

JAN 19 2007

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CORRECTIONS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that some criminal
2 offenders, due to the nature of their crimes, will remain in
3 prison for life. However, a significant majority will serve
4 their sentence and be released. Over ninety-eight per cent of
5 criminal offenders in Hawaii will eventually return to our
6 communities. During fiscal year 2003, the department of public
7 safety released 10,629 offenders.

8 The legislature finds that, in order for an offender to
9 successfully reenter the community, the offender must have
10 access to a full continuum of services during incarceration and
11 immediately upon release. These services include education,
12 continuing education, vocational training, substance abuse
13 treatment, follow-up treatment services, support with finding
14 housing and employment, and help with family issues and other
15 elements of life after incarceration.

16 During incarceration, offenders may qualify to be
17 transferred to a minimum security correctional facility to



1 participate, as appropriate, in treatment-based services, such
2 as substance abuse treatment at Waiawa correctional facility or
3 sex offender treatment at Kulani correctional facility. When an
4 offender attains community custody status, the offender may
5 participate in furlough, extended furlough, transition, and
6 reintegration programs in the community. These types of
7 programs constitute the latter segment of a continuum of
8 services that help offenders reenter the community as
9 productive, law-abiding citizens.

10 Furlough and work release programs include the Laumaka work
11 furlough program, located adjacent to the Oahu community
12 correctional center. Extended furlough programs involve
13 offenders who live and work in the community, but are required
14 to return to a correctional facility during weekday or weekend
15 evenings. Others on extended furlough may live at home and be
16 supervised through an electronic monitoring device. Transition
17 and reintegration programs are usually located in the community
18 and are provided by community-based agencies such as TJ Mahoney
19 and the Big Island Substance Abuse Council, which offer
20 residential transition and reintegration services for female
21 offenders.



1 The legislature further finds that extended furlough
2 programs could ease overcrowding by freeing up scarce bed space
3 for offenders who require more restrictive environments and pose
4 a risk to public safety. A type of extended furlough program is
5 the day reporting center. Unlike the community correctional
6 centers, or jails, a day reporting center is non-residential and
7 offenders are required to report to the centers but return to
8 their homes to sleep at night.

9 The typical day reporting program operates five days per
10 week and has a duration of approximately six months. Day
11 reporting centers emphasize: intensive supervision, frequent
12 substance abuse testing, and substance abuse follow-up education
13 in group sessions; anger management, parenting, and help with
14 obtaining education classes; vocational assessment, employment
15 training, and life skills development; and assistance with
16 various issues of adjusting to life in the community. The first
17 day reporting center was established in England in 1974. The
18 first American center opened in 1986 in Hamden, Massachusetts.
19 By 1995, one hundred fourteen day reporting centers were
20 established in twenty-two states.

21 Hawaii does not currently have a day reporting center. In
22 the late 1980s and early 1990s, the department of public safety



1 attempted to create a day reporting center in module twenty of
2 the Oahu community correctional center, but overcrowding
3 necessitated that the space be used for housing offenders.
4 Attempts were also made to use the Hale Nani reintegration
5 center on the island of Hawaii as a day reporting center, but
6 again, the space was needed for offender housing and other
7 programs.

8 The purpose of this Act is to establish a one-year, pilot
9 day reporting center at an existing state site, facility, or
10 building designated by the governor for use as a day reporting
11 center.

12 SECTION 2. The department of public safety, through its
13 intake service centers and education divisions, shall establish
14 a day reporting center that will be available to two hundred
15 offenders who have six months to one year left to serve on their
16 sentence. The center shall offer a continuum of services to
17 prepare offenders for transition and reintegration into the
18 community. The center staff shall consist of a program
19 director, counselors, social workers, and other professional and
20 clerical staff. The ideal ratio of counselors to offenders
21 shall be one counselor for every twenty-five offenders. The
22 ideal ratio of social workers to offenders shall be one social



1 worker for every fifteen offenders. The department of public
2 safety may contract with a private or not-for-profit agency for
3 the necessary services to carry out the purposes of this Act.

4 SECTION 3. The department shall submit, no later than
5 twenty days prior to the start of the 2009 regular session of
6 the legislature, a written report on:

- 7 (1) The outcome of the pilot project;
- 8 (2) Cost analysis and an accounting of expenses;
- 9 (3) Relevant data on program participants
- 10 (4) Program and management evaluations; and
- 11 (5) Any other pertinent information, recommendations, or
12 proposed legislation, if any, to determine whether the
13 program should be continued.

14 SECTION 4. There is appropriated out of the general
15 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$, or so much
16 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the
17 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
18 2008-2009, for the establishment of a one-year pilot day
19 reporting center.

20 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
21 of public safety, who may contract with a public or not-for-



1 profit agency to operate the day reporting center for the
2 purposes of this Act.

3 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

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INTRODUCED BY: Will Eyo
Clarence K. Mishiher
Jon Mera
Robertson
Carol Fuherrays
Shianne Chun Aaliland



Report Title:

Corrections; Inmate Programs; Day Reporting Center

Description:

Establishes a one-year pilot day reporting center administered by the department of public safety. Appropriates funds.

