

MAR 12 2026

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# SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION TO  
PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON THE FINDINGS OF THE PROOF OF CONCEPT  
STUDY TITLED BREAKING CYCLES: ALTERNATIVE MODELS OF  
REHABILITATION AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE ON O'AHU.

1           WHEREAS, the Oahu Community Correctional Center (OCCC) does  
2 not have sufficient space for rehabilitative programs and the  
3 conditions of confinement are no longer appropriate; and  
4

5           WHEREAS, the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation  
6 (DCR) is currently in the process of planning and assigning a  
7 new facility to replace the existing OCCC, where individuals  
8 would be treated humanely and given a chance to be  
9 rehabilitated; and  
10

11           WHEREAS, development of modern, efficient, and cost-  
12 effective institutions would help ensure that the State's  
13 criminal justice system can meet the needs of current and future  
14 inmate populations and provide for the continued safety and  
15 security of inmates, staff, and the public; and  
16

17           WHEREAS, the benefits of modern correctional facility  
18 designs include not only increased security, improved conditions  
19 of confinement, and safer and more efficient operations, but  
20 also delivery of rehabilitative programs and treatment services  
21 unavailable in the current jail and prison system; and  
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23           WHEREAS, the State's goal is to transform its unified  
24 correctional system into a rehabilitative, restorative, and  
25 reentry-focused system that reduces recidivism and promotes  
26 safer communities; and  
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28           WHEREAS, DCR strives to keep those in custody connected to  
29 their individual cultural values, especially for Native  
30 Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, both of whom are



1 disproportionately represented within the State's jail  
2 population; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, connection to cultural values is critical in  
5 helping inmates successfully reintegrate into the State's  
6 communities and break the cycle of recidivism; and

7  
8 WHEREAS, in 2022, DCR contracted with the University of  
9 Hawaii Community Design Center (UHCDC) to engage stakeholders  
10 and community members in the development of an alternative proof  
11 of concept vision for the relocation of OCCC, with the goal of  
12 collectively defining a cross-jurisdictional pathway toward a  
13 continuum of care and support both inside and outside the  
14 correctional system; and

15  
16 WHEREAS, UHCDC hosted over one hundred twenty talk stories,  
17 eighteen site visits and listening workshops, eight co-design  
18 workshops, three exhibits, three knowledge-sharing symposiums,  
19 and five community of practice meetings over a two-year period;  
20 and

21  
22 WHEREAS, UHCDC members also attended Aiea Neighborhood  
23 Board and Aiea Community Association meetings, hosted listening  
24 workshops at Halawa Correctional Facility, and participated in  
25 prison reform hui meetings; and

26  
27 WHEREAS, UHCDC's extensive research included connecting  
28 with various counties in Arizona, California, and Florida to  
29 gain insight into their reform processes to rehabilitate  
30 individuals, reduce recidivism, and provide a continuum of care  
31 inside and outside the correctional system; and

32  
33 WHEREAS, in February 2025, UHCDC released an in-depth study  
34 titled Breaking Cycles: Alternative Models of Rehabilitation  
35 and Restorative Justice on O'ahu (Breaking Cycles Study); and

36  
37 WHEREAS, the Breaking Cycles Study was a proof of concept  
38 study that included key concepts on justice system reform, along  
39 with facility planning and design elements to consider in  
40 planning the new OCCC but did not include a completed design,  
41 required funding, or implementation plan; now, therefore,  
42



# S.C.R. NO. 60

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third  
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026, the  
3 House of Representatives concurring, that the Department of  
4 Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR) is requested to provide an  
5 update on the findings of Breaking Cycles: Alternative Models  
6 of Rehabilitation and Restorative Justice on O'ahu (Breaking  
7 Cycles Study); and

8  
9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DCR is requested to include the  
10 following in its report:

- 11  
12 (1) Ways in which DCR administrators and planning and  
13 design consultants have incorporated the  
14 recommendations of the Breaking Cycles Study into  
15 plans and designs for the new OCCC; and  
16  
17 (2) Observations and findings from discussions with  
18 incarcerated individuals, corrections staff, families,  
19 state agencies, and community stakeholders regarding  
20 recommendations in the Breaking Cycles Study, in  
21 collaboration with the Hawaii Correctional System  
22 Oversight Commission; and  
23

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that DCR is requested to submit a  
25 report of its findings, including any proposed legislation, to  
26 the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening  
27 of the Regular Session of 2027; and  
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29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
30 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of  
31 Corrections and Rehabilitation and Chairperson of the Hawaii  
32 Correctional System Oversight Commission.  
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OFFERED BY: Carol Johnson

