

---

---

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO COGNITIVE RESTRUCTURING.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds there is a  
2   disproportionately high rate of arrest and incarceration among  
3   young men and women of Hawaiian ancestry. It is estimated that  
4   of the over two thousand incarcerated Hawaiians, seventy per  
5   cent are between twenty and forty years of age.

6           A promising approach to reducing recidivism and helping  
7   inmates make the successful transition from prison to the  
8   community is cognitive restructuring and transition programs  
9   provided at correctional facilities. Such programs involve  
10   self-examination of an inmate's belief system, criminal  
11   addictive cycle, attitudes and thinking patterns, and develop  
12   relapse prevention plans for future situations. The program  
13   assists offenders in restructuring their thought processes and  
14   teaches cognitive skills that help with basic decision-making  
15   and problem-solving. The goal of cognitive restructuring is to  
16   guide offenders to consciously examine their own thoughts by  
17   engaging in processes that develop self control, thus making  
18   them responsible for, and in charge of, their actions no matter



1 how stressful the situation. When combined with strategies that  
2 help Hawaiian inmates get back in touch with the values of their  
3 culture, cognitive rehabilitation can help break the vicious  
4 cycle of crime and punishment as knowledge of Hawaiian  
5 traditions and cultural values have helped many cope with social  
6 challenges.

7 The purpose of this Act is to provide the department of  
8 public safety funding to establish reintegration programs within  
9 correctional facilities combining cognitive behavioral theory  
10 with Native Hawaiian holistic interventions to address domestic  
11 violence, addictions, self mastery through identity, and  
12 community connections for successful transitions back into the  
13 community.

14 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general  
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$250,000 or so much  
16 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for  
17 cognitive restructuring reintegration programs using Native  
18 Hawaiian holistic methods for incarcerated persons.

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



1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.

2

INTRODUCED BY:

Karen Awana

[Signature]

Josh Green MD

[Signature]

[Signature]

(Nemina) Novita

Ronald Dean III

Pam Chor

Calvin H. King

Lyla B. Berg

John M. [Signature]

Cindy Evans

Blah

[Signature]

Mele Carroll

[Signature]

[Signature]

[Signature]

JAN 23 2008



**Report Title:**

Corrections; Rehabilitation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds for the Department of Public Safety to provide reintegration programs that combine cognitive behavioral theory with Native Hawaiian holistic interventions that address domestic violence, addictions, self mastery through identity, and community connections for successful transitions back into the community.

