

LATE TESTIMONY

TO: COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY  
Senator Espero, Chair  
Senator Bunda, Vice Chair  
Thursday, March 19, 2009  
1:30 PM  
Room 229, Hawaii State Capitol


RE: HB 519 HD1 – Testimony in Support

FROM: Atty Daphne Barbee-Wooten, 1188 Bishop Street, Suite 1909, Honolulu, Hawaii  
96813, (808) 533-0275

Dear Chair Espero and Vice Chair Bunda, and Members of the Committee on Public Safety:

My name is attorney Daphne Barbee-Wooten. I am an attorney in private practicing law in Hawaii. I am in support bill in returning all out of state inmates from private prison back to Hawaii by December 2015. Banishment does not assist inmates in reentering society and is added punishment for the families who have to travel many miles and bear a lot of money for costly expenses just to see their loved ones. The number of individuals banished to private prisons has increased 600% since 1995. The inmates are placed in private prisons where they are not allowed grievances and access to the Hawaii Ombudsman and the legal system. Returning the inmates to Hawaii makes the Department of Public Safety more accountable to ensure individuals incarcerated receive State Constitutional rights and access to the courts.

Dated: Honolulu, Hawaii

3-18-09  
  
Daphne Barbee-Wooten  
Attorney at Law