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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE STATE AUDITOR TO EXAMINE THE RATIONALE AND  
MANAGEMENT OF THE HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY.

1           WHEREAS, parole provides an opportunity for a convicted  
2 felon to serve a portion of his or her sentence in the community  
3 as long as the offender abides by certain conditions; and  
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5           WHEREAS, the concept of parole has been a controversial one  
6 ever since it was effectuated in Hawaii; and  
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8           WHEREAS, the Hawaii Paroling Authority (HPA) is an agency  
9 administratively attached to the Department of Public Safety and  
10 is run by a three-person board, with a full-time chairperson and  
11 two part-time members; and  
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13           WHEREAS, HPA is responsible for setting the minimum terms  
14 that convicted offenders must serve before being considered for  
15 release on parole if those minimum terms have not been set by  
16 the courts; and  
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18           WHEREAS, the decisions made by HPA in particular cases have  
19 occasionally raised questions about the rationale for the  
20 agency's existence or its effectiveness; and  
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22           WHEREAS, the decisions made by HPA in releasing offenders  
23 into the community significantly affect the safety and welfare  
24 of the public; now, therefore,  
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26           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
27 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
28 of 2009, the Senate concurring, that the Auditor is requested to  
29 examine the rationale for the creation of HPA and audit the  
30 management and programs of the agency; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the examination and audit  
2 include, at a minimum:

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- 4 (1) The problems that the establishment of HPA were
- 5 intended to solve;
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- 7 (2) The objectives that the legislation establishing HPA
- 8 sought to achieve;
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- 10 (3) An estimate of how successfully those objectives have
- 11 been met;
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- 13 (4) A comparison with other jurisdictions' approach to the
- 14 same problems;
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- 16 (5) The efficacy of the board of HPA; and
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- 18 (6) The effectiveness and accountability with which staff
- 19 of HPA are managed;
- 20

21 and

22  
23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor submit a report of  
24 findings and recommendations at least 20 days before the  
25 convening of the Regular Session of 2010; and

26  
27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Public  
29 Safety, the chair of HPA, and the Auditor.

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OFFERED BY: *Steph. Lawton*  
*Jyla B. Berg*

MAR 18 2009

