



**LATE TESTIMONY**

**SB 2344 RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY**

House Committee on Human Services & Housing

Date: January 29, 2008  
2:45pm

Time:  
Room: 225

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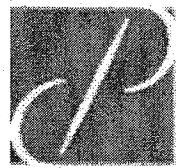
The Office of Hawaiian Affairs strongly supports SB 2344 to establish performance indicators to ensure compliance with the Community Safety Act of 2007. Native Hawaiians account for 39% of the total prison population, yet, they only make up 9.4% of the Hawaii state population.

There are less than a handful of programs that are impressive with the reduction of recidivism, and successful community re-integration such as the Alu Like Adult Correctional Program, TJ Mahoney, and the Maui BEST Program. Information linked to program outcomes is vital in replicating additional services in programs that work, and improve existing programs that are not working.

With Native Hawaiian offenders, data for re-entry programs show that the offenders respond well with cultural programs that include water and land based activities incorporated with cultural values, beliefs and practices. Other successful program elements include employment, and educational opportunities.

The SB 2344 will greatly help in providing information on reducing recidivism rates and address the overcrowding prison issues.

Mahalo nui loa for the opportunity to present testimony.



# the Drug Policy Forum

of hawaii

LATE TESTIMONY

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January 29, 2008

To: Senator Will Espero, Chair  
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Vice Chair  
And Members of the Committee on Public Safety

From: Jeanne Y. Ohta  
Executive Director

Re: SB2344 Relating to Public Safety  
Hearing: Tuesday, January 29, 2008, 2:45 p.m., Room 225

Position: Support

The Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii supports this measure. Performance indicators will provide a basis to evaluate the progress of the Department of Public Safety in preparing individuals to reenter the community. It is also important to know whether the department is in compliance with the Community Safety Act of 2007.

As stated in the bill, the annual report of the department does not provide information on program outcomes. Performance indicators will assist in evaluating the efficacy of programs and will also assist in keeping the relevant agencies accountable for their performance.

Please vote to approve this measure.

# LATE TESTIMONY

Jenna Davis  
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Honolulu, Hawaii, 96822  
January 29, 2008

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

Sen. Will Espero, Chair

Sen. Clarence Nishihara, vice chair

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

2:45 PM

Room 225

SUPPORT – Bill SB 2344

I strongly support this idea, so we can monitor the progress of individuals, while holding those responsible for implementation of programs accountable. Without this mandate, I have no way to know if the system is working.