

DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

DAVID Y. IGEGOVERNOR

DOUGLAS S. CHIN ATTORNEY GENERAL

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STATEMENT OF ATTORNEY GENERAL REGARDING GOVERNOR'S NOTICE OF INTENT TO VETO SB265 RELATING TO SEX TRAFFICKING

HONOLULU – Attorney General Doug Chin released the following statement related to Governor David Ige's notice of intent to veto Senate Bill 265 relating to Human Trafficking: "I support the intent of this important legislation. The final version of the bill, unfortunately, contains provisions which might actually impair law enforcement's ability to address crimes involving prostitution and sex trafficking. If passed in its final version, the bill might even prevent law enforcement from successfully prosecuting certain crimes involving sex trafficking of some juveniles or profiting from the acts of another who forced a victim to engage in prostitution.

"In addition to myself, the prosecuting attorneys from Hawai'i, Honolulu and Maui counties all asked Governor Ige to veto the final version of this bill. The Legislature has called for a penal code review committee to meet this year to review all criminal laws and make recommendations for legislation in 2016. Improving human trafficking laws will be part of that discussion."

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