



*VIA E-MAIL*

August 11, 2025

Hon. Tommy Waters, Chair  
Hon. Augie Tulba  
City Council  
City and County of Honolulu

**Re: Request to Waive Attorney-Client Privilege Regarding Police Scanner Access  
under Bill 46 (2025)**

Dear Chair Waters and Councilmember Tulba:

Public First Law Center is a Hawai'i non-profit organization focused on solutions that promote responsiveness and transparency in government. We write to respectfully ask the Council to waive its attorney-client privilege and publicly disclose the Corporation Counsel legal opinion – referenced by Chair Waters at the Council's July 24, 2025 meeting – concerning Bill 46 (2025). This will allow the public to better understand the claims made about the legality of Bill 46.

In testimony on July 24, opposing Bill 46, acting Honolulu Police Department (HPD) Chief Rade Vanic asserted that releasing police scanner information would violate state law, "federal and state privacy laws related to electronic communication," and unspecified "security policies" related to the Criminal Justice Information Services. The basis for these vague assertions is unclear and questionable.

Although there may be legitimate policy reasons underlying its opposition to Bill 46, HPD's legal concerns appear to lack merit. Releasing the Corporation Counsel letter will help the public better assess HPD's opposition to Bill 46.

I can be reached directly at (808) 380-3576 or [ben@publicfirstlaw.org](mailto:ben@publicfirstlaw.org).

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben M. Creps".

Benjamin M. Creps  
Staff Attorney

cc: Dana M. O. Viola, Corporation Counsel

