

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 07 2022

RE: S.B. No. 2373

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2022
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and
Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 2373 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO OFFENDER REENTRY,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to appropriate funds for a program named "Project Reset" which will help prisoners with reentry, rehabilitation, employment, and housing post-sentence.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Public Safety, Office of the Public Defender, Chamber of Commerce Hawaii, Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition, and three individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure from the Governor's Coordinator on Homelessness, Department of Human Services, and Department of Budget and Finance.

Your Committee finds that inmates who were homeless prior to their arrest as well as those who lost their housing while incarcerated have the best chance of success when released directly into a treatment program. However, not all inmates have access to those resources because there are not enough beds available for every inmate that qualifies for early release to a program. Furthermore, coordinating inmate release to treatment programs has been extremely difficult during the pandemic due to quarantine and social distancing requirements at programs as well



as numerous outbreaks at correctional facilities. Some inmates are released from custody with no money, no identification, no housing, no food, no bus pass, and no phone. Due to the lack of comprehensive programs that focus on transitioning inmates through the process of reentry, rehabilitation, employment, and housing, many inmates either immediately join the ranks of the homeless upon release, or shortly thereafter. Your Committee believes that reentry programs are the best weapon the State has to combat recidivism. This measure will assist the State in reducing recidivism rates by creating and funding "Project Reset", a program that will provide comprehensive programs to assist inmates through the process of reentry, rehabilitation, employment, and housing after release.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2373 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental, and Military
Affairs,



CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, Chair



The Senate
Thirty-First Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
PSM

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">SB 2373</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">PSM, WAM</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">2/1/2022</div>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310</div> <div style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313</div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (C)	✓			
DECOITE, Lynn (VC)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H.	✓			
RIVIERE, Gil	✓			
FEVELLA, Kurt	✓			
TOTAL	5	0	0	0
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">Lyn DeCorte</div>				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> Distribution: Original File with Committee Report Yellow Clerk's Office Pink Drafting Agency Goldenrod Committee File Copy </div>				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes