

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
KA 'OIHANA OLAKINO
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

Testimony COMMENTING on SB 1526
RELATING TO THE DRUG AND ALCOHOL TOXICOLOGY TESTING LABORATORY
SENATOR CHRIS LEE, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS

SENATOR JOY A. SAN BUENAVENTURA, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Hearing Date: 2/7/2025, Time: 1:15 pm and Room Number: 225

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Undetermined. The Department of Health (“Department”) requests that
2 this measure be considered as a vehicle to provide this needed funding so long as it does not
3 supplant the priorities and requests outlined in the Governors executive budget request.

4 **Department Position:** The Department of Health offers comments.

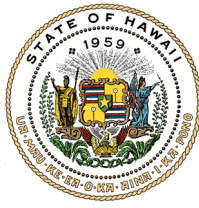
5 **Department Testimony:** The State Laboratories Division (SLD) provides the following testimony
6 on behalf of the Department.

7 Department of Health supports this measure.

8 **Offered Amendments:** NONE

9 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



MIKE LAMBERT
DIRECTOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT GOVERNOR
KE KE'ENA

STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT
Ka 'Oihana Ho'okō Kānāwai
715 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

JARED K. REDULLA
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1526
RELATING TO DRUG AND ALCOHOL TOXICOLOGY TESTING LABORATORY
Before the Senate Committee on
TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
Friday, February 7, 2025, 1:15 PM
State Capitol Conference Room 225 & Videoconference
WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Chairs Lee, San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Inouye, Aquino, and members of the Committee:

The Department of Law Enforcement (DLE) supports Senate Bill 1526, which proposes to extend the lapse date for funds appropriated from the Drug and Alcohol Toxicology Testing Laboratory Special Fund for fiscal years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 for the establishment and maintenance of a drug and alcohol toxicology testing laboratory.

This measure is crucial for enhancing the state's capability to conduct timely and accurate drug and alcohol testing, directly impacting law enforcement operations and public safety. Extending the funding timeline until June 30, 2028, ensures adequate time for establishing and implementing the laboratory infrastructure.

The DLE recognizes that a dedicated toxicology testing facility is essential for effective law enforcement operations, particularly in driving under the influence, workplace incidents, and other situations requiring precise toxicology analysis.

Establishing consistent testing standards and procedures will significantly improve the quality and reliability of evidence in criminal investigations and prosecutions.

Furthermore, this laboratory will reduce dependencies on external testing facilities, potentially decreasing processing times and costs while maintaining chain of custody standards crucial for law enforcement purposes.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

C. Kimo Alameda, Ph.D.
Mayor



Benjamin T. Moszkowicz
Police Chief

William V. Brillhante Jr.
Managing Director

Reed K. Mahuna
Deputy Police Chief

County of Hawai`i

POLICE DEPARTMENT

349 Kapi`olani Street • Hilo, Hawai`i 96720-3998
(808) 935-3311 • Fax (808) 961-2389

February 5, 2025

Senator Chris Lee
Chairperson and Committee Members
Committee on Transportation and Culture and the Arts
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai`i 96813

RE: SENATE BILL 1526; RELATING TO THE DRUG AND ALCOHOL TOXICOLOGY
LABORATORY TESTING LAB
HEARING DATE: FEBRUARY 7, 2025
TIME: 1:15 PM

Dear Senator Lee:

The Hawai`i Police Department **strongly supports** the establishment of a state laboratory for drug and alcohol testing, as outlined in this Act. The creation of such a facility is essential for enhancing the health and safety of our communities. A state-run laboratory will ensure that toxicology testing services are consistent, timely, and accurate across all counties, which is critical in law enforcement efforts to combat impaired driving. By providing a centralized, state-of-the-art facility for drug and alcohol testing, we can ensure a more efficient process for law enforcement agencies, which will improve public safety and promote justice in OVUII cases.

Additionally, we recognize the importance of giving the Department of Health and county governments the necessary time to properly plan, build, and equip the laboratory. This extension will allow for the development of an administrative framework that supports effective operations statewide. The extended timeline will ensure that the laboratory meets the needs of all counties while maintaining the highest standards of reliability. We fully support this critical infrastructure development and believe it will greatly enhance the capacity of law enforcement agencies to address impaired driving across Hawai`i, ultimately leading to safer roads for all residents.

It is for these reasons, we urge this committee **to approve** this legislation. Thank you for allowing the Hawai`i Police Department to provide comments relating to Senate Bill 1526.

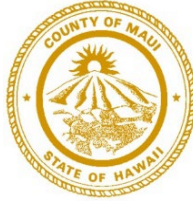
Sincerely,


For BENJAMIN T. MOSZKOWICZ
POLICE CHIEF

RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor

ANDREW H. MARTIN
Prosecuting Attorney

SHELLY C. MIYASHIRO
First Deputy Prosecuting Attorney



DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAI'I 96793
PHONE (808) 270-7777 • FAX (808) 270-7625

TESTIMONY ON
S.B. 1526
RELATING TO THE DRUG AND
ALCOHOL TESTING LABORATORY

February 6, 2025

The Honorable Chris Lee
Chair

The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye
Vice Chair

and Members of the Committee on Transportation and Culture and The Arts

The Honorable Joy A. San Buenaventura
Chair

The Honorable Henry J.C. Aquino
Vice Chair

and Members of the Committee on Health and Human Services

Chairs Lee and San Buenaventura, Vice Chairs Inouye and Aquino, and Members of the Committees:

The Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui respectfully submits the following comments **in support of S.B. 1526, Relating to The Drug and Alcohol Testing Laboratory**. This bill extends the lapse date for funds appropriated for the establishment and maintenance of a drug and alcohol toxicology testing laboratory.

The Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui supports this bill because current testing of blood and urine samples in some DUI cases is performed by laboratories located outside of Hawaii. Court cases involving these test results can become extremely costly when the prosecution is required to subpoena experts and lab personnel to testify in court, especially if these witnesses are from laboratories located out of state and require travel and lodging arrangements. Non-Hawai'i witnesses also run the risk of flights being canceled and

weather disturbances preventing travel to hearings.

For these reasons, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Maui **supports S.B. 1526**. Please feel free to contact our office at (808) 270-7777 if you have any questions or inquiries.

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

Rebecca V. Like
Prosecuting Attorney



Keola Siu
First Deputy
Prosecuting Attorney

OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

County of Kaua'i, State of Hawai'i

3990 Ka'ana Street, Suite 210, Līhu'e, Hawai'i 96766
808-241-1888 ~ FAX 808-241-1758
Victim/Witness Program 808-241-1898 or 800-668-5734

LATE

THE HONORABLE CHRIS LEE, CHAIR, SENATE COMMITTEE ON
TRANSPORTATION AND CULTURE AND THE ARTS, THE HONORABLE JOY A.
SAN BUENAVENTURA, CHAIR, SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES

THIRTY-THIRD STATE LEGISLATURE

Regular Session of 2025

State of Hawai'i

February 6, 2025

**RE: SB 1526 RELATING TO THE DRUG AND ALCOHOL TOXICOLOGY
TESTING LABORATORY.**

Chair Lee, Vice Chair Inouye, and Members of the Senate Committee on
Transportation and the Arts; Chair Buenaventura, Vice Chair Aquino, and
Member of the Committee on Health and Human Services:

The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Kaua'i SUPPORTS SB
1526, extending the timeline for the development and implementation of the
drug and alcohol toxicology laboratory.

The bill extends the time period for the funding of this important project.
The establishment of this laboratory will help provide better and more timely
toxicology results for use in holding drunk and drugged drivers accountable on
Hawaii's roadway. Ultimately, this laboratory will help Hawaii's roadways to be
safer.

Accordingly, the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney, County of Kaua'i,
requests that this measure be PASSED.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify.

SB-1526

Submitted on: 2/4/2025 3:48:49 PM

Testimony for TCA on 2/7/2025 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Rick Ramirez	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

As a healthcare provider who works with addiction medicine clients, this bill and funding is greatly needed in order to maintain the care of our patients in all aspects of healthcare. This should be a no brainer when it comes to supporting this bill!!