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GOVERNOR



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No. _

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 154

By

Clayton A. Frank, Director
Department of Public Safety

House Committee Public Safety
Representative Faye P. Hanohano, Chair
Representative Henry J. C. Aquino, Vice Chair

Thursday, April 2, 2009; 9:30AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

Representative Hanohano, Representative Aquino, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) **opposes** House Concurrent Resolution (HCR) 154, which requests the PSD review its efforts of providing reentry services to all inmates released from custody.

On January 27, 2009, PSD provided an in-depth informational briefing to this Committee and the Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs on the department's progress with respect to compliance of the provisions of the Community Safety Act of 2007, many of which were not funded. At that time, PSD also provided an in-depth briefing regarding the department's Comprehensive Offender Reentry System Plan. Further, the PSD provides no less than twenty-six annual reports to the legislature on a variety of issues, including our reentry efforts. Therefore, PSD sees no need for this measure as the department already review its efforts, and make appropriate and prudent adjustments with our limited resources to ensure we are meeting the reentry needs of offenders.

Finally, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

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COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

Rep. Faye Hanohano, Chair

Rep. Henry Aquino, Vice Chair

Thursday, April 2, 2009

9:30 AM

Room 309

STRONG SUPPORT

HCR 154/HR124 - Requesting PSD to Review its Reentry Services

PBSTestimony@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.

HCR 154/HR 124 requests PSD to review its efforts of providing reentry services to all inmates released from custody.

Community Alliance on Prisons stands in strong support of these measures, which are similar to SB 539. These Resolutions force PSD to be accountable and transparent in their efforts to provide reentry services to individuals exiting incarceration.

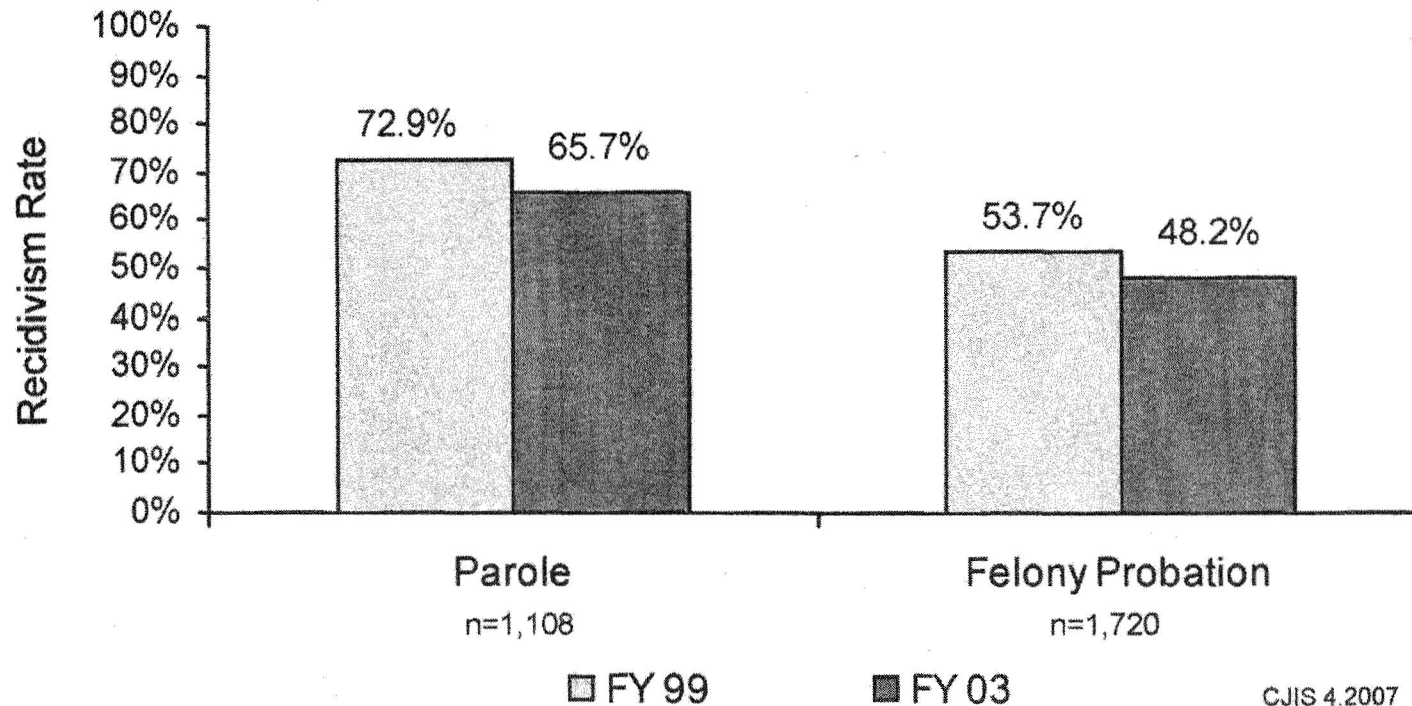
Sadly, the Legislature must hold PSD's feet to the fire in order to create a successful reentry system, which is obvious this administration opposes. At a hearing to create additional transition beds at OCCC PSD actually told the committee that the reason they read about arrestees who have multiple felonies on their record is because of bills like SB 540! This statement defies all the research stating that reentry programs like the RDAP Reintegration Program - a successful federal model - reduce recidivism. It also omits the fact that if a person has been in and out of prison for various felonies, something is not working and PSD must share the responsibility for not providing the appropriate services to reduce recidivism.

A patchwork reentry system is inadequate and should be unacceptable. We must demand more of PSD to reduce recidivism. The Interagency Council on Intermediate Sanctions' (ICIS) goal is to reduce recidivism by 30%. Attached is data from ICIS as of April 2007 showing that recidivism for parolees, based on a 3-year follow up and including any arrest including parole revocation, went from 72.9% in 1999 to 65.7% in 2003.

Community Alliance on Prisons urges the committee to pass HCR 154/HR 124. Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Baseline Recidivism Update

3 Year Follow-Up – Any Arrest (Including Revocation)



COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

Rep. Faye Hanohano, Chair
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SUPPORT>>>

**REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO REVIEW ITS EFFORTS
OF PROVIDING REENTRY SERVICES TO ALL INMATES RELEASED FROM
CUSTODY**

RESOLUTION #HCR154/HR 124

PBSTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov

HCR 154/HR 124 - http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/session2009/bills/HCR154_.pdf

do not follow the ideas of others, but learn to listen to the voice within your heart. your body & mind becomes clear & calm & realizes the oneness of All things.

Lynnette Mau

www.LynnetteMau.com

www.WordsOfPeace.org