

JAN 19 2023

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# 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 finds that, in 2001, the  
2 federal Bureau of Prisons opened the Honolulu Federal Detention  
3 Center. Located on the west side of the Daniel K. Inouye  
4 International Airport, the Honolulu Federal Detention Center  
5 houses male and female federal pre-trial detainees, sentenced  
6 felons who have nearly completed their prison terms, and Hawaii  
7 inmates who are awaiting trial in state court, at an occupancy  
8 rate far below the facility's potential capacity of one thousand  
9 two hundred beds.

10           The Honolulu Federal Detention Center currently houses  
11 approximately four hundred inmates, approximately one hundred  
12 seventy of whom are state detainees, in an efficient vertical  
13 design structure that requires fewer workers to manage detainees  
14 than antiquated state facilities. The center also includes  
15 integrated state-of-the-art surveillance and management  
16 technologies, and includes cells, office areas, medical  
17 facilities, recreational areas, storage rooms, food preparation



1 areas, laundry areas, mechanical rooms, security systems, and  
2 communications systems.

3       The State has struggled for years to find additional bed  
4 capacity for its overcrowded jails and prisons, which were  
5 designed to hold a combined total of 2,491 inmates but currently  
6 hold approximately 5,161 inmates. Replacing or refurbishing  
7 state prisons and jails to meet the current demand for adequate  
8 space and services would cost an estimated \$1,500,000,000 to  
9 \$2,000,000,000.

10       Since June 2001, the State has leased bed space at the  
11 Honolulu Federal Detention Center to relieve jail overcrowding.  
12 In September 2019, it housed one hundred eighty-six male and  
13 female inmates under the department of public safety's  
14 jurisdiction at a daily cost of \$129.48 per inmate.

15       State acquisition of the Honolulu Federal Detention Center  
16 will expand the bed capacity of the department of public safety,  
17 help alleviate overcrowding at the Oahu community correctional  
18 center and the State's other jails and prisons, and eliminate  
19 the immediate burden of building a new state jail.

20       The legislature further finds that there has long been  
21 interest in obtaining the Honolulu Federal Detention Center.



1 In 2016, House Concurrent Resolution No. 31 requested Hawaii's  
2 congressional delegation to assist the State in negotiating with  
3 the federal government for the acquisition of the Honolulu  
4 Federal Detention Center.

5 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for the  
6 purchase of the Honolulu Federal Detention Center.

7 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
8 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
9 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and  
10 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal  
11 year 2024-2025 to purchase the Honolulu Federal Detention Center  
12 for the purpose of housing state detainees and inmates,  
13 relieving overcrowding at state jails and prisons, and  
14 eliminating the financial costs of leasing bed space for state  
15 inmates at the Honolulu Federal Detention Center.

16 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
17 public safety or its successor agency, the department of  
18 corrections and rehabilitation, as the case may be, for the  
19 purposes of this Act.



# S.B. NO. 271

1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

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INTRODUCED BY: *Kurt Favelle*



# S.B. NO. 271

**Report Title:**

Public Safety; Corrections; Honolulu Federal Detention Center;  
Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to purchase the Honolulu Federal Detention  
Center.

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

