

**RES22-029**  
**Testimony**

**MISC. COMM. 143**

EXECUTIVE MATTERS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS

## **EXECUTIVE MATTERS AND LEGAL AFFAIRS Meeting**

Meeting Date: Apr 19, 2022 @ 01:00 PM

Support: 4

Oppose: 0

I wish to comment: 0

Name: Lee Curran	Email: dfcurran@gmail.com	Zip: 96792
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 16, 2022 @ 04:00 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha!</p> <p>My name is Lee Curran and I reside on Kanaka Maoli land in Makaha. I am strongly in favor of RES 22-029 relating to the Police Commission and its membership.</p> <p>I wholeheartedly concur that increased diversity of personality, experience opinion and knowledge will serve as a strong foundation to foster much needed trust and confidence in law enforcement within our communities. In addition, a more diversified Commission is unequivocally in all of our best interests and will allow for more effective oversight, ensure increased accountability and be more aligned with the Commission's mission to serve ALL the people of the City and County of Honolulu.</p> <p>Please pass RES 22-209 and provide a pathway for healing and true justice in our communities as we collectively work to restore trust and confidence.</p> <p>Mahalo, Lee Curran, Makaha</p>		
Name: Carla Allison	Email: cbm@hawaii.rr.com	Zip: 96825
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 17, 2022 @ 04:08 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>My name is Carla Allison. I am a 26 year resident of Honolulu, testifying in strong support of Resolution 22-29, relating to the Police Commission and its membership.</p> <p>Since January 2021 I've been virtually attending and testifying at Honolulu Police Commission meetings and along the way, learning about changes taking place across the country around policing. What led me to get active is my concern for the safety of our community, our police officers and their families.</p> <p>I strongly support the Commission diversity requirement. I've learned that it is a common practice for city charters to include specifics about the makeup of a commission. With this resolution specifying one commissioner be engaged in the social work or behavioral health field and one commissioner have experience working with at-risk youth, we can be assured that our Commission includes people with hands on experience in working with and representing communities that experience the majority of police encounters.</p> <p>I've also learned that it is common for mayors and city councils to share in the process of appointing and approving commission nominees. Bringing this common practice to the composition of our Police Commission is a wonderful way to increase the pool of potential commissioner candidates by adding the networks of each City Council Member.</p> <p>I hope that you all will work through this resolution together so it has the chance to be placed on the November 2022 ballot, giving our community members the opportunity to cast our vote.</p> <p>My thanks to Chair Tupola for including Resolution 22-29 on EMLA's April 19, 2022 agenda.</p> <p>I am hopeful that we will see the remaining 3 Resolutions, 22-28, 22-30 &amp; 22-31 relating to the Police Commission and HPD on EMLA's next meeting agenda. It is important for the public to have the opportunity to hear the perspectives of our City Council leaders and participate in determining the future of public safety in our community.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>		
Name: Amy Parsons	Email: amytakesaction@gmail.com	Zip: 96815
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 18, 2022 @ 08:40 PM
<p>Testimony:</p> <p>Aloha</p>		

My name is Amy Parsons and I'm a resident of Waikiki. I'm reaching out to ask for your support of Resolution 22-29, the proposed charter amendment relating to the police commission and its membership. I support this resolution as it would increase transparency and collaboration between HPD, HPC, Honolulu City Council, and Oahu residents, resulting in greater government efficacy and trust.

We must improve the balance of power within these bodies to strengthen oversight, build public trust, and advance public safety for all.

Mahalo!  
Amy Parsons

Name: Kristen Young	Email: kristenslyoung@gmail.com	Zip: 96813
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Apr 18, 2022 @ 11:19 PM

Testimony:

Aloha e Chair Andria Tupola, Vice Chair Carol Fukunaga, and members of the committee on Executive Matters and Legal Affairs,

My name is Kristen and I'm a resident of the Punchbowl area. I support Resolution 22-29 relating to the police commission and its membership.

I was born and raised on O'ahu and have been privileged to not have severely negative personal experiences with law enforcement, but by paying attention to others in our community I have become more aware of over-policing, excessive use of force, corruption, and a lack of accountability and transparency within the Honolulu Police Department (HPD). An institution that is funded by our tax dollars, given permission to enforce laws, and armed with deadly weapons, should have strong civilian oversight that is reflective of the community if their purpose is public safety.

The Honolulu Police Commission (HPC) has the potential to provide that oversight to increase transparency and accountability from the police department, but it will really depend on who makes up the Commission—the membership of the Commission.

I support Resolution 22-29 as it would allow for a wider range of voices and perspectives on the HPC. It would also improve transparency and collaboration between HPD, HPC, Honolulu City Council, and Oahu residents, resulting in greater government efficacy and trust.

We must improve the balance of power within these bodies to strengthen oversight, build public trust, and advance public safety for all.

Resolution 22-29 was introduced alongside three other resolutions with similar goals:

1. Resolution 22-28 re: The Honolulu Police Commission
2. Resolution 22-30 re: The Police Department and the Chief of Police
3. Resolution 22-31 re: Investigations and Reports of the Honolulu Police Commission

I hope these resolutions will also be scheduled for second hearings so the public can have the opportunity to share their thoughts.

Please support Resolution 22-29.

Mahalo for your consideration,  
Kristen  
District 6