NEIL ABERCROMBIE GOVERNOR TED SAKAI DIRECTOR

Martha Torney Deputy Director Administration

Max Otani Deputy Director Corrections

Deputy Director Law Enforcement

No.

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY 919 Ala Moana Blvd. 4th Floor Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION (HCR) 173 ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO EXPAND COMMUNITY DRUG TREATMENT AND MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS FOR NONVIOLENT OFFENDERS AND MOVE LOW-RISK OFFENDERS INTO COMMUNITY PROGRAMS THAT DIRECTLY ADDRESS THEIR PATHWAYS TO INCARCERATION

By Ted Sakai, Director Department of Public Safety

House Committee on Judiciary Representative Karl Rhoads, Chair Representative Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair

> Friday, April 5, 2013, 2:00 p.m. State Capitol, Room 325

Chair Rhoads, Vice Chair Har, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety **supports the intent** of HCR 173 as the services described will significantly decrease the costs of incarceration and the rate of recidivism.

There are many steps involved in developing and implementing plans as described in this Resolution. The Justice Reinvestment Initiative provides a framework for this process, and the Department is committed in moving forward with this initiative. However, we note that some of the issues noted in HCR 173 cannot be resolved without a concerted effort by some of our inter departments, such as the Department of Health and the Department of Human Services, and State and County offices that address the homeless situation. We will continue with work with these departments, as well as with private social and health services agencies, to address the complex issues that impact our correctional population.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.