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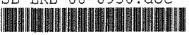
## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CHILDREN.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1	SECTION 1. The legislature finds that an estimated six
2	thousand children in the State of Hawaii have a parent in
3	prison. Many children of incarcerated parents experience grief
4	guilt, shame, fear, depression, and have difficulty sleeping or
5	concentrating. Although children need to maintain contact with
6	their parent, visits at correctional facilities can be
7	frightening for some children.
8	The purpose of this Act is to help maintain the well-being
9	of children of incarcerated parents and support their needs.
10	SECTION 2. Chapter 346, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
11	amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
12	and to read as follows:
13	"§346- Bill of rights for children of incarcerated
14	parents. Children of incarcerated parents shall be afforded
15	rights, which shall include the right:
16	(1) To be kept safe and informed at the time of the

(2) To be heard when decisions are made about the child;



parent's arrest;

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1	(3)	To be considered when decisions are made about the
2		child's incarcerated parent;
3	(4)	To be well cared for in the incarcerated parent's
4		absence;
5	(5)	To speak with, see, and touch their incarcerated
6		parent;
7	(6)	To be supported as the child struggles with the
8		parent's incarceration;
9	(7)	To not be judged, blamed, or labeled because of the
10		parent's incarceration; and
11	(8)	To have a lifelong relationship with the parent."
12	SECT	ION 3. New statutory material is underscored.
13	SECT	ION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.
14		INTRODUCED BY: Will Eyes
		Norman Satom to Wile Habball Clevensk Swishihm
		Clarence Suishihm. Risanne Chun Calland

## Report Title:

Children; Children of Incarcerated Parents; Bill of Rights

## Description:

Establishes a bill of rights for children of incarcerated parents.

SB LRB 08-0930.doc