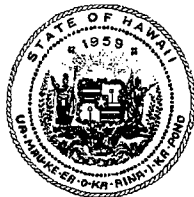


LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR



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No. \_\_\_\_\_

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1402, HD2  
RELATING TO CORRECTIONAL INDUSTRIES**

by

Clayton A. Frank, Director  
Department of Public Safety

Committee on Public Safety  
Senator Will Espero, Chair  
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

Committee on Judiciary and Labor  
Senator Brian T. Taniguchi, Chair  
Senator Clayton Hee, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 18, 2008, 2:45 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

Senator Espero, Senator Nishihara, Senator Taniguchi, Senator Hee, and Members of Both Committees:

The Department of Public Safety (Department) strongly supports the passage of House Bill 1402, HD2, which seeks to eliminate the current maximum number of 45 temporary exempt positions within the Correctional Industries (CI) Division of the Department. At this time, the Department respectfully requests that the maximum number of temporary exempt positions be amended to reflect 65 positions. This is consistent with Senate Bill 1488, SD1 and allows CI gradual growth as new consistent and steady revenue streams become available. CI is mandated to provide the maximum level of vocational rehabilitation opportunities for able-bodied inmates in correctional facilities. At present, CI employs an average of 131 inmates per month in various work programs. If enacted, the increase in the maximum number of staff members will allow for the hiring of additional qualified staff and expand CI

vocational rehabilitative programs and work opportunities for the incarcerated population.

Currently, CI's vocational and rehabilitative work programs in the facilities are limited to sewing, canteen, printing, furniture manufacturing and refurbishing, and warehousing. In addition, CI provides inmates classified at community status with work opportunities outside of the facilities through interagency and private sector agreements, which includes light construction, assembly and installation, landscaping, and providing labor forces for demolition, moving, and picking and packing of fruit.

Passage of HB 1402, HD2 will serve to strengthen the Department's comprehensive reintegration program, enable CI to expand and build industries at Waiawa Correctional Facility, Women's Community Correctional Center, Hawaii Community Correctional Center, and Kulani Correctional Facility, and assist in the development of private sector and union partnerships that will benefit the state and better prepare offenders for re-entry into the community.

CI is a self-supporting Division which utilizes revolving funds and, therefore, **general funds are not anticipated to support any additional positions and/or expansion of rehabilitative and work programs under the Division.** Further, any additional positions established as a result of passage of this measure will be processed through the Department of Human Resources Development pursuant to established guidelines and only as revenue streams becomes available.

Through providing education, treatment and vocational rehabilitative services, we will be better able to assist inmates with successful re-integration and transition back to the community. By doing so, we will simultaneously help reduce recidivism.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony on this important rehabilitative and re-entry measure.



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Hawaii Government Employees Association  
AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO

The Twenty-Fourth Legislature, State of Hawaii  
Hawaii State Senate  
Committee on Public Safety  
Committee on Judiciary and Labor

Testimony by  
Hawaii Government Employees Association  
March 18, 2008

H.B. 1402, H.D. 2 – RELATING  
TO CORRECTIONAL  
INDUSTRIES

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO opposes the purpose and intent of H.B. 1402, H.D. 2. This measure, as drafted, would permit the Correctional Industries program within the Department of Public Safety by removing the limit on the number of temporary exempt positions. As a matter of policy, we are consistently opposing bills that call for employees to be exempt from Chapter 76, HRS (Civil Service).

Excluding employees from Chapter 76, HRS creates a second class of employees who frequently encounter problems at work because of poor management practices. Employees who are exempt from civil service may be dismissed or disciplined for no reason and lack any recourse. There are currently more than 2,000 positions in state government that are exempt due to statutory provisions similar to S.B. 1448, S.D. 1. This number is excessive and the vast majority of these positions deserve civil service status. The Legislature should not approve the creation of additional exempt positions in any department.

Thank you for the opportunity to present testimony in opposition to H.B. 1402, H.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted,

Nora A. Nomura  
Deputy Executive Director