

MAR 16 2011

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## SENATE RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE CONVENING OF A TASK FORCE TO CONSIDER THE  
FEASIBILITY OF OPENING A WELLNESS CENTER THAT FOCUSES ON  
COMMUNITY REENTRY PROGRAMS NEAR HILO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.

1 WHEREAS, there is currently a shortage of correctional  
2 facilities in Hawaii; and

3  
4 WHEREAS, because of this shortage, Hawaii has exported some  
5 of its inmates to correctional facilities on the Mainland; and

6  
7 WHEREAS, sending inmates to the Mainland removes them from  
8 their families and loved ones and places them in an unfamiliar  
9 environment; and

10  
11 WHEREAS, a Honolulu Star Advertiser article on December 20,  
12 2010, offered comments by Governor Abercrombie, that sending  
13 inmates to the Mainland "costs money. It costs communities. It  
14 destroys families. It is dysfunctional all the way around -  
15 socially, economically, politically and morally"; and

16  
17 WHEREAS, returning to Hawaii those inmates who have been  
18 transferred to facilities on the Mainland offers the greatest  
19 potential for successful rehabilitation, which results in lower  
20 recidivism rates and lower costs; and

21  
22 WHEREAS, there is a need for additional facilities to  
23 prepare for the return of Hawaii inmates from the Mainland and  
24 to ensure that Hawaii inmates are not sent to prisons on the  
25 Mainland in the future; now, therefore,

26  
27 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth  
28 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011,  
29 that the Department of Public Safety is requested to convene a  
30 task force to explore the feasibility of opening a wellness  
31 center that focuses on community reentry programs near Hilo  
32 International Airport; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force address the need  
2 for additional facilities to support the effort to return Hawaii  
3 inmates from the Mainland; and

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5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the task force be composed of  
6 the following individuals:

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8 (1) The Director of Public Safety, or the Director's  
9 designee;
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11 (2) The Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission, or  
12 the Chairperson's designee;
- 13  
14 (3) A representative from the Keaukaha Pana'ewa Farmers  
15 Association;
- 16  
17 (4) A representative from the Keaukaha Community  
18 Association, Inc.; and
- 19  
20 (5) A representative of any other vested stakeholder that  
21 the above-listed entities see fit; and

22  
23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public Safety  
24 is requested to submit a report to the Legislature no later than  
25 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of  
26 2012 on the task force's findings and recommendations, including  
27 the following:

- 28  
29 (1) A description of present community-based reentry  
30 programs in the State;
- 31  
32 (2) Criteria for the programs to ensure that program  
33 objectives are met;
- 34  
35 (3) The number of Hawaii inmates presently in community-  
36 based reentry programs;
- 37  
38 (4) Issues related to the expansion of effective programs  
39 across the State to enable and prepare for the return  
40 of Hawaii inmates from the Mainland; and
- 41  
42 (5) A work plan; and
- 43



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 2 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Public Safety,  
 3 Chairperson of the Hawaiian Homes Commission, Keaukaha Pana'ewa  
 4 Farmers Association, and Keaukaha Community Association, Inc.  
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 6  
 7

OFFERED BY: Gilbert Kalua

Arvid Y. Lee

Melana J. Lee

Fokai P. Lee

Erzanne Chun Aliland

Michelle Fedami

Dana W. Delo

Will Eyo

M. D. M.

