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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that approximately 175  
2 female prisoners who are residents of the State of Hawaii are  
3 incarcerated in mainland prisons. Many of these women are  
4 parents.

5           The increased likelihood of children of incarcerated  
6 parents being at high risk for physical and mental problems,  
7 aggression, and criminal activity has been documented in  
8 numerous studies by various institutions, including the Center  
9 for Children of Incarcerated Parents, the Child Welfare League  
10 of America, and the Federal Resource Center for Children of  
11 Prisoners.

12           The legislature further finds that the children of Hawaii  
13 prisoners incarcerated on the mainland have an even higher risk  
14 of becoming troubled due to the geographical separation that  
15 precludes regular visits between parent and child and limits  
16 access to support services.



1           The legislature further finds that the current contract for  
2   incarcerating female prisoners, who are residents of Hawaii, on  
3   the mainland expires in October 2008. The near-term expiration  
4   of this contract provides an opportunity for the department of  
5   public safety to review what additional facilities and programs  
6   must be in place to adequately house and rehabilitate female  
7   prisoners upon their return to Hawaii.

8           The purpose of this Act is to create a strategic plan to  
9   provide services to the state's female prisoners who are  
10   incarcerated on the mainland and who will be returning to  
11   Hawaii.

12           SECTION 2. The department of public safety shall develop a  
13   strategic plan by January 1, 2009, to provide female prisoners  
14   returning to Hawaii adequate:

- 15           (1) Housing;  
16           (2) Community supervision;  
17           (3) Medical care;  
18           (4) Drug treatment;  
19           (5) Reintegration programs;  
20           (6) Employment training; and  
21           (7) Transitional services.



1 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
2 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so  
3 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 for  
4 the department of public safety to develop a strategic plan to  
5 ensure successful reentry into the community for female  
6 prisoners returning from the mainland.

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

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



**Report Title:**

Public Safety; Women Prisoners; Appropriation

**Description:**

Appropriates funds to the department of public safety to develop a plan by January 1, 2009, to provide facilities and services to returning female Hawaii prisoners. (SB2082 HD1)

