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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY.

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

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Hawaii paroling  
2 authority plays a vital role in our criminal justice system. It  
3 determines minimum terms of incarceration for almost all inmates  
4 sentenced to prison; grants parole when it determines that an  
5 inmate is ready for release into the community; establishes  
6 terms and conditions of parole for each offender granted parole;  
7 oversees parole officers who monitor and supervise parolees;  
8 grants discharges from parole; and makes recommendations for  
9 pardons and commutations of sentences.

10           The authority was created in 1976 with one full-time member  
11 and two part-time members. In the past thirty-six years, its  
12 workload has increased eight-fold due to the rise in  
13 incarceration rates. However, the authority continues to be  
14 composed of one full-time and two part-time members. Because it  
15 is essentially a part-time body, the authority finds proper  
16 deliberation very difficult when reviewing cases and making  
17 decisions that are vital to public safety. Further, the  
18 authority is experiencing severe difficulties in carrying out



1 its responsibility in assuring that the terms and conditions of  
2 parole are properly enforced with a less than full time  
3 authority.

4 The purpose of this Act is to change the two part-time  
5 members of the Hawaii paroling authority to full-time members  
6 and to provide that the governor shall set the salaries with the  
7 guidance of the current report of recommended yearly salaries  
8 published by the executive salary commission.

9 SECTION 2. Section 353-63, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11 **"§353-63 Service of Hawaii paroling authority members;**  
12 **compensation; expenses.** The chairperson and the other two  
13 members of the Hawaii paroling authority shall serve on a full-  
14 time basis. [~~The other two members shall serve on a part-time~~  
15 ~~basis.] Effective July 1, 2005, the chairperson of the Hawaii~~  
16 paroling authority shall be paid a salary set [~~at eighty-seven~~  
17 ~~percent of the salary of the director of public safety. The~~  
18 ~~compensation of each of the part-time members shall be eighty~~  
19 ~~per cent of the hourly wage paid the chairperson. For each hour~~  
20 ~~engaged in the official duties of the authority, each part-time~~  
21 ~~member of the authority shall be paid an hourly wage at the~~  
22 ~~percentage rate specified in this section based on the hourly~~



1 ~~wage paid the chairperson; provided that compensation shall not~~  
2 ~~exceed eighty per cent of the total regular working hours in a~~  
3 ~~month; provided further that part-time members shall not be~~  
4 ~~entitled to any vacation, sick leave, or other benefits except~~  
5 ~~as provided in this section. All paroling authority members~~  
6 ~~shall receive their necessary expenses for travel and~~  
7 ~~incidentals which shall be paid from appropriations provided the~~  
8 ~~authority for such purposes, on vouchers approved by the~~  
9 ~~director of public safety.] by the governor with guidance~~  
10 provided by the current published report of the executive salary  
11 commission of recommended yearly salaries for department heads.  
12 Effective July 1, 2007, the salaries of the other two members  
13 shall be set by the governor at a minimum of eighty per cent but  
14 no more than ninety per cent of the salary of the chairperson."

15 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
16 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ , or so much  
17 thereof as may be necessary, for fiscal year 2007-2008, and  
18 \$60,000, or so much as may be necessary, for fiscal year  
19 2008-2009, to carry out the purpose of this Act, including the  
20 purchase of office equipment and other expenses related to the  
21 new full-time paroling authority members.



1           The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department  
2 of public safety.

3           SECTION 4. Any persons who were appointed as part-time  
4 members of the Hawaii paroling authority by the governor in  
5 accordance with sections 26-34 and 353-61, Hawaii Revised  
6 Statutes, and who serve as part-time members on the day  
7 immediately preceding the effective date of this Act shall  
8 become full-time members of the Hawaii paroling authority on the  
9 effective date of this Act and continue serving their current  
10 terms of appointment.

11           SECTION 5. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
12 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

13           SECTION 6. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.



**Report Title:**

Hawaii Paroling Authority; Appropriation

**Description:**

Provides for the extension of Hawaii paroling authority board members from part-time to full-time work; provides that salaries are to be set by the governor with the guidance of the current executive salary commission report. Appropriates funds for the resulting increase in salary and additional equipment needs.

(SD2)

