HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A WORKING GROUP TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF BUILDING AN ADDITIONAL WORK FURLOUGH CENTER ON THE PRESENT SITE OF THE OAHU COMMUNITY CORRECTIONAL CENTER ONCE THE OAHU COMMUNITY CORRECTIONAL CENTER HAS BEEN RELOCATED TO HALAWA.

WHEREAS, the Laumaka Work Furlough Center is a part of the Oahu Community Correctional Center (OCCC) in urban Honolulu, and houses inmates who are either actively seeking employment or working in the community, as a means to ease their transition upon release; and

WHEREAS, the Laumaka Work Furlough Center is located at 647 Laumaka Street, about one block away from OCCC; and

WHEREAS, the Laumaka Work Furlough Center has space for ninety-six inmates; and

WHEREAS, twice that number of inmates are eligible for the work furlough program; and

WHEREAS, plans for the new OCCC on the site of the existing animal quarantine center in Halawa Valley call for the Laumaka Work Furlough Center to remain in Kalihi, with a separate structure planned as part of the new OCCC to accommodate the remaining number of eligible work furlough inmates; and

WHEREAS, the Laumaka Work Furlough Center's location in Kalihi affords easy access to public transportation and work places for inmates in the work furlough program, and is therefore preferable to the more remote Halawa site; and

WHEREAS, with the relocation of OCCC to Halawa, the existing site will be available to be repurposed and could serve as an adjunct to the neighboring Laumaka Work Furlough Center; and

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 WHEREAS, there are many examples of ex-offender programs contributing to the vitality of their communities, including the Delancey Street Foundation in San Francisco, California, reflecting the positive influence these programs can have on inmates transitioning back to larger communities and the communities themselves; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Thirtieth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2020, that a working group is requested to be established to study the feasibility of building an additional work furlough center on the present site of the Oahu Community Correctional Center once it has been relocated to Halawa; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested to consist of the following members:

- (1) A member appointed by the Director of Public Safety;
- (2) A member of the Honolulu City Council appointed by the Council Chair;
- (3) A representative of the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission designated by the Chairperson of the Commission;
- (4) A member appointed by the Kalihi-Palama Neighborhood Board; and
- (5) A representative of the Kalihi Business Association;

with the chairperson of the working group to be selected by the working group; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested to submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2021; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group dissolve on June 30, 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director of Public Safety, Chair of the Honolulu City Council, Chairperson of the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission, Chair of the Kalihi-Palama Neighborhood Board, and Co-Presidents of the Kalihi Business Association.

OFFERED BY:

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