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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

June 1, 2015

City Council  
City and County of Honolulu  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813-3077

Regular Meeting, Wednesday, June 3, 2015

**RE: Testimony in Support on Bill 13, CD2**  
**From: Representative Cynthia Thielen**

Dear Chair Martin and Committee Members,

For over 25 years I have served as a State Legislator representing District 50 (Kailua-Kaneohe Bay) and a co-convener of the Legislative Women's Caucus, a bipartisan group of women State Senators and Representatives. I am testifying in strong support of Bill 13, CD2 which will provide appropriations for the purchase of wearable body cameras for the Honolulu Police Department's pilot project within the Criminal Investigations Division. This bill will also provide for a report to be made to the Honolulu City Council by March 1, 2016 regarding the recommendations and findings of the pilot project.

According to an extensive yearlong study by Police Foundation Executive Fellow, Chief Tony Farrar, wearing cameras was associated with dramatic reductions in use-of-force and complaints against officers. The authors of the study concluded that *"The findings suggest more than a 50% reduction in the total number of incidents of use-of-force compared to control-conditions, and nearly ten times more citizens' complaints in the 12-months prior to the experiment."*

Body cameras for those who serve in our police force is a win-win situation for all concerned. I encourage the City Council members to vote yes on this important budget item.

MISC. COM. 1838

Council