

MAR 18 2009

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO UNDERTAKE A
FEASIBILITY STUDY RELATED TO INMATE RE-INTEGRATION.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii's prisons are so over-crowded that
2 prisoners are being sent to the mainland United States,
3 effectively severing them from their families and other support
4 systems; and

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6 WHEREAS, a recent report found that many inmates currently
7 being held in facilities on the mainland United States meet the
8 requirements for community-based treatment; and

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10 WHEREAS, there is a large number of inmates in Hawaii's two
11 minimum security prisons who qualify for re-integration
12 programs, including community release programs; and

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14 WHEREAS, re-integration programs include work release,
15 community service, and workline programs; and

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17 WHEREAS, inmates who are a minimum security risk have shown
18 they can function in the community under direct supervision; and

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20 WHEREAS, re-integration programs have been shown to reduce
21 recidivism rates by providing inmates with the tools to
22 effectively function in the community while maintaining the
23 safety of the community; and

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25 WHEREAS, inmates can access adequate support systems and
26 make a positive contribution to society through re-integration
27 programs; and

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29 WHEREAS, re-integration programs provide mutually
30 beneficial results for inmates and the community by creating
31 more business and work opportunities; now, therefore,

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33 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fifth
34 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2009,
35 that the Department of Public Safety (DPS) is requested to study
36 the feasibility of:



- (1) Adopting a policy that mandates all inmates to participate in in-facility programs, including workline programs; and
- (2) Increasing the scope and number of workline programs it currently operates at its prison and jail facilities;

and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DPS is requested to report its findings, including cost implications, statutory or other legal impediments, and proposals for new legislation if necessary, to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2010; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Public Safety and the Director of Human Resources Development.

OFFERED BY:

Will Eyras

