



CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COUNCILMEMBER DJOU: ANTI-PANHANDLING LEGISLATION INTRODUCED

Prompted by complaints from the Waikiki Neighborhood Board, today Honolulu City Councilmember Charles K. Djou (Waikiki, East Honolulu) introduced legislation banning panhandling around check cashing facilities and automated teller machines (ATM).

“Unfortunately, some of our residents, and especially our visitors in Waikiki, have been harassed by aggressive panhandlers when they get money from ATMs. I introduced legislation modeled on laws already enacted in dozens of other cities, that prohibits aggressive panhandling within 50 feet of an ATM or check cashing facility,” stated Councilmember Djou. “This bill seeks to prevent individuals, including foreign visitors unfamiliar with local customs, from being intimidated when obtaining cash.”

Councilmember Djou’s bill is based on legislation enacted in Denver, CO and Minneapolis, MN. Multiple cities across the nation including Atlanta, GA, Boston, MA, Chicago, IL, Memphis, TN and even Berkley, CA, already have passed similar laws. Councilmember Djou introduced his bill after a resolution was passed by the Waikiki Neighborhood Board requesting such legislation after the Board received numerous complaints about problems with aggressive panhandling around ATMs.

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