



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
P.O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0119

WRITTEN TESTIMONY
OF
DOUGLAS MURDOCK, COMPTROLLER
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
WAYS AND MEANS
ON
APRIL 2, 2015
H.B. 894, H.D. 2, S.D. 1

RELATING TO THE ENHANCED 911 BOARD

Chair Tokuda and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on H.B. 894, H.D. 2, S.D. 1. The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) strongly supports H.B. 894, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, an administration-sponsored measure, with the following exception.

DAGS respectfully requests that SECTION 2 of H.B. 894, H.D. 2, S.D. 1 (at page 2, line 2) be amended to include the following phrase: “may employ staff exempt from chapters 76 and 89 and”, which was in the administration-proposed bill. Although H.B. 894, H.D. 2, S.D. 1 authorizes the Enhanced 911 Board (Board) to employ staff, the staff is not exempt from chapters 76 and 89, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS). Because the Board may employ staff in a key position such as an executive director which reports directly to the Board, this position should be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Board. An exemption from chapters 76

and 89, HRS, for this type of position is necessary for any board or commission to have a functional and constructive relationship with their executive director and is a standard component in agency statutes. As examples of this, the Executive Directors or Administrators for the following boards or commissions are exempt from civil service and collective bargaining:

1. Campaign Spending Commission
2. Office of Elections
3. State Foundation on Culture and the Arts
4. State Procurement Office
5. Stadium Authority
6. State Building Code Council

From its inception in 2004, the Board has relied on consultants to fulfill its operational requirements and attain its mission objectives. Since 2004, the Enhanced 911 Fund which the Board oversees, has grown to annual revenues and expenditures of approximately \$9 million. Additionally, the Board's authority has increased to include land line and voice over internet protocol (voip) 911 calls. As a result, the Board is requesting the authority to hire its own employees to achieve the following:

1. Handle the administrative functions of the Board;
2. Engage consultants for advice and solutions to technical situations and industry specific issues that may arise;
3. Allow the Board to procure goods and services (i.e. audit services, professional services, etc.) which they cannot do now since only State employees are allowed to perform procurement responsibilities;
4. Allow the Board the flexibility to hire employees or contractors that can accomplish the task or desired outcome at the best value; and
5. Contracted consultant services for administrative support will be reduced.

Lastly, the Board does not require an increase in the spending ceiling of the Enhanced 911 Fund if this measure is approved.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on this measure.

TESTIMONY
OF
PAUL K. FERREIRA,
STATE OF HAWAII, ENHANCED 911 BOARD
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE
ON
WAYS AND MEANS
ON
APRIL 2, 2015
9:00 A.M.
STATE CAPITOL, CONFERENCE ROOM 211

**IN SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS
OF
HOUSE BILL 894, H.D. 2, S.D. 1
RELATING TO THE ENHANCED 911 BOARD**

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Kouchi, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 894, HD 2, SD 1.

The Enhanced 911 Board (Board) supports HB 894, HD 2, SD 1 that seeks to provide the Enhanced 911 Board with the authority to hire employees, however, would like to offer the following amendment to the current language in the measure. Our testimony is provided today on behalf of the thirteen-member Enhanced 911 Board that is comprised of representatives from each of the Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs), representatives of the communications service providers, the public utility, and representatives from State agencies.

Although HB 894, HD 2, SD 1 would authorize the Board to employ staff, under the current language of this bill, the staff would not be exempt from chapters 76 and 89, HRS. Because the Board would employ staff in a key position such as an executive director who reports directly to the Board, this position should be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Board. Exemption from chapters 76 and 89, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for this type of position is necessary for any board or commission to have a functional and constructive relationship with their administrator or executive director and is a standard phrase in agency statutes.

- We request that section 2, subsection (i) be amended to include the following phrase; "may employ staff exempt from chapters 76 and 89 and".

The Board seeks the ability to hire its own employees to perform the duties of executive director and the basic administrative functions including all fiscal operations, budgeting, procurement of services (audit, specialized consultants, etc.), providing public information, and conducting board meetings. In hiring its own employees, the Board is seeking to enhance its efficiency and the effective use of the Board's fiscal resources.

For these reasons, we urge the committee to approve this legislation. Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this important matter.

Sincerely,



PAUL K. FERREIRA
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR
ENHANCED 911 BOARD

TESTIMONY OF THE HAWAII POLICE DEPARTMENT

HOUSE BILL 894, HD2, SD1

RELATING TO ENHANCED 911 BOARD

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

DATE : Thursday, April 2, 2015

TIME : 9:00 A.M.

PLACE : Conference Room 211
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

PERSON TESTIFYING:

Police Chief Harry S. Kubojiri
Hawai`i Police Department
County of Hawai`i

(Written Testimony Only)

William P. Kenoi
Mayor



Harry S. Kubojiri
Police Chief

Paul K. Ferreira
Deputy Police Chief

County of Hawai'i

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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March 31, 2015

Senator Jill N. Tokuda
Chairman and Committee Members
Committee on Ways and Means
415 South Beretania Street, Room 211
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: HOUSE BILL 894, HD2, SD1, RELATING TO THE ENHANCED 911 BOARD

Dear Senator Tokuda:

The Hawai'i Police Department supports House Bill 894, HD2, SD1, with its purpose being to provide the Enhanced 911 Board with the authority to hire employees exempt from Chapters 76 and 89, Hawai'i Revised Statutes.

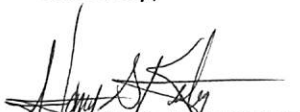
The Hawai'i Police Department maintains a Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for receiving, routing, and assigning emergent calls from the Public. The continuously changing digital/electronic communications atmosphere demands that PSAPs are able to meet the needs of the community. The recent movement towards the Next Generation 911 upgrading of PSAPS is a prime example. These upgrades will allow PSAPS to receive text messages, photos, and video from wireless phones. More importantly, these upgrades are intended to better serve the community we serve in terms of both receiving information and utilizing the information to ensure our response is commensurate with the community's expectations.

The Hawai'i Police Department believes that in going forward, it is imperative that the Enhanced 911 Board is able to have the necessary staffing in order to continue its mission in caretaking the emergency reporting needs of the community.

It is for these reasons, we urge this committee to approve this legislation.

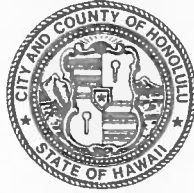
Thank you for allowing the Hawai'i Police Department to provide comments relating to House Bill 894, HD2, SD1.

Sincerely,


HARRY S. KUBOJIRI
POLICE CHIEF

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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KIRK W. CALDWELL
MAYOR

LOUIS M. KEALOHA
CHIEF

DAVE M. KAJIHIRO
MARIE A. McCAULEY
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE **SN-AS**

April 2, 2015

The Honorable Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
and Members
Committee on Ways and Means
State Senate
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 211
415 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Tokuda and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 894, HD2, SD1, Relating to the Enhanced 911 Board

I am Sean C. Naito, Major of the Communications Division of the Honolulu Police Department (HPD), City and County of Honolulu.

The HPD supports House Bill No. 894, HD2, SD1, Relating to the Enhanced 911 Board. This bill provides the Board with the ability to hire its own employees to perform the duties of the executive director and the basic administrative functions. The hiring of its own employees should provide a more efficient and effective use of their fiscal resources.

The HPD urges you to support House Bill No. 894, HD2, SD1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean C. Naito".

Sean C. Naito, Major
Communications Division

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louis M. Kealoha".

Louis M. Kealoha
Chief of Police