

JAN 25 2012

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that incarcerated
2 individuals who do not pose a threat to public safety can work
3 in the community on community projects that are accommodating to
4 their level of skill. For example, the island of Hawaii has
5 hundreds of acres of plant invasive species such as Miconia
6 calvescens, a species of tree from South America which,
7 according to the Smithsonian Institution, is the one plant that
8 could really destroy the Hawaiian forest. Other areas of the
9 State are infested with the banana polka and the albezia, which
10 also choke and kill native plants, and the eradication of
11 invasive species such as miconia has largely been the work of
12 volunteers. Given the need for invasive species control and
13 other work in local communities and the overcrowding of the
14 State's correctional facilities, the legislature finds that
15 allowing incarcerated individuals who do not pose a public
16 safety threat to work in the community would provide valuable
17 services while creating opportunities for incarcerated



1 individuals to learn new skills and apply them in ways that
2 benefit the State.

3 The purpose of this Act is to create a pilot program to
4 allow incarcerated individuals on the Big Island to work in the
5 community on community projects that benefit the local community
6 and the State.

7 SECTION 2. (a) There is created within the department of
8 public safety a work release pilot program on the island of
9 Hawaii to allow incarcerated individuals on the island of Hawaii
10 to work on community projects on the island of Hawaii that
11 benefit the local community and the State; provided that those
12 individuals who would work outside a correctional facility as
13 part of the work release pilot program pose no threat to public
14 safety, as determined by the director of public safety.

15 (b) The department of land and natural resources shall
16 collaborate with the department of public safety to identify any
17 potential community projects on the island of Hawaii that could
18 benefit from using incarcerated persons in accordance with this
19 Act.

20 (c) The department of public safety may provide for the
21 shelter of incarcerated persons outside of a correctional



1 facility while participating in the work release pilot program
2 on the island of Hawaii.

3 (d) The department of public safety may receive public and
4 private grants for purposes of this Act.

5 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval
6 and shall be repealed on June 30, 2015.

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INTRODUCED BY: Melanie Jones
Daniel W. DeLoe



S.B. NO. 3043

Report Title:

Public Safety; Work Release Pilot Program

Description:

Creates a work release pilot program on the Big Island to allow certain incarcerated individuals on the Big Island to work on community projects on the Big Island that benefit the local community and the State. Repeals 6/30/2015.

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