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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO COGNITIVE RESTRUCTURING.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that there is a  
2   disproportionately high rate of arrest and incarceration among  
3   young men and women of Hawaiian ancestry. Many of these  
4   individuals are under forty years of age and should be provided  
5   rehabilitation opportunities.

6           A promising approach to reducing recidivism and helping  
7   inmates make the successful transition from prison to the  
8   community is cognitive restructuring and transition programs  
9   provided at correctional facilities. Such programs involve  
10   self-examination of an inmate's belief system, criminal  
11   addictive cycle, attitudes and thinking patterns, and  
12   development of relapse prevention plans for future situations.  
13   The program assists offenders in restructuring their thought  
14   processes and teaches cognitive skills that help with basic  
15   decision-making and problem-solving. The goal of cognitive  
16   restructuring is to guide offenders to consciously examine their  
17   own thoughts by engaging in processes that develop self-control,  
18   thus making them responsible for, and in charge of, their



1 actions no matter how stressful the situation. When combined  
2 with strategies that help Hawaiian inmates get back in touch  
3 with the values of their culture, cognitive rehabilitation can  
4 help break the vicious cycle of crime and punishment, as  
5 knowledge of Hawaiian traditions and cultural values have helped  
6 many cope with social challenges.

7       The purpose of this Act is to ensure that  
8 reentry/reintegration programs within Hawaii's correctional  
9 facilities offer cognitive behavioral therapy with native  
10 Hawaiian holistic interventions to address domestic violence,  
11 addictions, self mastery through identity, and community  
12 connections to promote the successful transition from  
13 incarceration to the community.

14       SECTION 2. (a) The department of public safety shall  
15 ensure that reentry/reintegration programs within Hawaii's  
16 correctional facilities offer cognitive behavioral therapy with  
17 native Hawaiian holistic interventions to address domestic  
18 violence, addictions, self mastery through identity, and  
19 community connections to promote the successful transition from  
20 incarceration to the community.



1 (b) The department of public safety shall implement this  
2 Act with all new contracts for reentry/reintegration programs  
3 upon approval of this Act.

4 (c) The department of public safety shall submit an annual  
5 report to the legislature on these programs in Hawaii's  
6 correctional facilities no later than twenty days prior to the  
7 convening of each regular session, beginning with the regular  
8 session of 2011.

9 The annual report shall include but not be limited to:

- 10 (1) Descriptions of the various programs;  
11 (2) Criteria for access/entry to the programs;  
12 (3) The number of native Hawaiians who participated in the  
13 program;  
14 (4) The number of non-Hawaiians who participated in the  
15 program;  
16 (5) The number of native Hawaiians who completed the  
17 program;  
18 (6) The number of non-Hawaiians who completed the program;  
19 (7) The number of participants paroled/"maxed out";  
20 (8) Recidivism after three months; six months; nine  
21 months; one year; and  
22 (9) Successes and challenges in administering the program.



1           SECTION 3. If any provision of this Act, or the  
2 application thereof to any person or circumstance is held  
3 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or  
4 applications of the Act, which can be given effect without the  
5 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions  
6 of this Act are severable.

7           SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



**Report Title:**

Corrections; Rehabilitation; Native Hawaiians

**Description:**

Requires the Department of Public Safety to ensure that reentry/reintegration programs in Hawaii's correctional facilities combine cognitive behavioral theory with native Hawaiian holistic interventions that address domestic violence, addictions, self mastery through identity, and community connections for successful transitions back into the community.  
(HB1818 HD1)

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