

Honolulu, Hawaii

March 20, 2008

RE: S.B. No. 2524
S.D. 2
H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2008
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Public Safety & Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 2524, S.D. 2, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PRISONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this bill is to ensure proper mental health treatment to Hawaii's prisoner population suffering from mental illness, including schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and major depression by requiring the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to conduct a study of the feasibility of creating separate forensic treatment facilities for mentally ill prisoners in all community correctional centers or, in the alternative, a separate, centralized forensic treatment facility.

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, Community Alliance on Prisons, and a concerned individual supported this bill. DPS opposed this measure.

Your Committee has amended this bill by:


- (1) Deleting provisions dealing with creating a forensic facility to treat mentally ill prisoners;
- (2) Focusing on ensuring medical treatment within existing correctional facilities and changing disciplinary strategies for mentally ill prisoners;



- (3) Inserting an appropriation of \$5,000 to implement a feasibility study; and
- (4) Making technical, nonsubstantive changes for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety & Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2524, S.D. 2, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 2524, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Finance.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Public Safety &
Military Affairs,



CINDY EVANS, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-fourth Legislature

HSC92 17208-08

Record of Votes of the Committee on Public Safety & Military Affairs

| Bill/Resolution No.: SB 2524 | Committee Referral: PSM, FIN | Date: 03-13-08 | | |
|--|--|--------------------------|------|----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure. | | | | |
| The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit) | | | | |
| PSM Members | Ayes | Ayes (WR) | Nays | Excused |
| 1. EVANS, Cindy (C) | ✓ | | | |
| 2. HAR, Sharon E. (VC) | ✓ | | | |
| 3. LEE, Marilyn B. | ✓ | | | |
| 4. LUKE, Sylvia | ✓ | | | |
| 5. McKELVEY, Angus L.K. | ✓ | | | |
| 6. NAKASONE, Bob | | | | ✓ |
| 7. NISHIMOTO, Scott Y. | | | | ✓ |
| 8. SONSON, Alex M. | ✓ | | | |
| 9. SOUKI, Joseph M. | | | | ✓ |
| 10. TAKAMINE, Dwight Y. | ✓ | | | |
| 11. TAKUMI, Roy M. | ✓ | | | |
| 12. FINNEGAN, Lynn | | | | ✓ |
| 13. PINE, Kymerly Marcos | ✓ | | | |
| TOTAL (13) | 9 | | | 4 |
| The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. _____ committee acronym(s) | | | | |
| Vice Chair's or designee's signature: | | | | |
| Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office | | | | |