JARRETT KEOHOKALOLE, CHAIR SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH SENATOR CHRIS LEE, CHAIR SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION Hearing Date: 3/21/2022 Room Number: Video Conference

- 1 **Fiscal Implications:** This measure will appropriate \$400,000 from the state highway fund to the
- 2 laboratory special fund for fiscal year 2022-2023, and authorizes the department of health to
- 3 expend funds from the state drug and alcohol toxicology testing laboratory special fund for the
- 4 establishment of the state drug and alcohol toxicology testing laboratory.
- 5 **Department Testimony:** The Department supports this measure. The funds will be expended
- 6 for laboratory instrumentation, facility renovation, and security upgrades.
- 7 **Offered Amendments:** None.

9

10

11

12

13

HB2338, HD1 Page 2 of 2

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

801 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET · HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813 TELEPHONE: (808) 529-3111 · INTERNET: www.honolulupd.org

RICK BLANGIARDI MAYOR



RADE K VANIC

OUR REFERENCE

HO-LS

March 21, 2022

The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair and Members
Committee on Health
The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair and Members
Committee on Transportation
State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street, Room 225
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Keohokalole and Lee and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 2338, H.D. 1, Relating to the State Drug and Alcohol Toxicology Testing Laboratory

I am Acting Forensic Laboratory Director Hugh Okubo of the Scientific Investigation Section of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports House Bill No. 2338, H.D. 1, Relating to the State Drug and Alcohol Toxicology Testing Laboratory.

The HPD supports the funding and creation of a State Drug and Alcohol Toxicology Testing Laboratory. Currently drug and alcohol toxicology testing is outsourced to the mainland as there is no local forensic toxicology laboratory. Establishment of a state forensic toxicology laboratory will, over time, save time and money for the required testing of evidence in criminal cases.

The Honorable Jarrett Keohokalole, Chair and Members The Honorable Chris Lee, Chair and Members March 21, 2022 Page 2

The HPD urges you to support House Bill No. 2338, H.D. 1, Relating to the State Drug and Alcohol Toxicology Testing Laboratory, and thanks you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Hugh Okubo, Acting Laboratory Director

Scientific Investigation Section

APPROVED:

Rade K. Vanic

Interim Chief of Police





TESTIMONY BY:

JADE T. BUTAY DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors ROSS M. HIGASHI EDUARDO P. MANGLALLAN PATRICK H. MCCAIN EDWIN H. SNIFFEN

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

869 PUNCHBOWL STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

March 21, 2022 1:00 P.M. State Capitol Conference Room 225/Teleconference

H.B. 2338, H.D. 1 RELATING TO THE STATE DRUG AND ALCOHOL TOXICOLOGY TESTING LABORATORY

Senate Committee(s) on Health & Transportation

The Department of Transportation (DOT) **supports** H.B. 2338, H.D 1. This measure makes an appropriation from the state highway fund to the Department of Health's (DOH) state drug and alcohol toxicology testing laboratory special fund for fiscal year 2022-2023 and authorizes the DOH to expend funds from the special fund for the establishment of the state drug and alcohol toxicology testing laboratory.

Act 196, which passed into law last legislative session, established the special fund. This bill is needed to appropriate moneys from the state highway fund into the state drug and alcohol testing laboratory special fund and provide spending authority to the DOH to establish the state drug and alcohol toxicology testing laboratory.

The DOT is primarily concerned about improving highway safety and protecting the lives of our community members and visitors. Having a drug and alcohol toxicology testing laboratory within our State will provide law enforcement and adjudicators with the resources they need to protect our public from impaired drivers.

The DOT urges your support with H.B. 2338, H.D. 1.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.