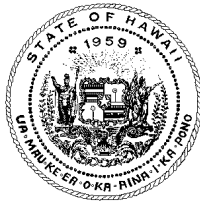


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Ka 'Oihana Ho'opalekana Lehulehu
1177 Alakea Street
Honolulu, Hawaii'i 96813

TOMMY JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

Melanie Martin
Deputy Director
Administration

Michael J. Hoffman
Acting Deputy Director
Corrections

William F. Oku
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 711, SENATE DRAFT 2, HOUSE DRAFT 1
RELATING TO GENDER PARITY IN PROGRAMS FOR INCARCERATED WOMEN

By

Tommy Johnson, Director
Department of Public Safety

House Committee on Finance
Representative Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair
Representative Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 29, 2023; 2:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 308 and Via Video Conference

Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) supports Senate Bill (SB) 711, Senate Draft (SD) 2, House Draft (HD) 1, which appropriates funding to the Hawaii Friends of Restorative Justice as a grant pursuant to Chapter 42F, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), to conduct a study of programming offered to persons incarcerated at correctional facilities and to convene a group of incarcerated women for the purpose of identifying gaps in programming offered to female inmates using House Concurrent Resolution No. 85 (2019) task force's report as a model to provide recommendations and offers the following comments.

PSD believes a study of correctional programming to include any proposed legislation and funding will assist our efforts to create successful pathways for offenders as they re-enter the community. To maintain the integrity and validity of a study of programming for incarcerated men and women for the purpose of identifying gaps in programming offered to female inmates, PSD strongly supports the inclusion of the Interagency Council on Intermediate Sanctions (ICIS) and its Correctional Program Checklist Committee (CPC) to review documents, observe program components, interactions, and interview staff and participants to evaluate effective programming

Testimony on SB 711, SD2, HD1
House Committee on Finance
March 29, 2023
Page 2

practices in the delivery of quality programs offered to persons incarcerated at correctional facilities in the State.

PSD respectfully requests the committee consider including \$100,000.00 for the purposes of this measure and continue to require that the report be due by June 30, 2024.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 711, SD2, HD1.

SB-711-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 12:06:43 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Rainbow Family 808	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Rainbow Family 808 supports SB711. Please pass this bill.

Mike Golojuch, Sr., Secretary/Board Member

SB-711-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 4:57:43 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Golojuch Jr	Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Representatives,

The Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i; Hawai‘i’s oldest and largest policy and political LGBTQIA+ focused organization fully supports SB 711 SD 2 HD 1.

We hope you all will support this important piece of legislation.

Mahalo nui loa,

Michael Golojuch, Jr.
Chair and SCC Representative
Stonewall Caucus for the DPH

SB-711-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 12:10:38 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Lorenn Walker	Hawai'i Friends of Restorative Justice	Support	In Person

Comments:

Hawai'i Friends of Restorative Justice supports this measure. Please contact Lorenn Walker, JD, MPH if you have any questions about our support: lorenn@hawaiifriends.org. Mahalo for your public service.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair
Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 29, 2023 2:00 p.m.
Conference Room 308 and via videoconference
State Capitol

STRONG SUPPORT FOR SB711, SD2, HD1 RELATING TO GENDER PARITY IN PROGRAMS FOR INCARCERATED WOMEN

Women's Prison Project (WPP) strongly supports SB711, SD2, HD1, which would fund a study of programming currently offered to incarcerated women within the state's correctional system, identifying gaps and making recommendations for additional gender responsive programming to meet women's identified needs and reduce the risk of recidivism.

Women's Prison Project supports the appropriation of \$100,000 to Hawaii Friends of Restorative Justice to conduct a study in collaboration with Women's Prison Project, of programming offered to persons incarcerated at correctional facilities including focus groups of incarcerated women to help identify gaps in programming offered to female inmates. Women's Prison Project is a volunteer group and is not a 501(c)(3) and therefore cannot receive appropriated funds.

Hawaii Friends of Restorative Justice in partnership with Women's Prison Project shall provide recommendations to improve outcomes for incarcerated women, with the goal of reducing recidivism, and equipping incarcerated women with the skills and educational opportunities to transition successfully into the community.

Hawaii Friends of Restorative Justice shall consult the Interagency Council on Intermediate Sanctions and Correctional Program Checklist Committee when conducting the study and making recommendations to improve outcomes for incarcerated women. The Hawaii Friends of Restorative Justice in collaboration with Women's Prison Project shall submit the study, including any proposed legislation, to the legislature by June 30, 2024.

Women's Prison Project urges the legislature to pass this bill which will move women's corrections toward evidence based, more effective rehabilitation programming.

Mahalo for considering this testimony.

Linda Rich
On Behalf of Women's Prison Project

SB-711-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 7:36:41 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Not Here in Hawaii!!!

SB-711-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 7:51:17 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Valerie Wayne	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this bill because it provides much needed services for incarcerated women that will help them make more successful transitions once they have served their sentences.

SB-711-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 9:51:57 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Elizabeth Nelson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill. Being in prison can be an opportunity for a woman to learn new skills and find new avenues to live her life.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Nelson

SB-711-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 11:09:03 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Simone Kamaunu	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this and ask that you pass this to help incarcerated women to have programs that will help with a better reintergrating back into society and helping with recidivism.