
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION TO
PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON THE FINDINGS OF THE PROOF OF CONCEPT
STUDY TITLED BREAKING CYCLES: ALTERNATIVE MODELS OF
REHABILITATION AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE ON O'AHU.

1 WHEREAS, the Oahu Community Correctional Center (OCCC) does
2 not have sufficient space for rehabilitative programs and the
3 conditions of confinement are no longer appropriate; and
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5 WHEREAS, the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
6 (DCR) is currently in the process of planning and assigning a
7 new facility to replace the existing OCCC, where individuals
8 would be treated humanely and given a chance to be
9 rehabilitated; and
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11 WHEREAS, development of modern, efficient, and
12 cost-effective institutions would help ensure that the State's
13 criminal justice system can meet the needs of current and future
14 inmate populations and provide for the continued safety and
15 security of inmates, staff, and the public; and
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17 WHEREAS, the benefits of modern correctional facility
18 designs include not only increased security, improved conditions
19 of confinement, and safer and more efficient operations, but
20 also delivery of rehabilitative programs and treatment services
21 unavailable in the current jail and prison system; and
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23 WHEREAS, the State's goal is to transform its unified
24 correctional system into a rehabilitative, restorative, and
25 reentry-focused system that reduces recidivism and promotes
26 safer communities; and
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28 WHEREAS, DCR strives to keep those in custody connected to
29 their individual cultural values, especially for Native
30 Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, both of whom are



1 disproportionately represented within the State's jail
2 population; and
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4 WHEREAS, connection to cultural values is critical in
5 helping inmates successfully reintegrate into the State's
6 communities and break the cycle of recidivism; and
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8 WHEREAS, in 2022, DCR contracted with the University of
9 Hawaii Community Design Center (UHCDC) to engage stakeholders
10 and community members in the development of an alternative proof
11 of concept vision for the relocation of OCCC, with the goal of
12 collectively defining a cross-jurisdictional pathway toward a
13 continuum of care and support both inside and outside the
14 correctional system; and
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16 WHEREAS, UHCDC hosted over one hundred twenty talk stories,
17 eighteen site visits and listening workshops, eight co-design
18 workshops, three exhibits, three knowledge-sharing symposiums,
19 and five community of practice meetings over a two-year period;
20 and
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22 WHEREAS, UHCDC members also attended Aiea Neighborhood
23 Board and Aiea Community Association meetings, hosted listening
24 workshops at Halawa Correctional Facility, and participated in
25 prison reform hui meetings; and
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27 WHEREAS, UHCDC's extensive research included connecting
28 with various counties in Arizona, California, and Florida to
29 gain insight into their reform processes to rehabilitate
30 individuals, reduce recidivism, and provide a continuum of care
31 inside and outside the correctional system; and
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33 WHEREAS, in February 2025, UHCDC released an in-depth study
34 titled Breaking Cycles: Alternative Models of Rehabilitation
35 and Restorative Justice on O'ahu (Breaking Cycles Study); and
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37 WHEREAS, the Breaking Cycles Study was a proof of concept
38 study that included key concepts on justice system reform, along
39 with facility planning and design elements to consider in
40 planning the new OCCC but did not include a completed design,
41 required funding, or implementation plan; now, therefore,
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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026, the
3 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of
4 Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR) is requested to provide an
5 update on the findings of Breaking Cycles: Alternative Models
6 of Rehabilitation and Restorative Justice on O'ahu (Breaking
7 Cycles Study); and
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9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DCR is requested to include the
10 following in its report:
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- 12 (1) Ways in which DCR administrators and planning and
13 design consultants have incorporated the
14 recommendations of the Breaking Cycles Study into
15 plans and designs for the new OCCC;
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- 17 (2) Observations and findings from discussions with
18 incarcerated individuals, corrections staff, families,
19 state agencies, and community stakeholders regarding
20 recommendations in the Breaking Cycles Study, in
21 collaboration with the Hawaii Correctional System
22 Oversight Commission;
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- 24 (3) Specific and detailed explanations of how each major
25 recommendation from the Breaking Cycles Study has been
26 incorporated into the current design, planning, and
27 operational model of the new facility;
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- 29 (4) Identification of any recommendations that have not
30 been adopted and a clear justification for not
31 adopting the recommendations;
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- 33 (5) Clarification on whether the current plan reflects a
34 rehabilitative, treatment-centered model or a
35 traditional custodial expansion;
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- 37 (6) Meaningful discussion of how DCR is incorporating
38 cultural practices and community-based reentry
39 supports, particularly for Native Hawaiian and Pacific
40 Islander populations who are disproportionately
41 represented in the correctional system; and
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1 (7) Ongoing opportunities for stakeholder and community
2 input, including input from those directly affected by
3 incarceration; and
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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DCR, Hawaii Correctional System
6 Oversight Commission, Aiea-Halawa community members, and other
7 stakeholders are requested to provide quarterly informational
8 briefing updates to the Legislature on the implementation of the
9 recommendations of the Breaking Cycles Study beginning in April
10 of 2026 and occurring no later than the following:
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12 (1) July 30, 2026; and
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14 (2) October 31, 2026; and
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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DCR is requested to submit a
17 report of its findings and recommendations, including any
18 proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty
19 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2027; and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
22 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of
23 Corrections and Rehabilitation and Chairperson of the Hawaii
24 Correctional System Oversight Commission.

