

**NEIL ABERCROMBIE**  
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**  
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No. \_\_\_\_\_

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 313  
RELATING TO CORRECTIONS**

by

**Jodie Maesaka-Hirata, Interim Director  
Department of Public Safety**

**Committee on Public Safety & Military Affairs  
Representative Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair  
Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair**

**Thursday, February 03, 2011; 9:00 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 309**

**Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Cullen, and Members of the Committee:**

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) appreciates the Legislature's interest in a partnership between the PSD and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) to establish a temporary pilot program for the restoration and rebuilding of sites of cultural significance to Hawaiian history by non-violent inmates of Hawaiian ancestry.

At present PSD and OHA already work cooperatively. If it is the Legislature's intent to formalize the already existing working relationship between PSD and OHA, it would be more appropriate to do so via a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) or a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two agencies, as done in the past.

Further, the Department acknowledges that this measure has merit; however, given the current fiscal difficulties, it would not be prudent to pursue enactment at this time.

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

# COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

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## COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Rep. Henry Aquino, Chair

Rep. Ty Cullen, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 3, 2011

8:30 AM

Room 309

### **HB 313 – INMATE REHABILITATION; HISTORIC SITE RESTORATION SUPPORT INTENT**

<http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/emailtestimony>

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Cullen 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, improve the quality of justice, and enhance community safety by promoting smart justice policies. We are always mindful that there are 6,000 individuals whose voices have been silenced by incarceration with 1,750 individuals are serving their sentences abroad, thousands of miles from their loved ones and, in many cases, from their ancestral lands.

HB 313 establishes a program within the Department of Public Safety that assigns select, non-violent inmates on a work detail that restores historical sites selected by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs.

Community Alliance on Prisons supports the intent of this well-meaning bill. We urge a discussion amongst stakeholders before anything is decided regarding restoration of these sites.

CAP does have first-hand knowledge of the importance of connecting incarcerated individuals with the `aina. This bill establishes a pilot program to restore historic sites. Many of these treasures are taken care of by community groups, therefore, in the alternative we respectfully suggest a program of community service that might be considered. Since the Judiciary is the agency that handles community service sentences, this program could be staffed by volunteers with a notice to non profits that malama cultural sites asking them to register if they seek the help of those folks sentenced to community service to assist in restoring important sites.

Mahalo for this opportunity to share our thoughts.

TO: Representative Henry Aquino, Chair,  
Representative Ty Cullen, Vice-Chair  
House Committee on Public Safety & Military Affairs

FROM: Sara L. Collins, Ph.D., Legislative Chair  
Society for Hawaiian Archaeology  
[sara.l.collins.sha@gmail.com](mailto:sara.l.collins.sha@gmail.com)

HEARING: February 3, 2011, 8:30 AM, Conference Room 309  
SUBJECT: Comments on HB 313 (Relating to Corrections)

I am Dr. Sara Collins, Chair of the Legislative Committee of the Society for Hawaiian Archaeology (SHA). We have over 150 members that include professional archaeologists and advocates of historic preservation in general. On behalf of SHA, I am providing comments on HB 313.

HB 313 proposes to establish a program within the Department of Public Safety that assigns select, non-violent inmates on a work detail that restores historical sites selected by the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA). The intent is to provide a transition program for eligible inmates that will foster connections to their Native Hawaiian ancestry and provide positive cultural values. The bill calls for OHA to select appropriate historic sites and areas for the purposes of the rehabilitation program.

We appreciate the worthwhile purpose of the proposed work detail and hope that it will benefit all participants. We would only recommend that the State Historic Preservation Division participate in the review and selection process for potential sites. In addition, we would recommend that any work plan be reviewed and approved by SHPD as well as OHA prior to implementation. The subject bill could thus be amended as follows:

(c) The office of Hawaiian affairs shall determine and identify the sites to be restored by the Hawaiian cultural restoration program. The State historic preservation division shall review and approve all proposed work to be conducted on, in, and around historic sites that are selected prior to beginning such work.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on HB 313. Should you have any questions, you may reach me at the above email address.