
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO COMPREHENSIVE OFFENDER REENTRY SYSTEM.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Act 8, First Special Session Laws of Hawaii
2 2007, added to the Hawaii Revised Statutes a new chapter
3 entitled "Comprehensive Offender Reentry System" to prepare
4 incarcerated individuals for reentry into the community through
5 programs and services that reflect best practices and evidenced-
6 based results. The goal of reentry is to provide offenders with
7 greater opportunities to be rehabilitated while ensuring public
8 safety and reducing recidivism.

9 Act 24, Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2009, amended
10 section 353-10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to incorporate the
11 responsibilities of offender reentry into the long-established
12 intake services centers.

13 The purpose of this Act is to create the offender reentry
14 office to oversee offender reentry and restore the purpose of
15 the intake service centers to screen, evaluate, and classify the
16 admission of persons to community correctional centers.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter 353H, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 "§353H- Offender reentry office. There shall be within
5 the department of public safety, an offender reentry office to
6 oversee the development and implementation of the comprehensive
7 offender reentry system.

8 The offender reentry office shall:

- 9 (1) Ensure that the present and future reentry needs of
10 persons committed to correctional facilities are being
11 evaluated and met in an effective and appropriate
12 manner;
- 13 (2) Develop and implement risk needs assessment tools to
14 properly place offenders in programs and services;
- 15 (3) Match offenders to programs and services that address
16 risks and needs identified;
- 17 (4) Monitor and record progress made by offenders while
18 participating in prescribed programs and services;
- 19 (5) Identify and make recommendations to address needs not
20 addressed by programs and services;
- 21 (6) Provide training opportunities for department of
22 public safety staff and service providers in
23 assessments and evidenced-based practices;

1 (7) Work closely and collaborate with the community
2 service and work furlough programs located in the
3 community correctional centers and correctional
4 facilities; and

5 (8) Work closely and collaborate with the Hawaii paroling
6 authority."

7 SECTION 3. Section 353-10, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended to read as follows:

9 **"§353-10 [~~Reentry intake~~] Intake service centers.** There
10 shall be within the department of public safety, [~~a reentry~~] an
11 intake service center for adults in each of the counties, to
12 screen, evaluate, and classify the admission of persons to
13 community correctional centers [~~and to provide for the~~
14 ~~successful reentry of persons back into the community~~]. Each
15 center shall be directed and managed by a manager and shall be
16 staffed by a team of psychiatrists, social workers, technicians,
17 and other personnel as may be necessary. The director of public
18 safety may appoint full-time or part-time professional and
19 clerical staff or contract for professional services [~~to carry~~
20 ~~out the duties of the centers as identified in this section~~].

21 The centers shall:

22 (1) Provide orientation, guidance, and technical services;

- 1 (2) Provide social-medical-psychiatric-psychological
2 diagnostic evaluation;
- 3 (3) Provide pretrial assessments on adult offenders for
4 the courts and assist in the conduct of presentence
5 assessments on adult offenders and the preparation of
6 presentence reports when requested by the courts;
- 7 (4) Provide correctional prescription program planning and
8 security classification;
- 9 (5) Provide such other personal and correctional services
10 as needed for both detained and committed persons; and
- 11 (6) Monitor and record the progress of persons assigned to
12 correctional facilities who undergo further treatment
13 or who participate in prescribed correctional
14 programs[+]
- 15 ~~(7) Ensure that the present and future reentry needs of~~
16 ~~persons committed to correctional facilities are being~~
17 ~~evaluated and met in an effective and appropriate~~
18 ~~manner;~~
- 19 ~~(8) Provide additional reentry services to include working~~
20 ~~closely and collaborating with the furlough programs~~
21 ~~in each county that are currently managed by the~~
22 ~~department's institutions division;~~

H.B. NO. 2604

Report Title:

Comprehensive Offender Reentry System

Description:

Establishes the Offender Reentry Office within the Department of Public Safety to address the goals of chapter 353H, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Public Safety

TITLE: A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO
COMPREHENSIVE OFFENDER REENTRY SYSTEM.

PURPOSE: To create an Offender Reentry Office
within the Department of Public Safety
and delete references to offender reentry
responsibilities from section 353-10,
Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS).

MEANS: Add a new section to Chapter 353H and
amend section 353-10, HRS.

JUSTIFICATION: Chapter 353H, HRS, entitled
"Comprehensive Offender Reentry
System," was enacted to prepare
incarcerated individuals for reentry
into the community through programs and
services that reflect best practices
and evidenced-based results. To
increase the likelihood that offenders
exiting our correctional facilities
will acquire the skills and treatment
necessary to reenter the community and
to reduce recidivism, a variety of
programs and services must be provided
during an inmate's period of
incarceration and transition to the
community. These include programs such
as education, substance abuse treatment,
cognitive skills development, life
skills development, and vocational and
employment training. The Department
established the Reentry Works Special
Project to coordinate the planning and
implementation of the Comprehensive
Offender Reentry System, using
positions authorized by the Legislature
for this purpose.

Act 24, Special Session Laws of Hawaii
2009, amended section 353-10, Hawaii
Revised Statutes, to incorporate the

responsibilities of offender reentry into the Intake Services Centers (ISC). ISC, established in the mid-1970s, provides pre-trial division services for thousand of offenders each year. The responsibility of providing reentry services requires an entirely different set of skills. Rather than confound the original purpose of the ISC, the creation of the Offender Reentry Office is proposed to more efficiently carry out the goals of chapter 353H, HRS.

Therefore, this measure creates the Offender Reentry Office to oversee offender reentry and restores the focus of the Intake Service Centers to screen, evaluate, and classify the admission of pre-trial offenders to community correctional centers.

Impact on the public: The Offender Reentry Office will specialize in providing programs and services to reduce recidivism and enhance public safety.

Impact on the Department and other agencies: The Department will benefit from a specialized office to manage and perform reentry responsibilities. This will improve programs and services for offenders exiting correctional facilities.

PPBS PROGRAM
DESIGNATION: PSD 900.

GENERAL FUNDS: None.

OTHER FUNDS: None.

OTHER AFFECTED
AGENCIES: The Judiciary and the Hawaii Paroling Authority.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2012.