
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FAMILY VISITS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that families are a
2 resource to offenders during their incarceration. The support
3 of family members can also play a key role in an offender's
4 rehabilitation, transition, and successful re-entry from prison
5 or jail to the community. By bringing together an offender and
6 an offender's family through positive, consistent, and mutually
7 desirable contact, the correctional system will be improving
8 public safety and strengthening communities.

9 The purpose of this Act is to ensure the right of family
10 members to visit inmates.

11 SECTION 2. Chapter 353, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
12 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
13 and to read as follows:

14 "§353- Visits from family members. (a) Family members
15 shall be allowed to visit an inmate at any state correctional
16 facility during official visiting hours.

17 (b) A visit from a family member shall be pre-approved and
18 pre-scheduled. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary,



1 no visit shall be canceled due to staff absenteeism or any other
2 non-emergency situation.

3 (c) The department shall develop internal policies and
4 procedures consistent with this section.

5 (d) For the purposes of this section, "family members"
6 means persons who are related to each other by blood, marriage,
7 adoption, or legal guardianship."

8 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.



HB 2595
HD1

Report Title:

Corrections; Family Visits

Description:

Restricts the department of public safety from canceling pre-approved and pre-scheduled family visits with inmates. (HB2595 HD1)

HB2595 HD1 HMS 2006-2249

