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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO RECIDIVISM PREVENTION.

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

1           SECTION 1. (a) There is established within the judiciary  
2 a five-year recidivism prevention pilot program consisting of  
3 three components: the housing voucher program, child care  
4 voucher program, and tax credit for employers, to assist the  
5 reentry efforts of program participants for two years following  
6 the individual's exit from a correctional center.

7           (b) A program participant shall be an individual:

8           (1) Who is a resident of Hawaii;

9           (2) Who exited from the women's community correctional  
10 center;

11           (3) Whose household income does not exceed eighty per cent  
12 of the area median income; and

13           (4) Who is employed and either:

14           (A) Works for twenty or more hours in a workweek; or

15           (B) Spends twenty or more hours per workweek working  
16 or participating in programs relating to  
17 education, substance abuse, or parenting.



1 (c) Housing voucher program. The housing voucher program  
2 shall provide program participants with housing vouchers on a  
3 first-come first-served basis; provided that the program  
4 participant continues to satisfy the eligibility criteria in  
5 subsection (b); provided further that the aggregate amount of  
6 financial assistance provided under the pilot program has not  
7 reached the maximum amount set forth in subsection (f). Each  
8 housing voucher shall not exceed \$ and shall be used  
9 for:

10 (1) Rent for the program participant's primary residence;  
11 or

12 (2) Down payment or mortgage payments for the program  
13 participant's primary residence; provided further that  
14 the program participant shall not own, operate, or  
15 control any other residential real property.

16 (d) Child care voucher program. The child care voucher  
17 program shall provide program participants with child care  
18 vouchers on a first-come first-served basis; provided that the  
19 program participant:

20 (1) Continues to satisfy the eligibility criteria in  
21 subsection (b);



1           (2) Has a child for whom the program participant has  
2                   physical custody; and  
3           (3) Does not receive any child care subsidies;  
4 provided further that the aggregate amount of financial  
5 assistance provided under the pilot program has not reached the  
6 maximum amount set forth in subsection (f). Each child care  
7 voucher shall not exceed \$                   per child and shall be used  
8 for payment of fees to a child care facility for providing  
9 services to the program participant's child.

10           (e) Income tax credit for employment of program  
11 participants. There shall be allowed to each taxpayer subject  
12 to the tax imposed by chapter 235, Hawaii Revised Statutes, a  
13 credit for employment of program participants, which shall be  
14 deductible from the taxpayer's net income tax liability, if any,  
15 imposed by chapter 235, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for the taxable  
16 year in which the credit is properly claimed.

17           (1) The amount of the credit under this subsection for the  
18                   taxable year shall be equal to the amount of  
19                   contributions paid by the taxpayer pursuant to section  
20                   383-61, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for the program  
21                   participant;

- 1           (2) The credit allowed under this subsection shall be  
2           claimed against the employer's net income tax  
3           liability for the taxable year. A tax credit under  
4           this subsection that exceeds the taxpayer's income tax  
5           liability may be used as a credit against the  
6           taxpayer's income tax liability in subsequent years  
7           until exhausted;
- 8           (3) All claims for tax credits under this subsection,  
9           including any amended claims, shall be filed on or  
10          before the end of the twelfth month following the  
11          close of the taxable year for which the credits may be  
12          claimed. Failure to comply with the foregoing  
13          provision shall constitute a waiver of the right to  
14          claim the credit;
- 15          (4) The judiciary shall inform the department of taxation  
16          of the identity of program participants and their  
17          employers; and
- 18          (5) The department of labor and industrial relations may  
19          provide the department of taxation with the  
20          information necessary to verify all claims for tax  
21          credits under this subsection.



1 (f) The aggregate monetary amount of vouchers provided to  
2 program participants by the State under subsections (c) and (d)  
3 shall not exceed \$30,000 for each fiscal year.

4 (g) The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter  
5 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and prescribe forms to be used by  
6 program participants to carry out the purposes of this section;  
7 provided that rules and forms to carry out subsection (e) shall  
8 be adopted and prescribed by the department of taxation, in  
9 consultation with the department.

10 (h) The department shall submit a report of its findings  
11 and recommendations pertaining to the pilot program to the  
12 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
13 the regular session of 2027. The report shall include:

14 (1) A record of pilot program activities and  
15 accomplishments;

16 (2) A recommendation on whether the pilot program should  
17 be continued, modified, or terminated, including  
18 whether the assistance under the pilot program should  
19 be extended to other correctional centers; and

20 (3) Any proposed legislation.

21 (i) As used in this Act:



1 "Child" means an unmarried individual who is under eighteen  
2 years of age. "Child" includes a biological, adopted, or foster  
3 child; a stepchild; and a legal ward.

4 "Child care facility" has the same meaning as in section  
5 346-151, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

6 "Child care subsidy" has the same meaning as in section  
7 346-151, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

8 "Department" means the department of public safety.

9 "Pilot program" means the five-year recidivism prevention  
10 pilot program established pursuant to this Act.

11 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
12 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
13 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 for  
14 the implementation and operation of the five-year recidivism  
15 prevention pilot program and for the establishment of five full-  
16 time equivalent (5.00 FTE) permanent transition navigator  
17 positions within the judiciary; provided that the transition  
18 navigators shall provide assistance to individuals exiting the  
19 women's community correctional center in successfully rejoining  
20 their families and the community.



1           The sum appropriated shall be expended by the judiciary for  
2 the purposes of this Act.

3           SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 3000, and  
4 shall be repealed on July 1, 2027; provided that the tax credit  
5 under section (e)(1) of this Act shall apply to taxable years  
6 beginning after December 31, 2022, and ending before January 1,  
7 2028.

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# H.B. NO. 2310 H.D. 1

**Report Title:**

Recidivism Prevention Pilot Program; Correctional Facilities;  
Judiciary; Reentry Office; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes within the judiciary a five-year recidivism prevention pilot program consisting of three components: a housing voucher program, child care voucher program, and income tax credit for employers to assist the reentry efforts of certain individuals who exited the Women's Community Correctional Center, for two years after the exit. Establishes five transition navigator positions within the judiciary. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/3000. Repeals 7/1/27. (HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

