

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

**LATE TESTIMONY**

March 11, 2010

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

From: Jeanne Ohta, Executive Director

Re: SB 2025 SD2 Relating to Parole  
Hearing: Thursday, March 11, 2010, 9:00 a.m., Room 309

Position: Opposed

The Drug Policy Forum of Hawai'i writes in opposition to SB 2025 SD2, Relating to Parole. This measure would amend the law to make annual parole review hearings discretionary rather than mandatory for certain parolees and for those who were denied parole at the initial parole hearing.

As the state currently faces a fiscal crisis and as prison costs increase, it should be the role of the paroling authority to ensure that those inmates appropriate for release are released and not incarcerated for longer than is necessary; neither should parolees be supervised for longer than necessary. Limiting parole hearings is a disincentive to the incarcerated to work hard in their rehabilitation process.

Managing our prison budget means that the prison population must also be managed wisely. Parole hearings are a means to determine who is ready for release; however, the vague language of this bill allows for the granting of hearings to be arbitrary which may unnecessarily extend incarceration and parole supervision at huge expense to taxpayers.

We urge the committee to hold this bill. Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

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# LATE TESTIMONY

**aquino1-Ruffalyne**

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**From:** Mary Elizabeth [nugayou@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 10, 2010 5:55 PM  
**To:** PBStestimony  
**Subject:** SB 2025, SD2  
**Attachments:** --static--liam\_crowdsurfer\_bottom.gif

## **COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY**

Rep. Faye Hanohano, Chair

Rep. Henry Aquino, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 11, 2010

Room 309

9:00 a.m.

SUPPORT

SB 2025, SD2, Relating to Parole, Annual Review, Discretionary

Dear Chair Hanohano, Vice Chair Aquino, and Committee Members

I support this amended bill.

Mahalo you for your hard work and consideration,

E. Funakoshi

455-9136