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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF THE SHERIFF.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the sheriff division  
2 of the department of public safety shoulders responsibilities  
3 that are integral to preserving the public peace and safety.

4 Specifically, the division:

5           (1) Serves and protects the public, government officials,  
6 and state personnel and property under its  
7 jurisdiction, including at state facilities, lands,  
8 and airports, and within the jurisdictional boundaries  
9 of the State, by providing law enforcement services  
10 that incorporate patrols, surveillance, and  
11 educational activities;

12           (2) Protects state judges and judicial proceedings,  
13 secures judicial facilities, safely handles detained  
14 persons, and provides secure transport for persons in  
15 custody; and

16           (3) Executes arrest warrants for the judiciary and the  
17 Hawaii paroling authority.



1           The purpose of this Act is to establish a transition task  
2 force to initiate the planning process for the creation of a  
3 department of the sheriff that would assume the duties and  
4 functions of the sheriff division of the department of public  
5 safety.

6           SECTION 2. (a) There is established a transition task  
7 force to create a plan to establish a new department of the  
8 sheriff with functions presently existing under the department  
9 of public safety and other functions deemed appropriate,  
10 including the broad functions enumerated in section 3 of this  
11 Act. The plan shall also include a process for implementation  
12 of the plan to establish a department of the sheriff.

13           (b) The transition task force shall consist of the  
14 following members:

15           (1) The sheriff, or the sheriff's designee, to serve as  
16 chair;

17           (2) The director of public safety, or the director's  
18 designee;

19           (3) The director of human resources development, or the  
20 director's designee;

21           (4) The director of finance, or the director's designee;



- 1           (5) The attorney general, or the attorney general's
- 2           designee;
- 3           (6) The administrator of the courts, or the
- 4           administrator's designee; and
- 5           (7) The executive director of the Hawaii Government
- 6           Employees Association, or the executive director's
- 7           designee.

8           (c) The task force shall report to the legislature not  
9 later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular  
10 session of 2012 its findings and recommendations, including cost  
11 estimates to establish the department of the sheriff.

12          (d) The task force shall cease to exist on May 1, 2012.

13          SECTION 3. For purposes of developing the plan to  
14 establish the department of the sheriff pursuant to section 2 of  
15 this Act, the task force shall consider the inclusion of the  
16 following broad functions in that department:

- 17          (1) Preserving the public peace, preventing crime,
- 18             detecting and arresting offenders against the law,
- 19             protecting the rights of persons and property, and
- 20             enforcing and preventing violation of all laws and
- 21             administrative rules of the State as the sheriff deems
- 22             necessary or desirable or, upon request, to assist



1 other state officers or agencies that have primary  
2 administrative responsibility over specific subject  
3 matters or programs;

4 (2) Providing for the protection and safety of the people  
5 of Hawaii through law enforcement at state facilities,  
6 lands, harbors, and airports, and within the  
7 jurisdictional boundaries of the State;

8 (3) Receiving and processing arrestees at the district and  
9 circuit courts and for the neighbor islands, at the  
10 respective county police department receiving desks,  
11 and transporting them to appropriate agencies and  
12 authorized individuals;

13 (4) Training, equipping, maintaining, and supervising the  
14 force of deputy sheriffs and other employees of the  
15 department; and

16 (5) Performing other law enforcement activities as may be  
17 required by law, including the service of warrants.

18 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

Department of the Sheriff; Task Force

**Description:**

Creates a task force to plan for the establishment of a department of the sheriff to assume responsibilities and functions exercised by the sheriff division of the department of public safety. Report to the legislature. Effective 07/01/2050. (SD2)

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