FINTestimony

From: Lela M. Hubbard [Imhubbard@hawaiiantel.net]

Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2009 11:56 PM

To: FINTestimony

Subject: Supportof SB210, SD2; Apr.1, 2009; 11AM, Rm308

Na Koa Ikaika, an ohana which supports Hawaiian and human rights, believes it should be a mandate that PSD establish transfer criteria which can be read on line by the general public. Moreover, transfers should not interfere with the inmate's rehabilitation and reentry programs. We hope that transfers will diminish considerably in the future as they are a horrific drain on taxpayers and also are so detrimental to the maintaining of family ties that have proved to help in rehabilitation of the inmates.

Please pass this bill which makes transfers transparent and <u>furthers accountability of PSD.</u> Mahalo,

Lela M. Hubbard 99-407 Aiea Heights Drive, Aiea, HI 96701

Mary K. Dias 99-118 Kohomua St., #101; Aiea, HI 96701 diasohan1@hawaiiantel.net

FINTestimony

From:	Cashirota@aol.com	
Sent:	Wednesday, April 01, 2009 9:35 AM	
To:	FINTestimony	
Subject:	*****SPAM***** Re: SB 210, SD2 Relating to Corrections FIN Hearing 4/1 at 11am	
Attachments: 3-31-0~1.DOC		

Thank you for notifying me that you were unable to open my document. I am reattaching the document and also cutting and pasting the document below.

Mahalo, Carrie Ann Shirota



F FINANCE Oshiro, Chair

Rep. Marilyn B. Lee, Vice Chair Wednesday, April 1, 2009 11:00 a.m. Room 308

SUPPORT: SB 210 SD2 RELATING TO CORRECTIONS (CRITERIA FOR OUT OF STATE PRISONER TRANSFERS)

Aloha Chair Oshiro, Vice Chair Lee, and Members of the Committee

My name is Carrie Ann Shirota, and I am writing in strong support of SB 210, SD2. My experiences as a former Public Defender and staff member of a reentry program on Maui and member of Community Alliance on Prisons have shaped my advocacy efforts to promote accountability and transparency within our correctional system, and increase opportunities for individuals to better release for their release as law-abiding, contributing members of their `ohana and community.

SB 210 SD2 clarifies the circumstances under which inmates may be transferred between Hawai'i facilities and facilities outside of Hawai'i. The bill amends Chapter 353 to create a statute that the director shall consider the individual's 1) current programming and if it could be continued at another facility, 2) family and whether transfer would interrupt contact, and 3) willingness to be transferred. It also gives the individual 14 days notice so they can contact their loved ones and make any arrangements necessary for their families as well as the right to appeal the transfer.

For too long, the Department of Public Safety has transferred men and women to out of state prisons without regard to any standards that take into consideration the rehabilitation needs of the incarcerated individual, as well as the impact that such a transfer will have on the incarcerated person's `ohana.

Many years ago, Hawai'i provided individuals with a hearing prior to making transfer decisions to

prisons on the Mainland. And while other states provide opportunities for incarcerated persons to have a hearing prior to taking the drastic measure of transferring them to another state, our incarcerated brothers and sisters are not provided with any means of due process. The manner in which we currently transfer individuals to Mainland prisons has changed for the worst. The practice of ACOs showing up at one's cell and directing the individual to pack their bags without having an opportunity to challenge whether the transfer promotes rehabilitation and visit with their loved ones before being exported thousands of miles away is cruel and inhumane. Its effect is to not only to punish the prisoner, but to further punish their families. Where is the aloha spirit in that practice?

I pray that our elected representatives will enact this bill that will mandate the Department of Public Safety to adhere to established criteria regarding transfers, particularly when transferring to out of state prisons. As it stands, the lack of transfer criteria leads to abuse of power and retaliatory transfers. Furthermore, since CCA has the ability to accept or reject "management problem" prisoners, the lack of transfer criteria has the perverse effect of making it more likely that prisoners with no institutional misconduct will be accepted by CCA and transferred from their homeland. Accordingly, I strongly urge you to support SB 210 SB2!

Sincerely,

Carrie Ann Shirota, Esq. Wailuku, Hawaii (808) 269-3858

In a message dated 4/1/2009 9:02:53 A.M. Hawaiian Standard Time, fintestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov writes:

We are unable to read your attachment. Please resend.

From: Cashirota@aol.com [mailto:Cashirota@aol.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2009 10:31 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: kat.caphi@gmail.com
Subject: SB 210, SD2 Relating to Corrections FIN Hearing 4/1 at 11am

Aloha,

Please find attached testimony in support of SB 210, SD2. The hearing notice information is listed below.

Thank you for forwarding to the Finance Committee!

Carrie Ann Shirota

(808) 269-3858

Status

NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE: Wednesday, April 01, 2009 TIME: 11:00 a.m. PLACE: Conference Room 308

State Capitol

415 South Beretania Street

 SB 210, SD2
 RELATING TO CORRECTIONS.
 PBS, FIN

 (HSCR1131)
 Specifies criteria that must be considered in deciding whether to transfer inmates between correctional facilities

located in Hawaii and correctional facilities located outside

Feeling the pinch at the grocery store? Make dinner for \$10 or less.

of Hawaii.

Feeling the pinch at the grocery store? Make dinner for \$10 or less.