
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
12 development of relapse prevention plans for future situations.
13 The program assists offenders in restructuring their thought
14 processes and teaches cognitive skills that help with basic
15 decision-making and problem-solving. The goal of cognitive
16 restructuring is to guide offenders to consciously examine their
17 own thoughts by engaging in processes that develop self-control,
18 thus making them responsible for, and in charge of, their



1 actions no matter how stressful the situation. When combined
2 with strategies that help Hawaiian inmates get back in touch
3 with the values of their culture, cognitive rehabilitation can
4 help break the vicious cycle of crime and punishment as
5 knowledge of Hawaiian traditions and cultural values have helped
6 many cope with social challenges.

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

13 SECTION 2. (a) The department of public safety shall
14 establish a three-year cognitive restructuring reintegration
15 pilot program within Hawaii correctional facilities combining
16 cognitive behavioral theory with Native Hawaiian holistic
17 interventions to address domestic violence, addictions, self
18 mastery through identity, and community connections for
19 successful transitions back into the community.

20 (b) The department of public safety shall begin
21 implementing the pilot program by , and shall provide
22 a report annually not less than twenty days prior to the



1 commencement of each regular session beginning with the regular
2 session of 2009. The report shall include information regarding
3 the development, implementation, and successes or challenges
4 noted in administering the pilot program to the legislature and
5 any proposed legislation the department finds necessary to
6 improve the pilot project.

7 (c) The cognitive restructuring reintegration pilot
8 program shall cease to exist on June 30, 2011.

9 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
11 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for
12 the department of public safety to develop and implement a
13 cognitive restructuring reintegration pilot program using Native
14 Hawaiian holistic methods for incarcerated persons.

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

17 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2008.



Report Title:

Corrections; Rehabilitation

Description:

Appropriates funds for the Department of Public Safety to establish a reintegration pilot program 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. (HB3426 HD1)

