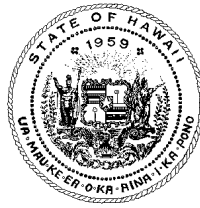


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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No. _____

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 1486, SENATE DRAFT 1, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO ELECTRONIC PRESCRIPTION ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM.

By

Nolan P. Espinda, Director

House Committee on Judiciary
Representative Chris Lee, Chair
Representative Joy A. San Buenaventura, Vice Chair

Monday, March 25, 2019; 2:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Chair Lee, Vice Chair San Buenaventura, and Members of the Committee:

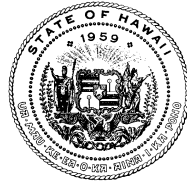
The Department of Public Safety (PSD) supports Senate Bill (SB) 1486, Senate Draft (SD)1, House Draft (HD) 1, which proposes to amend chapter 329-104(c) of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), to allow the PSD Narcotics Enforcement Division (NED) Administrator to disclose, at his/her discretion, confidential information from the Electronic Prescription Accountability System, more commonly known as the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP), to authorized employees of the Department of Health (DOH) Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division and the Emergency Medical and Injury Prevention Systems Branch, as well as the United States Department of Defense Health Agency.

PSD has collaborated closely with DOH and other government and private stakeholders to create Hawai'i's "Opioid Action Plan." As part of this action plan, stakeholders agreed that PDMP information sharing between PSD and DOH would provide DOH with information to better protect the

Testimony on SB 1486, SD 1, HD 1
House Committee on Judiciary
March 25, 2019
Page 2

community by allowing public health surveillance and decreased harm. Also, the Opioid Action Plan calls for a balanced approach involving effective treatment, prevention, and law enforcement to combat opioid abuse in Hawai'i. The sharing of data between law enforcement and public health officials, as proposed in SB 1486, SD 1, HD 1, exemplifies this approach.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.



STATE OF HAWAII
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**Testimony in SUPPORT of (SB 1486 HD 1)
RELATING TO ELECTRONIC PRESCRIPTION ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM**

REPRESENTATIVE CHRIS LEE, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

Hearing Date: March 25, 2019

Room Number: 325

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None

2 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (DOH) **strongly supports** SB 1486 HD 1.
3 These bills support and enhance the coordinated efforts undertaken by the Department of Public
4 Safety (PSD), Narcotics Enforcement Division (NED) and the DOH to implement a balanced
5 and coordinated public safety/public health strategy to address opioid and other substance abuse
6 issues in our state. The bills allow the NED administrator to disclose, at his discretion,
7 confidential information from the Electronic Prescription Accountability System, more
8 commonly known as the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP), to authorized
9 employees of the DOH Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division (ADAD) and the Emergency Medical
10 Services and Injury Prevention Systems Branch (EMSIPSB).

11 The PDMP is a unique resource that provides a picture of health care opioid prescribing
12 and pharmacy dispensing practices and patterns in Hawaii. Increased access to the prescription
13 database will greatly inform the DOH's Strategic Plan for preventing opioid addiction and
14 overdose.

15 More than 150 Hawaii residents die from drug overdoses each year. Nearly half of these
16 deaths involve prescription opioids. Fatal drug overdose is now the leading cause of injury-
17 related deaths in the state, surpassing those from motor vehicle crashes and falls. Prevention and
18 treatment of this problem are top priorities for the Governor. The Hawaii Opioid Initiative
19 brought together a wide range of legislators, state and county officials, law enforcement and first
20 responders, health care professionals and other citizens to work together to develop and

1 implement a plan to reduce prescription opioid abuse and deaths from overdose. SB 1486 HD 1
2 is intended to fulfill one of the objectives of the Hawaii Opioid Action Plan (Plan) developed by
3 the Hawaii Opioid Initiative. The full revised Plan (January 2019) is available at:
4 https://health.hawaii.gov/substance-abuse/files/2019/01/The-Hawaii-Opioid-Initiative_2.pdf.

5 Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

SB-1486-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/24/2019 11:29:06 AM

Testimony for JUD on 3/25/2019 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl Bergquist	Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments: