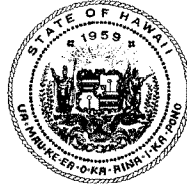


LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

CLAYTON A. FRANK
DIRECTOR

DAVID F. FESTERLING
Deputy Director
Administration

TOMMY JOHNSON
Deputy Director
Corrections

JAMES L. PROPOTNICK
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 1664
RELATING TO CORRECTIONS**

by

Clayton A. Frank, Director
Department of Public Safety

House Committee on Hawaiian Affairs
Representative Mele Carroll, Chair
Representative Maile S.L. Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 11, 2009; 9:00AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 329

Representative Carroll, Representative Shimabukuro, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) appreciates the legislature's interest in a partnership between the PSD and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to establish a temporary pilot program for the restoration and rebuilding of sites of cultural significance to Hawaiian history by non-violent inmates of Hawaiian ancestry.

At present PSD and OHA already work cooperatively and therefore, PSD does not see the need to codify our working relationship with OHA in statute. If it is the legislature's intent to formalize the already existing working relationship between PSD and OHA, it would be more appropriate to do so via a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) or a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two agencies.

Further, the Department acknowledges that this measure has merit; however, given the current fiscal difficulties, it would not be prudent to pursue enactment at this time.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

76 North King Street, Honolulu, HI 96817

Phone/E-Mail: (808) 533-3454/kat.caphi@gmail.com



COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. Mele Carroll, Chair

Rep. Maile Shimabukuro, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

9:00 AM

Room 329

STRONG SUPPORT

HB 1664

HAWTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

Aloha Chair Hanohano, Vice Chair Aquino and Members of the Committee!

My name is Kat Brady and I am the Coordinator of Community Alliance on Prisons, a community initiative working to improve conditions of confinement for our incarcerated individuals, enhance our quality of justice, and promote public safety. We come today to speak for the 6,000+ individuals whose voices have been silenced by incarceration, always mindful that more than 2,000 of those individuals are serving their sentences abroad, thousands of miles from their homes and loved ones.

HB 1664 establishes a program with the Department of Public Safety that assigns select, non-violent inmates on a work detail that restores historical sites selected by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Community Alliance on Prisons is in strong support of this measure. Establishing contacts in the community is of vital importance for incarcerated individuals who will be returning to the community at some point.

We assert that this workline must first be properly trained by experts in historic restoration as to the importance of the site and proper methods of restoration. It is important that incarcerated individuals receive certificates upon completion of the course and acknowledgement of the work done to preserve the site so they can use this experience on future work resumes.

Worklines like this can result in formerly incarcerated individuals finding meaningful work in this field. The over-representation of Hawaiians in our correctional system makes this proposal even more important.

This is an investment in social capital from which the entire community will benefit.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.