LATE TESTIMONY

SR 35

This statement is in support of the Department of Public Safety to implement on a regular bases:

- 1. That the incarcerated parent know they can notify the courts of their inability to continue child support during their incarcerated period and/or have if reduced or suspended during their time in jail. This would make it easier for the family to reunite in a more positive way.
- 2. Being a certified Alateen Sponsor (children of alcoholic parents) for over 17 years, I see the effect the incarcerated parents have on the children. When it comes on the local news, the child has to endure the humiliation and shame that the community and students display toward them, they know what is going on, yet no one talks to them.
- 3. There should be (re-entry) family counseling programs, perhaps offered through varies outlets, prison ohana groups, (QLCC), District Parks, schools campus, private counseling centers, so that the families can reconnect at a healthy level than just re-entry and dismiss. Perhaps this can be a requirement for those requesting support payments halted.
- 4. When being raised by an Ohana household, the released parent should be able to visit the children with the understand that they will be united after the parent goes through some training on their responsibilities before they can take charge, should the GRG find it necessary.

Sincerely,

Helen Wagner Na Tutu, GRG, Alateen Sponsor