A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CORRECTIONS.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that a significant
- 2 proportion of the individuals in the corrections and
- 3 rehabilitation system have experienced serious trauma during
- 4 their lifetimes.
- 5 The legislature further finds that when corrections
- 6 professionals are trained to properly assess and interact with
- 7 persons who have experienced trauma, those professionals are
- 8 better able to engage those individuals. As a result, these
- 9 individuals are more likely to connect with vital services and
- 10 experience improved rehabilitation and reduced rates of
- 11 recidivism and less likely to commit disciplinary infractions.
- 12 The legislature also finds that the establishment of a
- 13 level I trauma-informed certification program may help to ensure
- 14 that the State's corrections professionals are properly trained
- 15 in trauma-informed care. A program certificate would require
- 16 the completion of three courses, including a basic trauma-
- 17 informed care course for adult corrections officers, especially

- 1 those assigned to the women's community correctional facility.
- 2 The trauma-informed care course would be based on an existing
- 3 course implemented by windward community college for mental
- 4 health technicians at Hawaii state hospital, which has already
- 5 been proven successful.
- 6 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate moneys to the
- 7 department of public safety to administer level I trauma-
- 8 informed certification programs for adult corrections officers
- 9 statewide.
- 10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
- 11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
- 12 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 to
- 13 the department of public safety to administer level I trauma-
- 14 informed certification programs for adult corrections officers
- 15 statewide.
- 16 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
- 17 public safety for the purposes of this Act.
- 18 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 3000.

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Report Title:

Department of Public Safety; Adult Corrections Officers; Traumainformed Certification Program; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates moneys to the department of public safety to administer level I trauma-informed certification programs for adult corrections officers statewide. Effective 6/30/3000. (HD1)

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