

# **SB 2533**

**Measure Title:**

Relating To An Audit Of Contracts Of The Department Of Public Safety With The Corrections Corporation Of America And The Federal Detention Center.

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**  
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

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No. 2

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2533  
RELATING TO AN AUDIT OF CONTRACTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC SAFETY WITH THE CORRECTIONS CORPORATION OF AMERICA  
AND THE FEDERAL DETENTION CENTER

by

Clayton A. Frank, Director  
Department of Public Safety

Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs  
Senator Will Espero, Chair  
Senator Robert Bunda, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 2, 2010; 1:25PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Senator Espero, Senator Bunda, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) **strongly opposes** Senate Bill 2533. This measure contains many inaccurate statements and false assumptions that have no basis in fact. As written, SB 2533 requires an audit of the Department's contracts with the Corrections Corporation of America (CCA) and the Federal Detention Center (FDC) Honolulu, which would focus on a comparison, in terms of quality of programming, costs, and economic benefit to the State, of housing Hawaii inmates in mainland facilities and in the FDC, with housing inmates in Hawaii.

PSD does not have a contract with the FDC, but rather an Inter-governmental Agreement (IGA –661-02) with the United States Department of Justice Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP). Attached to PSD's testimony, please find a copy of the most recent IGA between PSD and the BOP dated, August 26, 2009.

Further, PSD's contract with CCA, which includes the scope of services is and has been available for anyone to review by simply accessing the Department's website. As the legislature is aware, the cost to house inmates on the mainland with CCA is almost half the cost to do so in Hawaii, not to mention the fact that Hawaii lacks the facility bed and program space to safely and securely house the 1,900 inmates currently on the mainland.

The cost alone to build at least two large correctional facilities in Hawaii for 1,900 offenders would be well over 500 million dollars. This does not include the cost to staff and operate the new facilities, which conservatively could cost an additional 90 million dollars annually.

Given the severe economic challenges faced by the State presently and for the foreseeable future, it would not be prudent to expend very limited financial resources that would be required to fulfill the requirements of this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

Attachments

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INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT  
IGA 661-02, Modification 4

between the

**Hawaii Department of Public Safety**  
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 400  
Honolulu, Hawaii

and

United States Department of Justice  
**Federal Bureau of Prisons**  
Federal Detention Center  
Honolulu, Hawaii

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Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA or Agreement) 661-02 is hereby modified as follows in accordance with Section 9 of the original agreement:

1. Authority: Pursuant to the provisions of 18 U.S.C. 5003, the BOP agrees to house up to **five hundred fifty** (550) male and/or female convicted prisoners for the Honolulu Department of Public Safety in return for reimbursement in full for costs and expenses as provided in this agreement.


This modification in effect replaces modification number three (3).

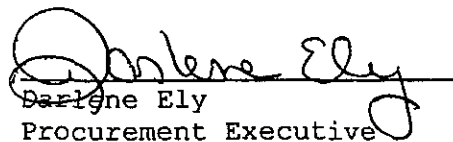
All other terms and conditions of this agreement (IGA 661-02) remain unchanged.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned duly authorized officers have subscribed their names on behalf of the State of Hawaii, Division of Public Safety and the Federal Bureau of Prisons:

State of Hawaii  
Division of Public Safety

Federal Bureau of Prisons

  
Clayton A. Frank  
Director

  
Darlene Ely  
Procurement Executive

4/25/09  
Date

8/26/09  
Date

# COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

76 North King Street, Honolulu, HI 96817

Phone/E-Mail: (808) 533-3454/[kat.caphi@gmail.com](mailto:kat.caphi@gmail.com)



## COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Sen. Will Espero, Chair

Sen. Robert Bunda, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 2, 2010

1:25 PM

Room 229

**STRONG SUPPORT - SB 2533 - Financial and Management Audit of Public Safety**

**[PSMTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:PSMTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)**

Aloha Chair Espero, Vice Chair Bunda 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 by supporting smart justice policies. We come today to speak for the 6,000+ individuals whose voices have been silenced by incarceration, always mindful that almost 2,000 of those individuals are serving their sentences abroad, thousands of miles from their homes and loved ones.

SB 2533 directs the auditor to conduct a financial and management audit of the Department of Public Safety's contract with the Corrections Corporation of America and the Federal Detention Center.

Mahalo for hearing this important bill. Community Alliance on Prisons stands in full support of this measure. In these dire economic times, we must use our precious resources wisely.

### **WHY WE NEED AN AUDIT:**

Community Alliance on Prisons has been raising questions about decisionmaking, resource allocation and expenditure of public funds at the Department of Public Safety for more than a decade. We have supported measures calling for transparency and accountability at PSD.

### **WE NEED ACCOUNTABILITY & TRANSPARENCY:**

- *PSD has opposed all bills calling for accountability and transparency*  
Every bill calling for transparency and accountability over the last several years has been vehemently opposed by the department.

- *Hawai`i data is often not included in BJS Studies*  
CAP routinely reviews studies from the Bureau of Justice Statistics that report what each state is doing in a certain sector of criminal justice, Hawai`i statistics are often missing.
- *Public Safety is 5% of the state budget (The Judiciary is 2.6%)*  
Public Safety is approximately 5% of the budget, yet the majority of Hawai`i's incarcerated population is composed of non-violent who are projected to be classified as minimum and community custody individuals.
- *There are more effective ways of addressing crime*  
Incarceration is the most expensive sanction and there are better, more efficient and cost-effective ways of addressing the root cause of much of Hawai`i's crime.
- *Public Safety's skyrocketing budget - + 75.5% in the last decade!*  
The fact that PSD's budget has increased 75.5% in the last decade should prompt an investigation.

#### THE HASTY CLOSURE OF KULANI CORRECTIONAL FACILITY RAISES QUESTIONS:

- *Decisions are being made without consulting with legislatively appointed bodies*  
Why wasn't the closure of Kulani Correctional Facility brought before or discussed with the Corrections Population Management Commission, a legislatively appointed-body?
- *Where is the purported \$2.8 million in savings?*  
The purported savings of \$2.8 million a year that the closure of Kulani would save has never been fully explained. How can that be when more than 90% of the staff has been reassigned to other facilities?
- *Most Effective Sex Offender Treatment Program in the Nation Closed*  
Why was the most effective sex offender treatment program in the nation shut down? PSD testified that no programming for individuals in Kulani's sex offender and substance abuse treatment programs would be interrupted - this is NOT TRUE.
- *Programs Interrupted!*  
Men who were in the sex offender treatment program at Kulani are at the Federal Detention Center (FDC) still awaiting a program - since October! Why?
- *Sex Offenders in Substance Abuse Treatment Program at Kulani*  
Men who have been convicted of sex offenses and who were in Kulani's substance abuse treatment program were also promised that their programming would not be interrupted - NOT TRUE. They're at medium security Halawa because Waiawa doesn't take sex offenders. PSD officials didn't know that Waiawa doesn't take sex offenders?
- *Kulani's Closing - Mis-truths or Deliberate Obfuscation?*  
The closure of Kulani has been cloaked in mis-truths. Why?

## THE 192% INCREASE IN CCA & FDC CONTRACT PRISON BEDS BEGS THE QUESTION:

- ***Why are we sending minimum and community custody individuals to medium security prisons?***

The 2008 Preliminary Classification Study - a PSD study sample that included 2400 individuals' files of the then 6,010 inmate population. The researchers sampled from every category - prisons and jails in Hawai'i, private contract prisons in the U.S. and U.S. Interstate Compact Prisons.

They projected that 35.9% of the women should be classified at the minimum custody level and 22.2% should be classified at the community custody level (a total of 68.1% of the women were projected to be classified at the minimum or community custody level). The study found that 56.3% of the men should be classified at the minimum custody level and 5.7% should be classified at the community custody level (a total of 62% of the men were projected to be classified at the minimum or community custody level). Why are these individuals in a medium security prison?

- ***PSD Is Not Following Best Practices***

Housing minimum security individuals in a medium security prison (Halawa, FDC, and CCA) is against correctional best practices. Research shows that housing an individual at an increased classification (custody level) only serves to increase criminality. Why are we doing this?

- ***CCA and FDC Contracts for Medium Prison Beds + 192% in the Last Decade!***

The budget for contract prison beds (CCA and the Federal Detention Center) has increased by 192%. Do you want our hard-earned tax dollars to go to a corporation who is accountable first and foremost to its shareholders?

- ***Shouldn't we be including the cost of lawsuits for the sexual assaults and other civil right violations at private prisons into the audit considerations?***

When our women were in Brush, CO and two women were sexually assaulted, the state settled the lawsuit, which cost the taxpayers money. These settlements and legal costs must be included in the contract investigation.

- ***There has never been an audit of Private and Federal Contracts***

It is long overdue that the taxpayers find out the benefit the expenditure of millions of their hard-earned dollars has brought the community. Could we have spent the money more wisely and caused less community and family destruction?

The research shouts, YES! Let's get the facts about where our money has been going and how effective it has been.

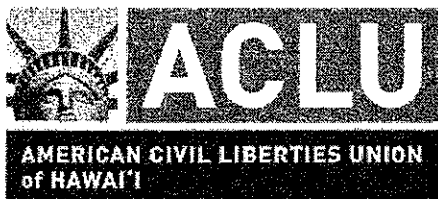
A financial and management audit of PSD is long overdue. We need to look at who is incarcerated and determine who actually needs to be there. We can then repurpose that money into programs that help individuals transition back to the community.

The data provided by this audit give you, as policymakers, the necessary tools as well as a snapshot of our correctional system so that you can best determine where to allocate funding to accomplish the vision most of us have - safe and healthy communities. We are Hawai'i - we care for each other and about each other.

We urge passage of SB 2533 - even in these financially strapped times - because you need to know the most effective ways to spend our hard-earned tax dollars.

Mahalo for this opportunity to share our thoughts with the committee.





Via E-mail: PSMTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov  
Committee: Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs  
Hearing Date/Time: Tuesday, February 2, 2010, 1:25 p.m.  
Place: Room 229  
Re: Testimony of the ACLU of Hawaii in Support of SB 2533, Relating to Public Safety

Dear Chair Espero and Members of the Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii (“ACLU of Hawaii”) writes in strong support of SB 2533, which directs the Auditor to conduct a management and performance audit of the State’s contracts with the Corrections Corporation of America (“CCA”) and the Federal Detention Center (“FDC”).

Simply put, an audit could save the State of Hawaii substantial sums of money. For example, last year, the State of Oklahoma withheld nearly \$600,000 from CCA because CCA was not complying with its contractual obligations.<sup>1</sup> These payments were only withheld after the Oklahoma Legislature requested a performance audit of the prisons.

In 2009, the Legislature adopted House Concurrent Resolution 199, which requested the Auditor to conduct a performance audit of the CCA-Saguaro facility. The Legislature found that “many problems exist at Saguaro Correctional Center, the Corrections Corporation of America multi-level security prison built in Eloy, Arizona, for Hawaii inmates as a program-intensive prison, including lack of programming, poor medical care, and two deaths since August 2008, all of which have increased the State's liability[.]” HCR 199. Despite these findings, the Auditor did not perform this audit; in a letter to the ACLU in August 2009, Auditor Higa stated that “this audit is currently on hold because there is no appropriation for the conduct of it either by my staff or by contractors.”<sup>2</sup>

The lack of an independent audit has had serious consequences. As this Committee is well aware, the Department of Public Safety recently removed all of Hawaii’s female inmates

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<sup>1</sup> Tom Lindley, In Get-Tough Stance, DOC Withholds Prison Payments, *Tulsa World*, Dec. 16, 2008, available at [http://www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?subjectid=11&articleid=20081216\\_16\\_A1\\_OKLAHO157983](http://www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?subjectid=11&articleid=20081216_16_A1_OKLAHO157983).

<sup>2</sup> August 17, 2009 letter from Marion Higa to Daniel Gluck, on file with the ACLU of Hawaii and available upon request.

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii  
P.O. Box 3410  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96801  
T: 808.522-5900  
F: 808.522-5909  
E: [office@acluhawaii.org](mailto:office@acluhawaii.org)  
[www.acluhawaii.org](http://www.acluhawaii.org)

Hon. Sen. Espero, Chair, PSM Committee,  
and Members Thereof  
February 2, 2010  
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from CCA's Otter Creek facility in Wheelwright, Kentucky – but only after an epidemic of sexual assault allegations came to light. As reported in the New York Times:

Hawaii investigators found that at least five corrections officials at the prison, including a chaplain, had been charged with having sex with inmates in the last three years, and four were convicted. Three rape cases involving guards and Hawaii inmates were recently turned over to law enforcement authorities. The Kentucky State Police said another sexual assault case would go to a grand jury soon.<sup>[3]</sup>

Similarly, as of November 2009, the Eloy Police Department was investigating allegations that a CCA employee sexually assaulted an inmate at CCA-Saguaro.<sup>4</sup> For these and many other reasons, private prisons must be carefully scrutinized to determine whether they are a wise use of our limited funds. The ACLU of Hawaii's experience with private prisons has been consistently negative, in that we continue to receive hundreds of requests for assistance from Hawaii inmates in CCA facilities.

We have received numerous reports suggesting that CCA is not meeting its most basic of constitutional obligations in housing inmates. We have also received several reports suggesting that CCA may be keeping inmates longer than necessary; because Hawaii pays CCA per inmate per day of incarceration, the longer inmates are held, the more money CCA receives. For example, we have received several complaints of inmates being granted parole by the Hawaii Paroling Authority, then being held for four months or more by CCA (based on vague and unsubstantiated reasons for ignoring the Paroling Authority's orders). We have also received numerous reports that CCA-Saguaro inmates have been written up for spurious rule infractions shortly before their parole eligibility dates – thus making them ineligible for parole pursuant to Hawaii Paroling Authority's rules – even though these inmates have never before received a write-up. One month of additional incarceration at CCA can easily cost the State and the taxpayers nearly \$2,000 -- money that is sorely needed for other programs like drug rehabilitation, mental health care, and education – and the Legislature need not (and should not) allow these reports to be ignored.

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<sup>3</sup> Ian Urbina, *Hawaii to Remove Inmates Over Abuse Charges*, N.Y. TIMES, August 25, 2009 (available at <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/08/26/us/26kentucky.html>).

<sup>4</sup> November 13, 2009 letter from Tommy Johnson, Deputy Director for Corrections, Department of Public Safety, to Daniel Gluck, on file with the ACLU of Hawaii and available upon request.

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Hon. Sen. Espero, Chair, PSM Committee,  
and Members Thereof  
February 2, 2010  
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In sum, an audit will help to determine whether the millions of dollars paid to private prisons and FDC to house Hawaii's inmates is the most effective use of that money. They will also indicate whether CCA and FDC are complying with their contractual obligations.

The mission of the ACLU of Hawaii is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawaii fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawaii is a non-partisan and private non-profit organization that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds. The ACLU of Hawaii has been serving Hawaii for over 40 years.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,



Daniel M. Gluck  
Senior Staff Attorney  
ACLU of Hawaii

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i  
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the  
**Drug Policy  
Forum**  
of hawaii

February 2, 2010

To: Senator Will Espero, Chair  
Senator Robert Bunda, Vice Chair and  
Members of the Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

From: Jeanne Ohta, Executive Director

RE: SB 2533 Relating to an Audit of Contracts with CCA  
Hearing: February 2, 2010, 1:25 p.m., Room 229

Position: Strong Support

The Drug Policy Forum of Hawai'i writes in support of SB 2533 Relating to an Audit of Contracts of the Department of Public Safety with the Corrections Corporation of America (CCA) and the Federal Detention Center.

Hawai'i now has over 2,000 people in mainland prisons. This audit is long overdue. In 14 years there has never been an independent audit of the contracts with CCA. It is extremely important that this approximately \$50 million contract is audited.

The taxpayers of Hawai'i deserve to know if the medical, mental health, substance abuse treatment, education, vocational training, and food services contracted for are being fulfilled.

Private prisons are for-profit corporations, accountable as most of those businesses are to their shareholders and investors; with profits as their primary motive. They have a self-serving interest in keeping their census up to capacity, and their costs low, much like hotels and other lodging businesses. It is because of this self-interest on the part of private prisons that an audit should be conducted.

An audit seems even more appropriate as the Department of Public Safety has recently reported that the rate per day is once again going up. Before committing the state to increasingly higher rates, there should be an independent examination of existing agreements.

I ask the committee to pass SB 2533 so that we may have an independent report on \$50 million of taxpayer money. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

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TO: COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY  
Sen. Will Espero, Chair  
Sen. Robert Bunda, Vice Chair  
Tuesday, February 2, 2010  
1:25 PM  
Room 229, Hawaii State Capitol

RE: Support of SB 2533 – Auditing Private Prisons

FROM: Atty Daphne Barbee-Wooten  
1188 Bishop Street, Suite 1909, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Espero, Vice Chair Bunda and Members of the Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs Committee:

I am an attorney in private practice in the State of Hawaii and I represent several inmates who have been transferred to private prisons on the mainland. Please pass this audit of the private prisons. It is important to have accountability and an audit to ensure Hawaii's inmates are being treated in a fair and constitutional manner consistent with Hawaii State laws. There have been a number of deaths in Saguaro and constitutional violations of Hawaii inmates. This should not be happening. A recent New York Times article specifically mentioned Saguaro prison in Eloy as unconstitutionally treating inmates to the point of death. Hawaii does not have a death penalty and transferring inmates to a prison where death of inmates occurs violates our constitution as well as the Eighth Amendment. It is important that the private prisons realize that they should not just take money and inmates from our State without accountability, private prisons should abide by our State laws and treat inmates fairly. An audit is important for an impartial review of the operations and expense of private prisons.

Dated: Honolulu, Hawaii

February 1, 2010

/s/ Daphne Barbee-Wooten  
Daphne Barbee-Wooten  
Attorney at Law

**COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

**Senator Will Espero, Chair**

**Senator Robert Bunda, Vice Chair**

**Tuesday, February 2, 2010**

**1:25 p.m.**

**Room 229**

**STRONG SUPPORT, SB 2533, Audit of Corrections; Kulani; CCA, Ad Hoc Committee**

Thank you for this opportunity to submit my testimony.

It is encouraging to finally have this audit. Other states have stopped their contract with CCA so this audit will help you to assess how the contract is being implemented and possibly stopping our contract with CCA also.

The detailed accounting of the closure of Kulani was never discussed with the legislators or the Corrections Population Management Commission. Is the savings of 2.8 million a year in closing Kulani really a saving considering they were doing public works for the state/city and producing income? And, the proposed upgrading of Kulani's facilities with \$1.8 million in loans for the Hawaii National Guard usage doesn't seem to justify closing Kulani.

The inmates in the Federal Detention Center have no program. The inmates at Saguaro in AZ can't return because there is no program. Without a program, they can't get released early so have to "max" out. More cost to the State for keeping them incarcerated longer and more discouraging for the inmates who were looking forward to attending the program.

Please pass this bill and fund it

Mahalo and Aloha,  
E. Funakoshi

**COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

Senator Will Espero, Chair

Senator Robert Bunda, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 2, 2010

1:25 p.m.

Room 229

SUPPORT to SB 2533

Aloha Chair Espero, Vice Chair Bunda and Members of the Committee,

Especially in light of our economic crisis, it is imperative that each department within the government is acting fiscally smart and responsible. Through previous actions such as the closure of Kulani, which had the nation's leading sex offender treatment program and offered a plethora of services and savings to the Big Island communities; and the banishment of Hawaii prisoners to private mainland prisons, which takes money out of our local economy, all the while many underutilized facilities exist in Hawaii; the Department of Public Safety has shown that it is not acting fiscally responsible and requires an audit.

In addition not only are our prisoners being harmed by not receiving the treatment they need and by being ostracized from our home state, the residents of Hawaii are also being harmed by the exorbitant costs of an inefficient system that jeopardizes the successful rehabilitation and reintegration of our fellow citizens, family, and friends into society as safe responsible adult. Therefore, it is in the best interest of every resident of Hawaii for the Legislature to mandate a financial and management audit of the Department of Public Safety.

I fully and strongly support SB 2533.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this vital matter,

Ryan Berney

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS (PSM)

Senator Will Espero, Chair

Senator Robert Bunda, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 2nd, 2010

1:25 p.m.

Room 229

**STRONG SUPPORT - SB 2533**

Aloha Senator Espero, Senator Bunda, and members of the committee,

I enthusiastically support SB 2533. While I generally oppose more spending on prisons, Kulani sex offender treatment program was well respected by my colleagues in the criminal justice and psychology fields. It was the last prison program that should have been closed. I have been told by reliable inside sources that Kulani Prison was not in "horrible shape" -- that it only actually needed \$400K in infrastructure improvements.

Especially now, we need to make sure that we aren't throwing money away. Private prisons, such as those run by Corrections Corporation of America are like hotels, they strive for a high occupancy rate. The difference is that the taxpayers are footing the bill, and like the "Hotel California: You can check out, but you can't leave."

In addition to a financial and management audit of Department of Public Safety's contract with CCA, I also respectfully suggest that we scrutinize Hawaii's entire criminal justice system, and invite Justice Reinvestment ( [HYPERLINK "http://www.justicereinvestment.org"](http://www.justicereinvestment.org) [www.justicereinvestment.org](http://www.justicereinvestment.org)) to do a rigorous data driven analysis. Many states, including: Nevada, Arizona, Kansas, Wisconsin, Michigan, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Texas have already successfully reduced criminal justice spending and increased public safety through JR's assistance.

Please pass SB 2533 and also investigate how Justice Reinvestment can help Hawaii save money and increase public safety **before** investing more tax dollars in prisons.

Mahalo for hearing my concerns,

Netra Halperin, MA

Kihei, Maui



**COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS**

Senator Will Espero, Chair

Senator Robert Bunda, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 2, 2010

1:25 p.m.; Room 229

**STRONG SUPPORT for SB 2533 - Audit of Corrections; Kulani; CCA; Ad Hoc Committee**

Dear Chair Espero, Vice Chair Bunda, and Committee members,

I am a concerned citizen writing in strong support of SB 2533, which directs the auditor to conduct a financial and management audit of the Department of Public Safety's contract with the Corrections Corporation of America.

At a time when the state must trim its budget and operate state programs in a cost effective and efficient manner, it is imperative that a serious examination be conducted of the Department of Public Safety, whose budget has increased over 75% in the last decade. Two of the seemingly contradictory decisions that the PSD has presided over are the contracting with CCA, a private prison to house Hawaii prisoners on the mainland, the cost of which has increased by over 190%, on one hand, and the closure of the Kulani Correctional Facility, which housed one of the most successful sex offender and community reentry programs in the country. Considering all the downsides of shipping Hawaii inmates to the mainland, which include not just huge prison-bed cost increases, but also introduction of mainland gang influences into Hawaii as well as increased alienation and estrangement of inmates from their families and communities, it seems irrational and short-sighted to close a successful and nationally acclaimed facility such as the Kulani Correctional Facility.

Numerous questions surround the closure of the Kulani facility, not the least of which is its abrupt closure. The decision to close the Kulani Correctional Facility seems to have not been well thought out and was never discussed with the Corrections Population Management Commission. The problem is not only the lack of transparency in the PSD decision-making process, but also the fact that inmate substance abuse and sex offender programs have been disrupted, despite assertions to the contrary. These essential programs are directly linked to public safety, and there is no excuse for their disruption. Another issue is that now minimum security individuals are being housed in medium security prisons here and on the mainland.

The legislature is responsible for overseeing the PSD and making sure that these and other troubling questions are answered satisfactorily. I believe that the public's safety would be better served if Hawaii taxpayers' money is spent on effective reentry programs, such as those that were offered by the Kulani facility, that contribute to successful reintegration of inmates into their communities.

Please pass SB 2533.

Mahalo,

Diana Bethel

Honolulu, Hawaii

**Sent:** Monday, February 01, 2010 11:53 PM

**To:** PSM Testimony

**Cc:** lm

**Subject:** support SB 2533

MY NAME IS LYNNETTE MAU & I AM IN TOTAL SUPPORT FOR SB2533.  
TRANSPARENCY IS PART OF HUMAN RIGHTS & CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS OF  
EVERY PERSON INCARCERATED OR NOT TO HAVE THE FREEDOM TO SPEAK  
THEIR STORIES WITHOUT FEAR OF PUBLIC OR POLITICAL INTIMIDATION.

Aloha & Gratitude,

Lynnette MAU

808.285,2500

[lynnettemau@gmail.com](mailto:lynnettemau@gmail.com)

[wopg.org](http://wopg.org)

.."Find your peace, find your contentment, find your joy. You're fortunate. You are alive." this is your blessing.. this breath.' Prem Rawat