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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PRISONS.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that offenders who  
2 receive program and employment opportunities in prison prior to  
3 being released back into the community have much greater chances  
4 of not returning to prison. Inmates who receive these  
5 opportunities while they are classified at the minimum or  
6 community custody level are more likely to successfully return  
7 to society and participate as productive, law-abiding citizens.

8           Minimum custody inmates have demonstrated they can function  
9 with minimal supervision in a correctional setting or in the  
10 community under direct supervision. Community custody inmates  
11 are eligible to participate in community release programs such  
12 as work furlough, extended furlough, or residential transitional  
13 living centers.

14           However, due to budget constraints, Hawaii has only two  
15 minimum security prisons, Waiawa correctional facility on Oahu  
16 and Kulani correctional facility on the island of Hawaii.  
17 Waiawa was designed for two hundred ninety-four inmates and  
18 Kulani often exceeds its operational capacity of one hundred



1 sixty beds. The legislature finds that a total of five hundred  
2 fifty-four beds for inmates who are ready to be reintegrated  
3 into the community is woefully lacking.

4 According to the department of public safety's 2004 annual  
5 report, thirty-nine per cent of male inmates and forty-seven per  
6 cent of female inmates are classified as minimum or community  
7 custody. Based on the department's January 16, 2006, population  
8 figures, this means that there are currently two thousand four  
9 hundred fifty-nine inmates who qualify for reintegration  
10 programs through educational opportunities, substance abuse  
11 treatment, vocational training, employment opportunities, and  
12 workline projects in the community.

13 The purpose of this Act is to increase the number of  
14 minimum custody housing for inmates, encourage a programs  
15 approach to inmate case management, and develop more work  
16 opportunities for inmates to benefit the community.

17 SECTION 2. The department of public safety is authorized  
18 to plan to build minimum security housing of the type that can  
19 be erected in a fairly short amount of time, such as housing  
20 structures used by the military, on a portion of the Kalaeloa  
21 parcel under the jurisdiction of the Hawaii community  
22 development authority. The department of public safety and the



1 Hawaii community development authority shall explore the  
2 feasibility of planning, designing, and constructing a suitable  
3 minimum security facility at the Kalaeloa site using pre-  
4 fabricated and quick-build design housing programs.

5 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
6 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
7 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007 for  
8 planning of minimum security housing for inmates.

9 SECTION 4. The department of public safety shall adopt a  
10 policy that mandates all inmates to participate in-facility  
11 programs; provided that medical and mental health concerns are  
12 considered when waiving an inmate's participation. This  
13 programs approach to case management will better prepare all  
14 inmates for educational and employment opportunities when they  
15 are released back into our neighborhoods and communities.

16 SECTION 5. In-facility workline programs and in-community  
17 workline programs provide productive, mutually beneficial  
18 results for the inmate, the facility, and the community. The  
19 department of public safety is directed to increase the scope  
20 and number of workline programs it currently operates at its  
21 prison and jail facilities.



1 SECTION 6. There is appropriated out of the general  
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much  
3 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007 for  
4 developing and operating in-facility workline programs at each  
5 correctional facility and in-community workline projects  
6 throughout the state.

7 The sums appropriated in sections 3 and 6 shall be expended  
8 by the department of public safety for the purposes of this Act.

9 SECTION 7. The department of public safety shall submit a  
10 report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the  
11 start of the regular session of the 2007 legislature on the  
12 status of this Act, including cost implications, statutory  
13 impediments, and proposals for new legislation, if needed.

14 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.



HB 2833

HD 2

**Report Title:**

Prison Facilities; Community Worklines

**Description:**

Directs the department of public safety to adopt policies regarding greater program participation by inmates. Appropriates funds to increase prison worklines in correctional facilities and the community. Authorizes HCDA to contract for minimum security inmate housing at Kalaeloa. (HB2833 HD2)

