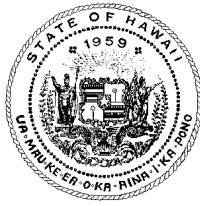


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII
**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
AND REHABILITATION**
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No. _____

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2483
RELATING TO
CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD CHECKS
by

Tommy Johnson, Director
Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

House Committee on Corrections, Military, & Veterans
Representative Mark J. Hashem, Chair
Representative Cory M. Chun, Vice Chair

Wednesday, January 31, 2024; 9:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 430 & via Videoconference

Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Chun, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR) strongly supports House Bill (HB) 2483, amending statutory authority covering criminal history record checks for current and prospective volunteers and purchase of service contracted and subcontracted service providers and their employees who are directly involved in providing correctional programs, treatment, and services to persons committed to a correctional facility or places them in close proximity to persons committed when providing services on behalf of the DCR or the correctional facility.

DCR requires NCIC and CJIS background checks on its volunteers and contract service agencies. In 2022, the Hawai'i Criminal Justice Data Center notified the DCR that there is no legal authority or statute that authorizes the Corrections Programs and Services Division (CPSD) to conduct background checks. However, this division is responsible for vetting and training volunteers, and purchasing service contractors that provide programs and services to the offender population at correctional facilities statewide. These programs include but are not limited to education programs,

substance abuse treatment, sex offender treatment, religious programs, Alcoholics and Narcotics Anonymous meetings, and mentoring programs.

The inability to conduct background checks has negatively impacted CPSD's ability to provide programs and services that are imperative to an offender's success in rehabilitation and eventual reentry into the community. For these reasons, the DCR is seeking changes to the appropriate statutes to allow the CPSD to conduct the required background checks.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in strong support of HB 2483.

LATE

HB-2483

Submitted on: 1/31/2024 6:33:57 AM

Testimony for CMV on 1/31/2024 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Angela Melody Young	CARES	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

CARES testifies in strong support.