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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO DEVELOP AND  
IMPLEMENT A MEDICAL RELEASE PROGRAM AND PROVIDE INFORMATION  
RELATED TO DEATHS AT HAWAII, CONTRACT, AND INTERSTATE  
COMPACT INMATE FACILITIES.

1           WHEREAS, the National Conference of State Legislatures  
2 reports that a growing number of states are releasing older,  
3 chronically ill offenders into the community; and  
4

5           WHEREAS, a National Conference of State Legislatures report  
6 states that studies show that geriatric inmates, who develop an  
7 average of three chronic illnesses while imprisoned, cost the  
8 states an average \$70,000 per year, which is two to three times  
9 the cost of imprisoning a younger inmate; and  
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11           WHEREAS, the Department of Public Safety's budget increased  
12 75.5 per cent from fiscal year 2000 to 2009; and  
13

14           WHEREAS, the Department of Public Safety's budget for  
15 contract prison beds, including those at the Federal Detention  
16 Center and facilities of the Corrections Corporation of America  
17 or other private prison vendors increased one hundred ninety-two  
18 per cent from fiscal year 2000 to 2009; and  
19

20           WHEREAS, research documents that older inmates are unlikely  
21 to reoffend and pose little to no risk to the community; and  
22

23           WHEREAS, while at least thirty-seven states have  
24 implemented early release programs for geriatric, ill inmates,  
25 none of them allow inmates who have been convicted of violent or  
26 sexual offenses to participate; and  
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28           WHEREAS, because state definitions of the age at which  
29 prisoners are categorized as "geriatric" varies from fifty in  
30 Ohio to sixty-five in New York, the exact number of older  
31 prisoners is not known; now, therefore,  
32



# H.R. NO. 75

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
2 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session  
3 of 2010, that the Department of Public Safety is requested to  
4 develop and implement a medical release program; and

5  
6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public Safety  
7 is requested to post information relating to the medical release  
8 program on the Department's website, including the following:

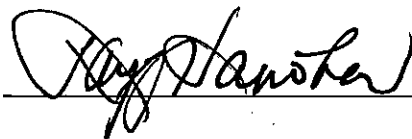
- 9  
10 (1) The criteria for medical release;  
11  
12 (2) Eligibility requirements for medical release;  
13  
14 (3) Procedure for applying for a medical release; and  
15  
16 (4) Average processing time for eligible applications; and  
17

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public Safety  
19 is requested to submit annual reports to the Legislature no  
20 later than January 31 of each year regarding its medical release  
21 program and post the reports on the Department's website, that  
22 include information on inmate deaths as allowed by law,  
23 including:

- 24  
25 (1) The age and gender of deceased individuals;  
26  
27 (2) The facilities where the individuals were held; and  
28  
29 (3) Any medical information allowed to be released by law;  
30 and  
31

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
33 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Director of  
34 Public Safety, and the Chairperson and Administrator of the  
35 Hawaii Paroling Authority.  
36  
37  
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OFFERED BY: \_\_\_\_\_



MAR 2 2010

