

SENATOR BRADON J.C. ELEFANTE
CO-CHAIR

REPRESENTATIVE DELLA AU BELATTI
CO-CHAIR

MEMBERS
SERGIO ALCUBILLA
KAT BRADY
MICHAEL CHAMPION
MICHAEL HOFFMAN
KAI KAHELE
MARK PATTERSON



NON-VOTING MEMBERS
REPRESENTATIVE KIM COCO IWAMOTO
KEVAN KAMISATO
SENATOR KARL RHOADS
REPRESENTATIVE GARNER SHIMIZU
TULI TAFAI

HAWAI'I STATE LEGISLATURE

RESTRICTIVE HOUSING LEGISLATIVE WORKING GROUP

`Aha`ōlelo Moku`āina `O Hawai`i

STATE CAPITOL
415 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96813

Meeting Minutes

The Restrictive Housing Legislative Working Group meeting is offered as a hybrid meeting where group members and the public can participate in person, or via teleconference. Details are noted below.

Date: Thursday, August 21, 2025

Time: 9:00 a.m.

Location: Conference Room 225
State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

Recording: [Youtube](https://www.youtube.com/live/_St9ubUy4yg?feature=shared)
https://www.youtube.com/live/_St9ubUy4yg?feature=shared

Items to be Discussed:

I. (0:15:48) Welcome & Introductions

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Senator Elefante at 9:01 a.m. on Thursday, August 21, 2025. The meeting was conducted in accordance with Hawai'i Revised Statutes, Chapter 92.

Housekeeping Announcements

- Testifier time limit is 1 minute
- Genesis and description of Restrictive Housing Working Group
- Acknowledgement of delayed commencement of Working Group
- Thank you to Co-Chair Belatti, members of the House and Senate, Governor Green and his team, and advocates.

Roll Call

- **Co-Chair Senator Bradon J.C. Elefante**
- **Co-Chair Representative Della Au Belatti**
- **Member Sergio Alcubilla**
- **Member Kat Brady**
- **Member Michael Champion** (as of 00:32:58)
- **Member Michael Hoffman**
- **Member Representative Kim Coco Iwamoto**
- **Member Dr. Kevan Kamisato**
- **Member Mark Patterson**
- **Member Senator Karl Rhoads**
- **Member Representative Garner Shimizu**
- **Member Tuli Tafai**

Quorum was established with seven of eight voting members present. Also present, in-person, was McKenna Woodward of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and Sean Aronson from the House Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs Committee.

II. (0:22:36) Discussion about Proposed Calendar

The working group wants to have several meetings before the deadline on January 8, 2027. Discussion of the next meeting being October 16th 2025, at 9:30 a.m. and the following meetings will be decided upon at each meeting going forward. There will be a pause in meetings during the 2026 legislative session but meetings will resume after. The calendar of meetings will be driven by the timeline delineated in Act 292. Members will hold the third Thursday's of every month in case a meeting is scheduled. Kat Brady asked if Chairs can be contacted with information, the Chairs confirmed this.

III. (0:24:22) Discussion about Working Group Topics

The Working Group would like to have the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation present their current policies and procedures on restrictive housing and solitary confinement. The goal of this working group is to understand the current state of restrictive housing to inform policies moving forward.

- Chair Belatti would like to hear from individuals who have had experience with solitary confinement or the friends and family members of inmates who have lost their lives after experiencing solitary confinement.
- Member Iwamoto would like the Working Group to speak into the microphone.
- Member Alcubilla would like the Working Group to schedule a visit to one of the correctional facilities.

IV. (0:29:48) Questions and Comments from Public

Public comment on issues not on the agenda, for consideration for Restrictive Housing Working Group's agenda at the next meeting.

- Oral Testimony:
 - McKenna Woodward is looking forward to joining the working group once the transmittal letter is sent by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.
 - Sean Aronson would like to hear about the potential or pending third-party oversight for the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation that may have been court-mandated.
- Written Testimony: No previously submitted written testimony was received.
- Working Group:
 - Member Shimizu was confused by SB104 due to apparent conflicting requirements.
 - Chair Belatti clarified the role of the working group in recommending policy change and emphasized the importance of developing policy around severe mental illness, all in an effort to move toward rehabilitation.
 - Member Dr. Michael Champion arrived and introduced himself.

V. (0:34:51) Next Steps & Announcements

- Co-chairs Belatti and Elefante thanked the legislative staff.
- Next meeting Thursday, October 16, 2025, 9:30 a.m.
 - Conference Room TBD
State Capitol
415 S Beretania Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

VII. (0:36:26) Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Kubota, Office Manager to Representative Della Au Belatti
Hawaii State Legislature