

 **the Drug Policy Forum**
of hawai'i

LATE TESTIMONY

March 18, 2010

To: Representative Faye Hanohano, Chair
Representative Henry Aquino, Vice Chair and
Members of the Committee on Public Safety

From: Jeanne Y. Ohta, Executive Director

RE: HCR 189 (Corrections Population Management Commission)
Hearing: Thursday, March 18, 2010, 9:00 a.m., Room 309

Position: Support

The Drug Policy Forum of Hawai'i writes in support of HCR 189 which requests that the Department of Public Safety resume the meetings of the Corrections Population Management Commission; and that the meetings are convened at least quarterly.

This commission was established to determine how increases in the inmate population would be handled. The continued increase in the number of Hawai'i inmates housed in mainland prisons is one reason that this commission should be convened.

The current budget crisis requires that our inmate population is managed by setting goals for cost and census. The recent closing of Kulani prison is an example of a decision that should have been discussed by this commission.

We urge the passage of this resolution. Thank you for allowing us to testify in support of this measure.

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