

MAR 11 2008

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO ESTABLISH AN
EARNED-TIME PROGRAM THAT REDUCES THE MINIMUM PERIOD OF TIME
THAT INMATES MUST WAIT TO BECOME ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE.

1 WHEREAS, many correctional jurisdictions in the United
2 States use an incentive system that rewards inmates for positive
3 behavior while incarcerated; and
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5 WHEREAS, the rehabilitation of inmates is an important step
6 in the process of enabling the inmates to successfully reenter
7 the community; and
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9 WHEREAS, an earned-time credit system that would allow
10 inmates to become eligible for parole faster would be a powerful
11 tool in providing an incentive for inmates to behave in a
12 positive manner; and
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14 WHEREAS, an earned-time credit system that reduces an
15 inmate's waiting period to become eligible for parole would also
16 be an incentive for inmates that do not have any behavioral
17 problems; and
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19 WHEREAS, an earned-time credit system would encourage
20 inmate participation in rehabilitation programs that assist the
21 inmates in reentering the community; and
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23 WHEREAS, an earned-time credit system would help to relieve
24 inmate overcrowding; now, therefore,
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26 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-fourth
27 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2008,
28 that the Department of Public Safety is requested to examine
29 various earned-time programs established under the laws of other
30 states in order to develop an earned-time program for Hawaii
31 inmates incarcerated in Hawaii and on the mainland; and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public Safety
34 is requested to report its findings, conclusions, and
35 recommendations for the establishment of an earned-time program



1 to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the
2 convening of the 2009 Regular Session; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
5 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor of the State of Hawaii
6 and the Director of Public Safety.

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OFFERED BY: Will Eyo
Pala
Norman Sakomfi