

---

---

## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO ESTABLISH AN INMATE  
CONSERVATION CORPS PILOT PROGRAM ON THE ISLAND OF HAWAII.

1           WHEREAS, the Department of Land and Natural Resources'  
2 Youth Conservation Corps program helps participants develop a  
3 sense of stewardship of the land and build valuable work  
4 experience through community service, training, and education;  
5 and

6  
7           WHEREAS, a similar program utilizing Hawaii corrections  
8 inmates as conservation corps participants could work to protect  
9 and preserve Hawaii's natural environment and would prove to be  
10 beneficial for the State; and

11  
12           WHEREAS, inmates who have earned community custody status  
13 can be educated and trained to help manage and protect Hawaii's  
14 natural resources; and

15  
16           WHEREAS, an inmate conservation corps can provide  
17 assistance with trail maintenance, native plant restoration,  
18 invasive species control, wildlife management, fence building,  
19 stream and coastal restoration, and other conservation work; and

20  
21           WHEREAS, being part of a conservation corps would encourage  
22 leadership, teamwork, communication, and responsibility among  
23 the inmate participants; and

24  
25           WHEREAS, an inmate conservation corps would ideally include  
26 activities that promote:

27  
28           (1) The importance of responsibility, dependability,  
29 punctuality, and good attendance;

30  
31           (2) Worksite relations skills, including taking  
32 constructive criticism, working cooperatively with  
33 other corps members and staff, and western and  
34 traditional Hawaiian job skills;



1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31  
32  
33  
34  
35  
36  
37  
38  
39  
40  
41  
42  
43  
44

- (3) Life skills training, including instruction in conflict resolution, job search skills, personal money management, goal setting, and decision making; and
- (4) Education for twenty hours each week on subjects such as genealogy, Hawaiian language and traditional practices, reading, math, communication skills, English language proficiency, academic preparation, and work-specific skills; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the Department of Public Safety are requested to establish an inmate conservation corps pilot program on the island of Hawaii to perform resource conservation projects including, but not limited to, forest fire prevention, forest and watershed management, maintenance of recreation areas, fish and game management, soil conservation, forest and watershed re-vegetation, preventive maintenance or reconstruction of levees, or any other work necessary to prevent flood damage; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the Department of Public Safety are requested to select participants for the inmate conservation corps pilot program that:

- (1) Are classified as minimum security risk, are housed at a minimum security correctional facility, or have attained community custody status; and
- (2) Have completed appropriate basic education and training so as to be prepared for additional education and training in natural resources conservation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the Department of Public Safety are requested to:

- (1) Ensure that participants are physically fit for work outdoors and are likely to be successful in completing conservation projects;



1 (2) Provide supervision for all inmate conservation corps  
 2 program participants at all projects, and for each  
 3 time the corps is at a site outside of a correctional  
 4 facility; and

5  
 6 (3) Determine any fees to be collected for services  
 7 provided by the corps; and

8  
 9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Land and  
 10 Natural Resources and the Department of Public Safety are  
 11 requested to submit a joint report to the Legislature of all  
 12 activities relating to the inmate conservation corps pilot  
 13 program, including findings, recommendations, and proposed  
 14 legislation, no later than twenty days prior to the convening of  
 15 the Regular Session of 2009; and

16  
 17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 18 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of  
 19 Land and Natural Resources, the Director of Public Safety, and  
 20 the Mayor of Hawaii County.

21  
 22  
 23

OFFERED BY:

*Cindy Evans*

MAR 04 2008

