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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INCARCERATED WOMEN.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that in August 2021,  
2 Hawaii Friends of Restorative Justice was awarded \$250,000 from  
3 the governor's emergency education relief fund. The moneys were  
4 part of more than \$8,000,000 allocated to the State for purposes  
5 of education through the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief  
6 Supplemental Appropriations Act and Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and  
7 Economic Security Act. The award funded the first year of an  
8 education and reentry program for incarcerated women developed  
9 and administered by Hawaii Friends of Restorative Justice, in  
10 partnership with the women's community correctional center,  
11 windward community college, the University of Hawaii at Manoa,  
12 and McKinley community school for adults. The goal of the  
13 program is to train incarcerated women to be general education  
14 development tutors for their peers, provide college  
15 correspondence courses for women in the women's community  
16 correctional center, and provide reentry and transition services



1 for women who wish to continue their educations  
2 post-incarceration.

3       The legislature further finds that in 2022, the legislature  
4 attempted to fund the second year of the pilot program by making  
5 a \$200,000 appropriation to McKinley community school for  
6 adults. However, McKinley community school did not develop and  
7 does not directly administer the program. As of November 1,  
8 2022, the funding has not been distributed. Hawaii Friends of  
9 Restorative Justice has continued to administer the program  
10 through a private donation while awaiting access to the funding.

11       The legislature recognizes that the program has been  
12 successful at assisting incarcerated women in achieving their  
13 educational goals and has increased passage rates for the  
14 general educational development test. In ten months, the  
15 program assisted twenty women who were incarcerated at the  
16 women's community correctional center in obtaining general  
17 educational development certifications. Prior to the program,  
18 approximately two women per year who were incarcerated in the  
19 same facility passed the exam.



1           Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to appropriate  
2 funds as a grant to the Hawaii Friends of Restorative Justice  
3 for the education and reentry program for incarcerated women.

4           SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
5 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$                    or so  
6 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 as a  
7 grant pursuant to chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to  
8 Hawaii Friends of Restorative Justice for the education and  
9 reentry program for incarcerated women.

10           SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 3000.

11



H.B. NO. 1129  
H.D. 1

**Report Title:**

UH; Education; Incarcerated Women; Grant; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates moneys as a grant to the Hawaii Friends of Restorative Justice for the education and reentry program for incarcerated women. Effective 6/30/3000. (HD1)

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

2023-1423 HB1129 HD1 HMSO

