

FEB 22 2016

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING HAWAII'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO ASSIST THE STATE  
IN NEGOTIATING WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR THE  
ACQUISITION OF THE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER, HONOLULU.

1 WHEREAS, the legislature finds that in 2001, the federal  
2 Bureau of Prisons opened the Federal Detention Center, Honolulu;  
3 and  
4

5 WHEREAS, located on the west side of the Honolulu  
6 International Airport, the Federal Detention Center, Honolulu  
7 houses male and female federal pre-trial detainees, sentenced  
8 felons who have almost completed their prison terms, and Hawaii  
9 inmates who are awaiting trial in State court, at an occupancy  
10 rate far below the facility's total capacity of 1,200 beds; and  
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12 WHEREAS, the Federal Detention Center, Honolulu has an  
13 efficient vertical design that requires fewer workers to guard  
14 inmates, includes integrated state-of-the-art surveillance and  
15 management technologies, and accommodates a wide variety of uses  
16 including inmate cells, office areas, medical facilities,  
17 recreational areas, storage rooms, food preparation areas,  
18 laundry, mechanical rooms, security, and communications; and  
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20 WHEREAS, the State has struggled for years to find  
21 additional capacity for its overcrowded jails and prisons, which  
22 were designed to hold a combined total of 2,491 inmates but are  
23 currently holding more than 4,100 inmates; and  
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25 WHEREAS, replacing or refurbishing state prisons and jails  
26 to meet the current demand for adequate space and services would  
27 cost an estimated \$1,500,000,000 to \$2,000,000,000; and  
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29 WHEREAS, since June 2001, the State has leased bed space at  
30 the Federal Detention Center, Honolulu primarily to relieve jail  
31 overcrowding and, since August 2009, has been allowed to house



1 up to 550 male and female inmates at a daily rate of \$114 per  
2 inmate; and  
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4 WHEREAS, state acquisition of the Federal Detention Center,  
5 Honolulu for the purpose of housing state inmates, as well as  
6 federal pre-trial detainees and federal inmates serving brief  
7 sentences, would help relieve overcrowding at state jails and  
8 prisons, accommodate the return of some state inmates who are  
9 currently serving sentences in a private correctional facility  
10 in Arizona, eliminate the immediate financial burden of building  
11 a new state correctional facility, and, through the retention of  
12 existing Federal Detention Center staff, save the State money on  
13 recruiting, hiring, and training of new corrections personnel to  
14 serve within the facility; and  
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16 WHEREAS, in the event of state acquisition of the Federal  
17 Detention Center, Honolulu the Department of Public Safety has  
18 expressed interest in an arrangement that would allow for the  
19 continued housing of federal pre-trial detainees and federal  
20 inmates serving brief sentences at no cost to the federal Bureau  
21 of Prisons; now, therefore,  
22

23 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth  
24 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2016,  
25 that Hawaii's congressional delegation is requested to assist  
26 the State in negotiating with the federal government for the  
27 acquisition of the Federal Detention Center, Honolulu; and  
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that parties to the negotiations are  
30 requested to consider continued housing of federal pre-trial  
31 detainees and federal inmates serving brief sentences at the  
32 facility, under terms favorable to the federal Bureau of  
33 Prisons, as a condition of the State's acquisition of the  
34 facility; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 2 Resolution be transmitted to the members of Hawaii's  
 3 congressional delegation, Director of the Federal Bureau of  
 4 Prisons, and Director of Public Safety.  
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