

MAR 16 2011

SENATE RESOLUTION

URGING THE GOVERNOR TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS AND PLANS TO ESTABLISH
PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS TO BUILD PRISONS AND
CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES IN THE STATE.

1 WHEREAS, for over ten years the State has sent inmates to
2 the mainland for incarceration due to overcrowding in our
3 prisons; and
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5 WHEREAS, over \$50,000,000 of Hawaii funds are spent
6 annually to incarcerate these inmates on the mainland; and
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8 WHEREAS, these funds are not circulating in our economy,
9 but in the economies of other states, providing jobs and
10 opportunities for mainland residents and companies; and
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12 WHEREAS, inmates on the mainland are not able to have close
13 support from family and friends for their rehabilitation and re-
14 entry efforts; and
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16 WHEREAS, there have been documented problems at some of the
17 mainland facilities with our female prisoners and with our
18 incarcerated men; and
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20 WHEREAS, the majority of our female prisoners were recently
21 returned from Kentucky due to sexual assaults and other issues;
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24 WHEREAS, new prisons and correctional facilities in the
25 State would create local construction jobs, public safety jobs,
26 and allow inmates to be close to their supportive families; and
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28 WHEREAS, there are private companies that are willing to
29 establish public-private partnerships with the State to build
30 new prison facilities in Hawaii using their financial resources;
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33 WHEREAS, the State would not have to provide funds up front
34 to begin these projects, but would pay monthly payments for a
35 set period when the projects are completed; and



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WHEREAS, ownership of the facilities would revert back to the State after all payments have been completed; and

WHEREAS, some private companies would be willing to operate the facilities using union workers and paying union wages; and

WHEREAS, public-private partnerships would allow for efficient construction, financing, and leasing in a reasonable timeframe; and

WHEREAS, public-private partnerships would also allow the State to take advantage of a favorable bidding and subcontracting environment in terms of pricing and relatively low bond interest rates; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011, that the Legislature supports the concept of public-private partnerships to build prisons and correctional facilities in the State and urges the Governor to begin discussions and plans to establish public-private partnerships as soon as possible to deal with the State's prison overcrowding and to return the majority of our prisoners who are incarcerated on the mainland; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor.

OFFERED BY:

Willy Lyoo
James M. Lan
Randy deBahr
Polai Kapan
Michelle Sidani