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HB 2007 HD 1

Good Afternoon,

My name is Tara Berry. I am a former inmate of your state institution, WCCC. I am here in support of the audit of the prisons. As a former prisoner, I could tell you personal stories of how the corrections officers handle the prisoners. Personally, I know of the following discrepancies' when handling female inmates:

Harsh words

Excessive talking down to

Intimate relationships with the prisoners

Violence from the correctional officers

Favoritism played by the officers to the prisoners

Buying off a guard to get illegal substances into the facility

I have heard of more stories especially from the prisoners that are in the mainland. The women I come into contact confide in me the horrors they face while being so far away from home. I hope that this body understands the severity that in order for our inmates to be rehabilitated our prisons and correctional officers need proper training and it is our responsibility to audit these prisons to hold them accountable for their actions and our women's progress toward rehabilitation.

Thank you,

Tara Berry 294-4172