

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 2060

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 08 2012

RE: S.B. No. 2253

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui
President of the Senate
Twenty-Sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2012
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committees on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs and Judiciary and Labor, to which was referred S.B. No. 2253 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO CORRECTIONS,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to establish the Hawaii's opportunity parole with enforcement pilot program.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Community Alliance on Prisons, American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i, and one individual. Comments were received from the Hawaii Paroling Authority and one state judge.

Your Committees find that the Hawaii's opportunity probation with enforcement program, better known as HOPE, has been a proven success for probationers as evidenced by declining recidivism rates and parole revocations. This measure creates a pilot project for parolees that is modeled after the HOPE program.

Under conventional probation systems, violations by probationers, such as failing to appear for scheduled appointments with their probation officers, typically go unpunished for months or years until the violations accumulate to the point that the probationer faces severe consequences, including revocation of probation and being sentenced to a long prison term. Under the HOPE program, however, sanctions are imposed for each probation violation, and although the sanctions may be relatively minor,



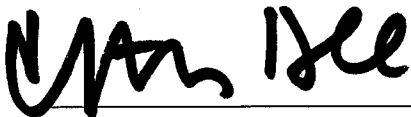
they are imposed immediately after each violation, rather than months or years after a violation.

Your Committees find that HOPE participants, as compared to non-participants, are fifty-five percent less likely to be arrested for a new crime, seventy-two percent less likely to use drugs, sixty-one percent less likely to miss appointments with their supervisory officer, fifty-three percent less likely to have their probation revoked, and sentenced to on average, forty-eight percent fewer days of incarceration.

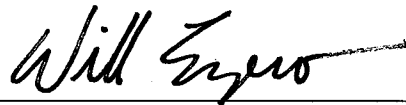
Your Committees believe that the success of the HOPE program warrants replication and expansion into opportunities for parole enforcement.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs and Judiciary and Labor that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 2253 and recommend that it pass Second Reading and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Public Safety,
Government Operations, and
Military Affairs and Judiciary
and Labor,



CLAYTON HEE, Chair



WILL ESPERO, Chair



