



SB2096

Measure Title: Report Title:	RELATING TO CORRECTIONS. Transfer of Inmates and Operations; Feasibility Study (\$)
Description:	Requires department of public safety corrections division to conduct a feasibility study on transferring the inmates and operations of Oahu community correctional center to Halawa correctional facility, while maintaining the inmates and operations of Halawa correctional facility at Halawa correctional facility. Makes an appropriation.
Companion:	
Package:	None
Current Referral:	PSM, WAM
Introducer(s):	NISHIHARA, TOKUDA, WAKAI, Baker, Espero, Kidani, Slom

HAWAII STATE SENATE – REGULAR SESSION 2016 COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

January 28, 2016 1:15 PM; Conference Rm. 229

SB 2096 - RELATING TO CORRECTIONS

Chair Sen. Clarence K. Nishihara, Sen. Wil Espero and Committee Members:

Aloha kakou. My name is Joe Tassill, Member-Advisor to Holomua Pu'uhonua. <u>I speak in support</u> of the idea represented in SB 2096, to conduct "*a feasibility study on transferring the inmates and operations of O'ahu Community Corrections Center to Halawa Correctional Facility.*"

The purpose of *Holomua Pu'uhonua* is, among other purposes, to insure that reentry/reintegration programs within Hawaii's correctional facilities offer cognitive behavioral therapy with native Hawaiian holistic interventions and community connections to promote the successful transition from incarceration to the community.

Holomua Pu'uhonua members, have a continuing and unwavering commitment and dedication to its mission and purpose: to advocate for alternatives to prisons in the form of pu'uhonua for pa'ahao. Literally pu'uhonua is defined in Pukui & Elbert's Hawaiian Dictionary (1986) as a "sanctuary, refuge, asylum or place of peace & safety" for pa'ahao – prisoners, convicts and/or inmates. In modern vernacular it can best be defined or classified as a *cultural wellness center* with all that title entails.

To that end, the organization anticipates working with the Department of Public Safety and other restorative justice groups to utilize appropriate facilities as a *pu'uhonua* or *wellness center* for substance abuse treatment and intervention programs that take a holistic and cultural approach to help redirect the lives of those affected.

The re-direction of the program(s) originally intended to be incorporated in the "modular design" which changed the name from **O'ahu Prison** to **O'ahu Community Correction Center**, has never been implemented! *Holomua Pu'uhonua* advocates use of one or two "modules" in the interim to carry out the intent of this organization as well as other restorative justice advocacy groups to incorporate the Pu'uhonua concept as passed by this legislature as Act 117, SLH 2014.

We strongly recommend passage of SB 2096, with the above considerations incorporated in the intention(s) of this bill.

E laulima pu kakou! (Let's all work together.) Mahalo a nui loa.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
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Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2096 on Jan 28, 2016 13:15PM
Date:	Thursday, January 28, 2016 2:14:19 PM

<u>SB2096</u>

Submitted on: 1/28/2016 Testimony for PSM on Jan 28, 2016 13:15PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Leimomi Khan	Kalihi Palama Hawaiian Civic Club	Support	No

Comments: Aloha, The Kalihi Palama Hawaiian Civic Cub stands in support of SB2096. The OCCC, formerly the O'ahu Prison has been in its current location since 1916. For several years now, Rep Romy Cachola and others reflective of the Kalihi community have been advocating for its movement. The prison is surrounded by residential homes, small businesses, and other commercial establishments. Pu'uhale Elementary and St Anthony schools are right down the road on either side of OCCC. This is no longer an appropriate place for a 16 acre prison that is almost a century old. Kalihi wants and should be part of the new Hawaii of economic activity and opportunity for its residents and others. It's also an opportunity for the State to build a new model for its prison that is responsive to island ways of rehabilitating its prisoners. The Kalihi community has waited patiently for decades for the state's action to find a suitable place for OCCC. Let 2016 be the year to make this happen, beginning with the proposed feasibility study and an environmental impact assessment. Me kealoha pumehana, Leimomi Khan, President

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<u>SB2096</u>

Submitted on: 2/9/2016 Testimony for PSM on Feb 16, 2016 13:20PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel L. Kailianu	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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