
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The existing work furlough programs and
2 facilities throughout the state are inadequate to meet the needs
3 of inmates who are eligible for work furlough. Work furlough
4 programs provide much-needed housing and employment assistance,
5 vocational educational programs, mentoring, counseling, family
6 reunification services, and substance abuse treatment programs
7 for inmates who are preparing for their return to the community.
8 These programs contribute greatly to reducing recidivism by
9 giving them skills, preparing them for reintegration, and
10 instilling in participants a sense of pride and responsibility.

11 Furthermore, inmates who receive program and employment
12 opportunities while they are classified at the minimum- or
13 community-custody level are more likely to successfully return
14 to society and participate as productive, law-abiding citizens.

15 Minimum-custody inmates have demonstrated they can function
16 with minimal supervision in a correctional setting or in the
17 community under direct supervision. Community-custody inmates
18 are eligible to participate in community release programs, such



1 as work furlough, extended furlough, or residential transitional
2 living centers.

3 However, due to budget constraints, Hawaii has only two
4 minimum-security prisons, Waiawa correctional facility on Oahu
5 and Kulani correctional facility on the island of Hawaii.
6 Waiawa was designed for two hundred ninety-four inmates and
7 Kulani often exceeds its operational capacity of one hundred
8 sixty beds. The legislature finds that a total of five hundred
9 fifty-four beds for inmates who are ready to be reintegrated
10 into the community are woefully lacking.

11 According to the department of public safety's 2004 annual
12 report, thirty-nine per cent of male inmates and forty-seven per
13 cent of female inmates are classified with a status of minimum-
14 or community-custody. Based on the department's January 16,
15 2006, population figures, this means that there are currently
16 two thousand four hundred fifty-nine inmates who qualify for
17 reintegration programs through educational opportunities,
18 substance abuse treatment, vocational training, employment
19 opportunities, and workline projects in the community.

20 The purpose of this Act is to:



1 (1) Appropriate funds to the department of public safety
2 for the expansion of work furlough programs and
3 facilities; and

4 (2) Increase the number of minimum-custody housing for
5 inmates.

6 SECTION 2. The department of public safety is authorized
7 to plan to build minimum-security housing of the type that can
8 be erected in a fairly short amount of time, such as housing
9 structures used by the military, on a portion of the Kalaeloa
10 parcel under the jurisdiction of the Hawaii community
11 development authority.

12 The department of public safety and the Hawaii community
13 development authority shall explore the feasibility of planning,
14 designing, and constructing a suitable minimum-security facility
15 at the Kalaeloa site using pre-fabricated and quick-build design
16 housing programs.

17 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
18 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
19 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2006-2007 for the
20 planning of minimum-security housing for inmates at the Kalaeloa
21 site and for the expansion of work furlough programs and
22 facilities.



1 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
2 public safety for the purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2006.



SB 2926 SD1
HD1

Report Title:

Public Safety; Work Furloughs

Description:

Appropriates funds to the department of public safety for the expansion of work furlough programs and facilities and the planning of minimum-security housing at Kalaeloa. (SB2926 HD1)

