
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING A PUBLIC-PRIVATE CORRECTIONAL PARTNERSHIP FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF PRISONS IN HAWAII.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii's prison system was under federal court
2 supervision from 1985 to 1999 due to overcrowding and inadequate
3 safety and programs; and
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5 WHEREAS, the prison capacity within the State is
6 insufficient to house all offenders committed to the Department
7 of Public Safety; and
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9 WHEREAS, existing state prisons may have reached the limit
10 of their useful life cycles, resulting in ever-increasing costs;
11 and
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13 WHEREAS, it has been demonstrated that private companies
14 can provide the necessary financial capital and expertise to
15 both construct and operate prison facilities; and
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17 WHEREAS, a public-private partnership would allow state
18 bonding capacity to be retained for other capital projects, such
19 as schools and roads; and
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21 WHEREAS, new prisons would provide hundreds of jobs within
22 the State; and
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24 WHEREAS, new prisons would allow the State's inmate
25 population to be housed closer to their families and
26 communities; now, therefore,
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28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
29 Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
30 of 2011, that the Department of Public Safety and Department of



1 Accounting and General Services are requested to study the
 2 feasibility of establishing a public-private correctional
 3 partnership for the construction and operation of prisons in
 4 Hawaii, to return all inmates who are incarcerated on the
 5 mainland, as well as to close inefficient and aging prison
 6 facilities within the State; and

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 8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public Safety
 9 and Department of Accounting and General Services are requested
 10 to identify specific locations that would be selected as sites
 11 for new prisons; and

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 13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that prior to any site being
 14 designated as a potential location for a new prison, the
 15 Department of Public Safety and Department of Accounting and
 16 General Services are requested to hold at least one public
 17 hearing on the topic of siting a prison in the affected
 18 community; and

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 20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public Safety
 21 and Department of Accounting and General Services are requested
 22 to jointly produce a detailed report on estimated total
 23 construction costs, annual debt service costs, and annual
 24 operating costs for a new publicly financed and operated prison,
 25 to be used as a benchmark for comparison to a public-private
 26 project; and

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 28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public Safety
 29 and Department of Accounting and General Services are requested
 30 to jointly submit a report of their findings and
 31 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
 32 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
 33 the Regular Session of 2012; and

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 35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 36 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Director of
 37 Public Safety, and the Comptroller.

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 40 OFFERED BY: 

