
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 a much greater
4 chance of not returning to prison. Inmates who receive these
5 opportunities while they are classified as minimum security risk
6 or community custody are more likely to successfully return to
7 society and participate as productive, law-abiding citizens.

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

14 Hawaii has only two minimum security prisons, Waiawa
15 correctional facility on Oahu and Kulani correctional facility
16 on the island of Hawaii. Waiawa was designed for two hundred
17 ninety-four inmates and Kulani has an operational capacity of
18 one hundred sixty beds. The legislature finds that this total



1 of four hundred fifty-four beds for inmates who are ready to be
2 reintegrated into the community is woefully lacking.

3 According to the department of public safety's 2006 annual
4 report, forty-eight per cent of male inmates and sixty-one per
5 cent of female inmates are classified as minimum security risk
6 or are considered community custody. Based on the department's
7 January 7, 2007, population figures, this means that there are
8 currently two thousand nine hundred eighty-two inmates who
9 qualify for reintegration programs through educational
10 opportunities, substance abuse treatment, vocational training,
11 employment opportunities, or workline projects in the community.

12 The purpose of this Act is to increase the use of a
13 programs approach to inmate case management and develop more
14 work opportunities for inmates to benefit the community.

15 SECTION 2. The department of public safety shall adopt a
16 policy that mandates all inmates to participate in in-facility
17 programs; provided that medical and mental health concerns are
18 considered when waiving an inmate's participation. This
19 programs approach to case management will better prepare all
20 inmates for educational and employment opportunities when they
21 are released back into our neighborhoods and communities.



1 SECTION 3. In-facility workline programs and in-community
2 workline programs provide productive, mutually beneficial
3 results for the inmate, the facility, and the community. The
4 department of public safety is directed to increase the scope
5 and number of workline programs it currently operates at its
6 prison and jail facilities.

7 SECTION 4. The department of public safety shall submit a
8 status report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
9 to the convening of the regular sessions of 2009 and 2010 on the
10 status of the implementation of the requirements of this Act,
11 including cost implications, statutory or other legal
12 impediments, and proposals for new legislation, if needed.

13 SECTION 5. There is appropriated out of the general
14 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
15 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for
16 developing and operating in-facility workline programs at each
17 correctional facility and in-community workline projects
18 throughout the State.

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


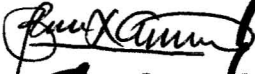
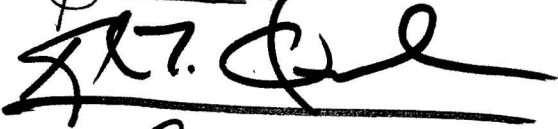
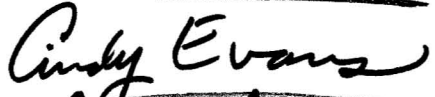
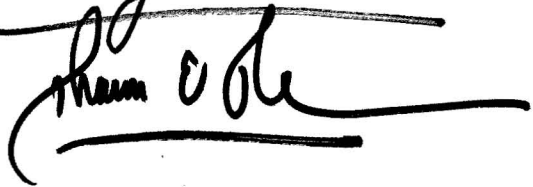


H.B. NO. 2945

1 SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.

2

INTRODUCED BY: _____

JAN 22 2008



Report Title:

Prisoners; Inmate Programs; Community Worklines

Description:

Directs the department of public safety to increase its use of a programs approach to case management and adopt a policy mandating all inmates to participate in in-facility programs. Appropriates funds to increase inmate worklines at correctional facilities and in the community.

