
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature recognizes the importance of
2 community-based work furlough programs for women transitioning
3 back into the community. Since 2015, the department of public
4 safety has contracted with a local nonprofit organization to
5 place women from the women's community correctional center on
6 Oahu in a residential program that provides wraparound services
7 to assist the women as they reenter society and rebuild their
8 lives. The residential program's job readiness and job
9 retention programs enable women to return to the workforce,
10 keeping eighty-four per cent of participants out of prison and
11 providing them the opportunity to participate in and access
12 transitional training.

13 The legislature finds that the community-based work
14 furlough program is gender responsive and equipped to meet the
15 needs of women who have sustained some form of trauma. The
16 great majority of women who have been served by the program are
17 mothers. The program also eases family reunification efforts,



1 which helps to keep children from intergenerational
2 incarceration.

3 The legislature further finds that the department of public
4 safety has affirmed the importance of community-based work
5 furlough programs for women, testifying in 2020 in support of a
6 measure to allocate funding for that purpose by recognizing "the
7 undisputed importance of community-based reentry programs,
8 particularly for women".

9 The purpose of this Act is to:

- 10 (1) Mandate that there be a community-based work furlough
11 program for incarcerated women in the State;
- 12 (2) Require the expansion of community-based work furlough
13 and reentry programs for female offenders, regardless
14 of whether the program is funded by the department of
15 public safety or another state agency;
- 16 (3) Require the department of public safety and any other
17 state agency that contracts with community-based work
18 furlough and reentry programs for female offenders to
19 submit an annual report to the legislature; and



1 (4) Appropriate funds to the department of public safety
2 to ensure the continuation and expansion of community-
3 based work furlough for women.

4 SECTION 2. Section 353-6.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5 amended to read as follows:

6 "[+]§353-6.5[+] **Gender-responsive, community-based**
7 **programs for female offenders.** [~~Subject to funding by the~~
8 ~~legislature, the~~] (a) The department of public safety shall
9 develop and make available gender-responsive, community-based
10 programs, including a community-based work furlough program, for
11 female offenders by providing female offenders the appropriate
12 range of opportunities to ensure that their needs are met.
13 Program models designed to address female offender needs shall
14 include but are not limited to:

- 15 (1) Appropriate treatment, including substance abuse and
16 mental health treatment;
- 17 (2) Individualized case management to help female
18 offenders set and achieve goals;
- 19 (3) Life skills development workshops, including
20 budgeting, money management, nutrition, and exercise;



- 1 (4) Development of self-determination through education;
2 employment training; community-based work furlough
3 programs; special education for the learning disabled;
4 and social, cognitive, communication, and life skills
5 training;
- 6 (5) Family-focused programming, including issues relating
7 to pregnancy and single parenthood;
- 8 (6) Peer support and the development of peer networks;
- 9 (7) Transitional support for female offenders and their
10 families to promote successful reentry into their
11 families and communities;
- 12 (8) Highly skilled staff experienced in working with
13 female offenders and their concerns;
- 14 (9) Formal recognition of participant achievement;
- 15 (10) Ongoing attention to building community-based support;
- 16 (11) Assistance for female offenders who need to develop a
17 marketable job skill and a career plan;
- 18 (12) Geographical proximity to children and family; and
- 19 (13) The goal of providing a gender-responsive continuum of
20 care.



1 (b) Community-based work furlough and reentry programs for
2 female offenders shall be expanded, regardless of whether the
3 program is funded by the department of public safety or another
4 state agency.

5 (c) The department of public safety and any other state
6 agency that contracts with community-based work furlough and
7 reentry programs for female offenders shall submit an annual
8 report to the legislature. The annual report shall include the
9 amount of funding expended for community-based work furlough and
10 reentry programs, the number of women served by the programs, a
11 description of the services provided by the programs, and
12 program participation outcomes."

13 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
15 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 to
16 ensure the continuation and expansion of community-based work
17 furlough for women.

18 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
19 public safety for the purposes of this Act.

20 SECTION 4. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
21 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.



1 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000.

2



Report Title:

Community-based Work Furlough; Reentry; Women; Report;
Appropriation

Description:

Mandates a community-based work furlough program for female offenders. Requires the expansion of community-based work furlough and reentry programs for female offenders. Requires state agencies that contract with these programs to submit an annual report to the legislature. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD2)

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