

# **HB 894 HD2**

## **RELATING TO THE ENHANCED 911 BOARD**

Provides the Enhanced 911 Board with the authority to hire employees. (HB894 HD2)

PSM/JDL, WAM



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

TESTIMONY  
OF  
DOUGLAS MURDOCK, COMPTROLLER  
DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEES  
ON  
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS  
AND  
JUDICIARY AND LABOR  
ON  
MARCH 18, 2015  
H.B. 894, H.D. 2

RELATING TO THE ENHANCED 911 BOARD

Chairs Espero, Keith-Agaran and members of the Committees, thank you for the opportunity to testify on H.B. 894, H.D. 2. The Department of Accounting and General Services (DAGS) strongly supports H.B. 894, H.D. 2, an administration-sponsored measure, with the following exception.

DAGS respectfully requests that SECTION 2 of H.B. 894, H.D. 2 (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 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 administrator 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 administrator or executive director and is a standard component in agency statutes.

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.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

TESTIMONY  
OF  
PAUL K. FERREIRA,  
STATE OF HAWAII, ENHANCED 911 BOARD  
TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEES  
ON  
PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS  
AND  
ON  
JUDICIARY AND LABOR  
ON  
MARCH 18, 2015  
9:30 A.M.  
STATE CAPITOL, CONFERENCE ROOM 016  
  
IN SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS  
OF  
HOUSE BILL 894, H.D. 2  
RELATING TO THE ENHANCED 911 BOARD

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, Chair Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Shimabukuro, and members of the committees, thank you for the opportunity to testify on HB 894, HD 2.

The Enhanced 911 Board (Board) supports HB 894, HD 2 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.

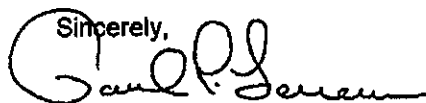
Although HB 894, HD 2 would authorize the Board to employ staff, under the current language of this bill, the staff would not be exempt from chapters 76 and 89, HRS. Because the Board would employ staff in a key position such as an executive director who reports directly to the Board, this position should 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,

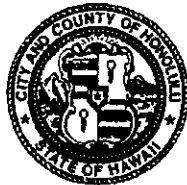


PAUL K. FERREIRA  
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR  
ENHANCED 911 BOARD

POLICE DEPARTMENT  
**CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU**

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

KIRK CALDWELL  
MAYOR



LOUIS M. KEALOHA  
CHIEF

DAVE M. KAJIHIRO  
MARIE A. MCCAULEY  
DEPUTY CHIEFS

OUR REFERENCE SN-AS

March 18, 2015

The Honorable Will Espero, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Public Safety,  
Intergovernmental and Military Affairs  
The Honorable Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Chair  
and Members  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
State Senate  
Hawaii State Capitol, Conference Room 016  
415 South Beretania Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chairs Espero and Keith-Agaran and Members:

SUBJECT: House Bill No. 894, HD2, 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, 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.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean C. Naito", written over a horizontal line.

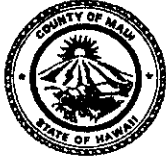
Sean C. Naito, Major  
Communications Division

APPROVED:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louis M. Kealoha", written over a horizontal line.

Louis M. Kealoha  
Chief of Police

*Serving and Protecting With Aloha*



**ALAN M. ARAKAWA**  
MAYOR

OUR REFERENCE  
YOUR REFERENCE

# **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

## **COUNTY OF MAUI**

**55 MAHALANI STREET**  
**WAILUKU, HAWAII 96793**  
**(808) 244-6400**  
**FAX (808) 244-6411**



**TIVOLI S. FAAUMU**  
CHIEF OF POLICE

**DEAN M. RICKARD**  
DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE

March 17, 2015

The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Chair  
and Members of the Committee on Public Safety,  
Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

The Honorable Senator Gilbert S. C. Keith-Agaran, Chair  
and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
The Senate  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, HI 96813

RE: House Bill No. 894, HD2 – RELATING TO THE ENHANCED 911  
BOARD

Dear Chair Espero and Members of the Committee:

The Maui Police Department is in support of HB No. 894, HD2. This bill provides the Enhanced 911 Board with the authority to hire employees.

The Maui Police Department is in support of this bill as it will assist the Enhanced 911 Board to provide more options in the hiring of its own employees to handle administrative functions and to use consultants to address technical or industry specific issues that arise to better utilize fiscal resources. The important mission that the Enhanced 911 Board is charged with will move to a more efficient service model with the approval of this bill.

We would also like add the following amendment based on recommendations from the Enhanced 911 Board.

Although this measure seeks to authorize the Board to employ staff, the staff is not exempt from HRS Chapters 76 and 89. Because the Board may employ staff in a key position such as an administrator which reports directly to the Board, this position should be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Board. Exemption from HRS Chapters 76 and 89 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.

The Honorable Senator Will Espero, Chair  
and Members of the Committee on Public Safety,  
Intergovernmental and Military Affairs

The Honorable Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran. Chair  
and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
March 17, 2015  
Page 2

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

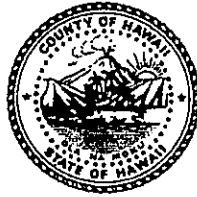
The Maui Police Department asks for your support for H.B. No. 894, HD2

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

  
TIVOLI S. FAAUMU  
Chief of Police

William P. Kenoi  
Mayor



Harry S. Kubojiri  
Police Chief

Paul K. Ferreira  
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

March 16, 2015

Senator Will Espero  
Chairman and Committee Members  
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs  
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
415 South Beretania Street, Room 016  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

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

Dear Senators Espero and Keith-Agaran:

The Hawai'i Police Department supports House Bill 894, HD2, 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.

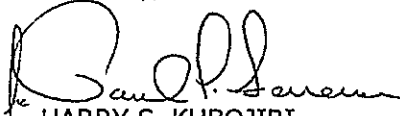
The Hawai'i Police Department maintains a Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for receiving, routing, and assigning emergent calls from the Public. The continuously changing digital/electronic communications atmosphere demands that PSAPs are able to meet the needs of the community. The recent movement 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.

Sincerely,

  
HARRY S. KUBOJIRI  
POLICE CHIEF



**From:** mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, March 16, 2015 8:28 AM  
**To:** PSMTestimony  
**Cc:** jpriewer@hotmail.com  
**Subject:** Submitted testimony for HB894 on Mar 18, 2015 09:30AM

**HB894**

Submitted on: 3/16/2015

Testimony for PSM/JDL on Mar 18, 2015 09:30AM in Conference Room 016

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeff Riewer	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha.... First of all thank you all for taking the time to review and pass this measure...I would like to state this disclaimer before my actual testimony: • We request that section 2, subsection (i) be amended to include the following phrase; "may employ staff exempt from chapters 76 and 89 and". I have been attending the Enhanced 911 board meetings for the past 3-4 years and am currently an active board member...I cannot stress enough the need for full time employees...We have been blessed by hiring on consultants since the inception of the board but it is time to move forward and actually do something positive for the emergency services sector of this state. We need direction and guidance towards the future of E911..not a simple month to month rhetoric of what we are going to do...I firmly believe that a full time employee will offer both direction and guidance for the future of E911 in the state of Hawaii... Thank you for your "Yes"... Regards... Jeff Riewer

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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