



The Judiciary, State of Hawai‘i

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on
Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs**

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 4, 2016, 1:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

by
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Bill No. and Title: Senate Bill No. 2912, Relating to the Statewide Integrated Sex Offender Treatment Program.

Purpose: Amends chapter 353E, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes (HRS), to reflect nationally recognized best practices in the statewide, integrated programming for sex offenders, and to identify the coordinating body for the sex offender treatment program as the “sex offender management team.” Exempts the statewide integrated sex offender treatment program from the requirements of chapter 92, HRS.

Judiciary's Position:

The Judiciary supports SB 2912, which reflects best practices in the assessment, evaluation, treatment, and supervision of sex offenders. Since the establishment of 353E, the Judiciary has participated in developing guidelines for the assessment and treatment of sex offenders, and has used these guidelines in setting scope of services for purchase of service contracts. This has improved services as it requires vendors to adhere to best practice principles (e.g., utilizing validated and specialized risk instruments to inform treatment plans, utilizing a cognitive-behavioral treatment approach, etc.) Guidelines for supervision also require probation staff to incorporate best practices, such as utilizing the same risk instruments to match supervision standards and inform case plans.

The renaming of this body reflects the full scope of its purpose, beginning with a focus on treatment, and expanding to include the supervision and management of sex offenders by specially trained supervision officers.



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The Judiciary takes no position on the exemption in Chapter 92, HRS.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 2912.