

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
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No. _____

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 218
RELATING TO CORRECTIONS**

By

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

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

**Thursday, February 17, 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) strongly opposes House Bill 218 that creates an earned time program that would permit up to ten days for each month of service of a sentence to be deducted from an inmate's sentence for misdemeanors and from the minimum term for felonies, upon demonstration by the inmate and certification by the inmate's case manager that the inmate has made consistent progress in a number of areas.

PSD has several serious issues of concern with this measure. First, to implement this process would require approximately 20 additional staff to perform the computations on the sentences and the certifications of consistent progress by the inmates in the facilities currently in operation throughout PSD. There is no funding provided for new positions in this measure, nor is there funding for the development of the standards, the

information systems that would be required to maintain the proposed program, or the modification to other existing systems that would be affected such as the inmate discipline system or classification.

This measure also requires that the earned time vests upon being granted. This type of system has proven to be problematic for the Bureau of Prisons because inmates may build up earned time for a number of years and then commit a serious violation of institutional rules without risking the loss of the earned time. An accepted sanction in the professional correctional community for a serious violation is the forfeiture of earned time, which is prohibited by the vesting aspect of this measure. As written, HB 218 is not consistent with sound correctional management practices of correctional facilities, nor is it conducive to having inmates follow the rules throughout their entire period of incarceration.

Further, this measure applies to both misdemeanor and felony convictions inequitably with the misdemeanor earned time deducted from the sentence, while the earned time for the felony comes off the minimum term and not the sentence. For jurisdictions with good time, earned time is applied to the maximum rather than the minimum sentence. As written, this measure would make the computations of sentences even more difficult. Earned time for misdemeanor sentences in excess of a month would create a serious issue as to when the earned time is to be deducted for these short sentences. For example, an inmate serving a one-month sentence could earn ten days for consistent progress, but could be released before the ten days can be deducted, providing for a potential claim of over detention. And if the earned time for the one month misdemeanor sentence were applied prior to the month being served,

the sentence would not be carried out.

The felony sentences would have earned time deducted from the minimum term, however, this is inequitable as compared to the misdemeanor sentences because the Hawaii Paroling Authority could simply not parole a felon, and the earned time would serve no purpose since the minimum term has no effect on a maximum term release. In addition, the earned time for felonies in this measure could conflict with the Hawaii Paroling Authority's procedure for setting minimum terms.

The implementation of this measure would drastically increase the amount of computations required on each sentence within PSD, creating a greater probability of errors and ultimately leading to the over detention of inmates and extremely costly litigation.

Overall, the cost to implement this program would be excessive, the liability for PSD and the State would be greater, and the impact on the initial release dates of inmates would be minimal. Therefore, PSD strongly opposes this measure, as it is impractical, very costly, and would have a negative impact on the priorities set forth by this administration.

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

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY
1177 ALAKEA STREET, GROUND FLOOR
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

MAX OTANI
ACTING CHAIR

ROY W. REEBER
MEMBER

GAIL MURANAKA
MEMBER

TOMMY JOHNSON
ADMINISTRATOR

No. _____

**TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 218
RELATING TO CORRECTIONS**

HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY
Tommy Johnson
Paroles and Pardons Administrator

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

Thursday, February 17, 2011, 9:00a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 309

Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Cullen and Committee Members:

The Hawaii Paroling Authority (HPA) opposes House Bill 218. This measure seeks to replace a system already in place whereby those incarcerated for felony convictions have the ability to apply for a reduction in their minimum sentence(s) after they have served at least 1/3 of their longest minimum sentence providing they are not serving any portion of a court ordered or statutorily required mandatory minimum sentence.

As written HB 218 will require additional resources that the Department of Public Safety does not have, and will expose the state to costly litigation by those incarcerated. The Department of Public Safety may choose to expound more on these issues.

Further, the HPA can envision almost daily scenarios where an inmate is awarded earned time credit, and has some earned time rescinded as a result of institutional misconduct and/or other inappropriate actions/behaviors, appeal the decision, and

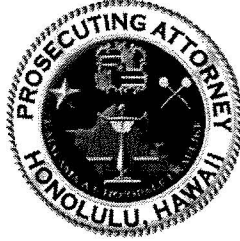
subsequently have any and/or all of the earned time credit returned. In any such case, the HPA could realistically, due to no fault of the agency, miss statutory time lines for hearing notifications, appointment of counsel, and scheduling of hearings. This would violate an inmate's due process rights, which in turn could lead to costly litigation. For these reasons, the HPA opposes HB 218.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide supporting testimony on this measure.

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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THE HONORABLE HENRY J.C. AQUINO, CHAIR
THE HONORABLE TY CULLEN, VICE CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
Twenty-sixth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2011
State of Hawai`i

Thursday, February 17, 2011

RE: H.B. 218; RELATING TO CORRECTIONS.

Good Morning, Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Cullen, and members of the House Committee on Public Safety & Military Affairs, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney submits the following testimony **in strong opposition to H.B. 218**

The purpose of this bill is to provide that convicted defendants with up to ten days per month credit deducted from their sentence for making consistent progress in; (1) work and vocational, or occupational training, (2) social adjustment (3) participation in counseling sessions and self-help groups, (4) participation in therapeutic programs, (5) education or literacy programs, .

We oppose this bill because it is duplicative of what the Hawaii Paroling Authority (HPA) already considers in determining a minimum sentence or reducing the minimum sentence. Furthermore, in determining the minimum or reducing the minimum sentence, HPA utilizes written guidelines and procedures which include more extensive criteria. Moreover, significant information, such as victim input that is included in the HPA's determinations on sentences, would be missing from the determinations made under this proposal. In essence, this proposal would subvert the authority of HPA and its more comprehensive review process.

We also note that this bill lacks any restrictions in that it applies to any person sentenced to a mandatory minimum term of imprisonment, a prisoner sentenced to a life term without parole, and to any sentenced class A felon. Given that the most serious offenders are likely to have a mandatory minimum, a life term without parole, or a class A felony, it becomes abundantly clear how inappropriate and potentially dangerous this proposal is. There is no consideration of either victim safety or public safety in this bill. Also significantly missing from the evaluation criteria is any measurement of the prisoner's remorse for their offense, development of victim empathy, or progress in the payment of restitution to their victims. Furthermore, victims' rights organizations across the country have widely condemned this type of program as substantially diminishing the victim's role in the criminal justice process.

For these reasons, we strongly oppose House Bill 218 and respectfully ask that it be held. Thank you for your time and consideration.



the
**Drug Policy
Forum**
of hawai'i

February 17, 2011

To: Rep. Henry Aquino, Chair
Rep. Ty Cullen, Vice Chair and
Members of the Committee on Public Safety & Military Affairs

From: Jeanne Y. Ohta, Executive Director

Re: HB 218 Relating to Corrections (Earned Time)
Hearing: Thursday, February 17, 2010, 9:00 a.m., Room 309

Position: Strong Support

The Drug Policy Forum of Hawai'i writes in strong support of HB 218 Relating to Corrections which allows an inmate to receive "earned time" credit to reduce the length of prison sentences.

Hawai'i uses incarceration as the main criminal justice tool. It is an expensive choice. As the prison budget has skyrocketed, we are poorer, but not safer. Drug treatment programs are less expensive and more effective than prison; yet, we continue to send those with drug problems to prison rather than to treatment programs. Since Hawai'i has taken this path to use incarceration instead of other alternatives, an earned time policy makes sense.

Earned time is a concept that provides incentives to participate in programs while in prison. It allows inmates the ability to reduce the length of prison sentences. While in prison, attendance in programs like drug treatment, vocational training, and education should be encouraged. Earned time is the incentive. Longer sentences are not necessarily more effective.

Earned time allows prison officials to better manage prison populations and release those who are most appropriate for early release. It is also a fiscally responsible way to reduce prison costs while keeping the community safe. It encourages inmates to use their time while in prison productively. DPFH urges the committee to pass the measure so that prison costs can be kept under control during these tough economic times.

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COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Rep. Henry Aquino, Chair

Rep. Ty Cullen, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 17, 2011

9:00 AM

Room 309

HB 218 - Earned Time

STRONG SUPPORT

<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 including the 1,800 individuals serving their sentences abroad, thousands of miles from their loved ones and, in many cases, from their ancestral lands.

HB 218 allows an inmate to receive "earned time" credit to reduce the length of a prison sentence.

Community Alliance on Prisons stands in strong support of this measure.

Across the nation, jurisdictions are wrestling with shrinking budgets and rising deficits. This downturn in the economy has been a silver lining for justice as the proponents of tough on crime laws are finally grasping the reality that the enactment of draconian laws is not sustainable.

Earned Time - What is it, Who Gets it, and What Jurisdictions Use It?

Earned credit is an incentive system where inmates are rewarded with good time credits for positive behavior within the prison.

These **credits are earned** when the inmate participates in prison programs or activities such as education, substance abuse treatment, or vocational training.

At least 31 states provide these incentives—called “earned time”—that reduce the costs of incarceration and help offenders succeed when they return to the community.

Community Alliance on Prisons respectfully directs the committee to the report released by the National Council of State Legislatures in July 2009 that stated: “...*Earned time is helping states reduce the corrections budget burden and allows funds saved to be invested in programs that reduce recidivism and help build safe communities...*” The Appendix of this report (pages 9 – 13) contains a grid of **Earned Time Policies in State Prisons: Amounts Established by Law** for your information.

What the Research Says About Earned Time:

- **CUTTING CORRECTIONS COSTS - Earned Time Policies for State Prisoner¹**

“...In addition to providing positive incentives, one of the goals of earned time eligibility programs is to reduce overcrowding "on account of good behavior and successful participation in rehabilitative activities, such as vocational, educational and substance abuse treatment programs.”

- **WHAT WORKS AND WHAT DOESN'T IN REDUCING RECIDIVISM: The Principles of Effective Intervention²**

“Not a single reviewer of studies of the effects of official punishment alone (custody, mandatory arrest, increased surveillance, etc.) has found consistent evidence of reduced recidivism.”

- **COLLATERAL COSTS: Incarceration's Effect on Economic Mobility³**

“People who break the law need to be held accountable and pay their debt to society,” said Adam Gelb, director of the Public Safety Performance Project of the Pew Center on the States. “At the same time, the collateral costs of locking up 2.3 million people are piling higher and higher. Corrections is the second fastest growing state budget category, and state leaders from both parties are now finding that **there are research-based strategies for low-risk offenders that can reduce crime at far less cost than prison.**”⁴

¹ *CUTTING CORRECTIONS COSTS - Earned Time Policies for State Prisoners*, National Conference of State Legislatures, By Alison Lawrence, July 2009, <http://www.ncsl.org/default.aspx?tabid=18216>.

² Dr. Edward Lantessa, Center for Criminal Justice Research, “*What Works and What Doesn't in Reducing Recidivism: The Principles of Effective Intervention*,” Powerpoint Presentation from ICIS Training 2007.

³ *COLLATERAL COSTS: Incarcerations's Effect on Economic Mobility*” by Bruce Western and Becky Pettit, September 2010, http://www.economicmobility.org/reports_and_research/other/other?id=0015.

⁴ http://www.economicmobility.org/assets/pdfs/EMP_Incarceration_PressRelease.pdf

The report examines the impact of incarceration on the economic opportunity and mobility of former inmates and their families. The report finds that incarceration reduces former inmates' earnings by 40 percent and limits their future economic mobility and that one in every 28 children in America has a parent behind bars, up from one in 125 just 25 years ago. The report's findings are based on research by Professor Bruce Western of Harvard University and Professor Becky Pettit of the University of Washington.

The report has some commonsense recommendations, including:

- **Use earned-time credits**, a proven model that offers selected inmates a shortened prison stay if they complete educational, vocational or rehabilitation programs that boost their chances of successful reentry into the community and the labor market

According to the Washington State Institute for Public Policy, improving employment prospects can decrease the chances that ex-offenders will return to prison or jail. In previous reports, Pew identified policies that research shows can reduce recidivism and minimize the intergenerational impact of incarceration by boosting the chances that ex-offenders will successfully rejoin the community and the labor market. Those solutions include:

- Reconnecting former inmates to the labor market through education and training, job search and placement support, and follow-up services;
- Making work pay by capping the percent of an offenders' income subject to deductions for court-ordered fines and fees;
- Funding incentives for corrections agencies and programs that succeed in reducing crime and increasing employment;
- **Offering earned-time credits to offenders who complete educational, vocational, or rehabilitation programs behind bars;** and
- Using swift and certain sanctions to deter probation and parole violations and reduce the cost of incarceration. For example, Hawaii's successful HOPE probation program uses short but immediate jail stays to punish drug use and other probation violations, imposing them on weekends so working offenders don't lose their jobs.

• **MICHIGAN STATE BAR - PRISONS AND CORRECTIONS SECTION**
Restoration of Earned Credits for Prisoners, Date position was adopted: March 21, 2009

It is the position of the State Bar Prisons and Corrections Section that a system of earned sentence credits should be restored. This system should be given immediate effect and applied, prospectively, to all prisoners currently serving indeterminate sentences who are not already eligible for earned credits because of their conviction dates, as well as to everyone sentenced to an indeterminate term in the future. It is further the position of the Section that judges should be required to place on the record at sentencing the extent to which earned credits may affect the service of the minimum sentence.

The Section's position is based on the following findings:

1. There is no evidence that permitting earned credits presents a risk to public safety.
2. There are alternate means of promoting transparency in sentencing.

3. Permitting earned credits is a common correctional practice nationally and on the county level in Michigan.
4. The opportunity to earn sentence credits provides a significant incentive to prisoners who currently are penalized for misconduct but rarely rewarded for positive efforts.
5. Permitting earned credits does not require the release of any particular prisoner, make institutional management more difficult or interfere with the discretion of the parole board. On the contrary, it provides the Department of Corrections with a useful tool for managing institutional behavior and promoting participation in rehabilitative programs.
6. The restoration of earned credits would significantly help reduce the prison population and save taxpayers tens of millions of dollars.

“...Focus must be placed on locking up the most dangerous people instead of diverting time and money to incarcerate the wrong people.”

U.S. Sen. Jim Webb (D-VA)

How is Earned Time Working in Other Jurisdictions?

Kansas⁵

Strategy:

- Grant program to local community corrections to reduce revocations by 20%
- 60-day reduction for risk-reduction programs
- Restore earned time for non violent inmates

Result:

- Prison population down 3.8%
- Parole revocations down 46%
- Probation revocations down 28%

Texas⁶

Strategy:

- Analysis reveals high recidivism rate, low parole grant rate as key problems
- Technical violators identified as primary driver
- Legislative package expands use of residential, community diversion and treatment centers
- Compliance with parole grant law to control population

Result:

- Actual savings in FY 2008-09 - \$512 million
- Estimated savings through FY 2012 - \$1 billion
- Annual investment in community corrections continued by 2009 Legislature - \$120 million

⁵ *Smarter Choices...Safer Communities*, Pew Center on the States.

⁶ *Ibid.*

Alabama

"The great majority of Alabama inmates freed as a result of an early release program are staying out of jail, a survey showed. The Alabama Board of Pardons and Paroles has paroled 3,637 inmates through "special dockets" for nonviolent offenders. Of that group, 155, or 4 percent, have returned to prison. Only about half of those are back for new crimes, according to statistics provided by Cynthia Dillard, assistant executive director of the Alabama Board of Pardons and Parole. ...In a typical year, 22 percent to 25 percent of parolees return to prison. Some commit new crimes, while others are sent back for violating conditions of parole, such as not reporting to their officers or using drugs..."⁷

Oregon

Oregon's "earned time" early-release program for state prison inmates saved an estimated \$25 million in the 2009 fiscal year, according to a new audit by the Secretary of State.⁸

A recent Audit by the Oregon Department of Corrections stated...

"...Research seems to indicate that recidivism is no worse for inmates who receive an incarceration reduction. Similarly, studies have not established a strong relationship between incarceration reduction and the overall crime rate. Several states have conducted cost-benefit analyses, including Oregon and Washington, which concluded that **incarceration reduction produced a net savings to the public...**"⁹

In short, enacting an earned time program in Hawai'i would save money and lives. The data supports it and our corrections budget, which increased 90%¹⁰ since 2000, demands that we allocate our resources more wisely to achieve the outcomes we all desire - safe and healthy communities.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

⁷ *Survey: Most inmates released early staying out of trouble*, The Associated Press, April 6, 2004.

⁸ *Earned time at prisons saved state \$25 million in 2009*, Statesman Journal.

⁹ OREGON DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS: ADMINISTRATION OF EARNED TIME AUDIT, <http://www.scribd.com/doc/46233946/Audit-Department-of-Corrections-Administration-of-Earned-Time>

¹⁰ Smart Justice Research Paper, *How Hawai'i Can Have Fewer Inmates and Safer Communities*, July 2010 <http://ililani-media.com/Smart%20Justice%20Research%20Paper.pdf>



Committee: Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, February 17, 2010, 9:00 a.m.
Place: Room 309
Re: Testimony of the ACLU of Hawaii in Support of H.B. 218, Relating to Corrections

Dear Chair Aquino and Members of the Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii (“ACLU of Hawaii”) writes in support of H.B. 218, allowing an inmate to receive “earned time” credit to reduce their prison sentence length.

The ACLU of Hawaii supports every effort to develop programs aimed at rehabilitating Hawaii’s inmates. Good-time credits incentivize good behavior (rather than simply punishing bad behavior), helping inmates to develop positive habits and thereby reducing recidivism rates. Every effort should be made to provide Hawaii’s inmates with the support and services they need to become productive and responsible community members.

Furthermore, as the Legislature is aware, many of Hawaii’s prisons are overcrowded. Last year, a three-judge federal judicial panel in California ruled that overcrowding was so severe and pervasive in California’s prisons that the release of prisoners was the only way to resolve the innumerable constitutional violations. *Plata v. Schwarzenegger*, Civ. Nos. S-90-0520, C01-1351 (E.D. Cal. & N.D. Cal., Feb. 9, 2009). The Legislature should take proactive steps to manage its prison population, and offering earned-time programs is a common method throughout the United States for relieving some of the pressure on the prison system.

The mission of the ACLU of Hawaii is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawaii fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawaii is a non-partisan and private non-profit organization that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds. The ACLU of Hawaii has been serving Hawaii for over 40 years.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Sincerely,

Laurie Temple
Staff Attorney

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National Association of Reformed Criminals
Andy Botts & Franklin Jackson
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February 17, 2011

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Rep. Henry J.C. Aquino, Chair

Rep. Ty Cullen, Vice Chair

Thursday February 17, 2011

9:00 AM

Room 309

HB 218 - RELATING TO CORRECTIONS

SUPPORT

With the exception of Utah, Hawaii seems to be the only place in the world that doesn't give time-off for good behavior. However, it isn't because we don't believe in this common sense philosophy, it's because the 'reduction of minimum' process that was established in 1976 hasn't been put into practice yet – like everything else. Therefore, we are overdue for a revamping of our good-time procedures to include this bill into law, and this proposal is consistent with what other states presently do. This would save the state of Hawaii bundles in needless warehouse time, and give the defendant time in the community to repay restitution, child support, or other such obligations which others could benefit from.

Mahalo,

Andy Botts

PETER GELLATLY
PO BOX 88377
HONOLULU, HI 96830

February 16, 2011

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Rep. Henry Aquino, Chair

Rep. Ty Cullen, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 17, 2011

9:00 am, Room 309

HB 218 – Earned Time — STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Cullen and member of the Committee,

My name is Peter Gellatly. I am a local businessman representing the Hawaii community on the state's Corrections Population Management Committee, which unfortunately has not met for some time.

Documented superbly by Community Alliance on Prison's Kat Brady, the policy of earned time is paying major dividends in states across America. It is nothing new, and its implementation is not complex.

As you know better than most, Hawaii's financial condition is awful. When we are presented with a clear-cut opportunity to save money, we should take it. There is always a risk/reward trade-off, of course, but in this case the risks are as low as the rewards are high. And why wouldn't they be? Preparing inmates for life on the outside always pays off, with or without the incentive of getting out of prison sooner.

Implementing this program is no more than paying ourselves for doing the right thing. Please proceed.

Thank you and

aloha,

Peter Gellatly

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Rep. Henry Aquino, Chair

Rep. Ty Cullen, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 17, 2011

9:00 AM

Room 309

HB 218 – Earned Time

STRONG SUPPORT

Aloha Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Cullen and Members of the Committee

My name is Jolene Molinaro and I am a graduate student in the MSW program at UH Manoa. My research has been focused on the psychological effects of incarceration on mothers and their children. This subject is near and dear to me as I am also a formerly incarcerated woman and mother. I am testifying on this bill because I could have benefitted from “earned time” credits, as I am positive many other women (and men) could too. I was a non-violent drug offender who began using during a major depression due to a difficult divorce and custody battle. During the time of my incarceration I was a “model prisoner”. In my combined total of approximately 5 years at the women’s prison I had no incident reports or other disciplinary actions against me. I attended drug treatment, education programs, I worked full time on the city and county inmate work line and I voluntarily attended a second treatment program.

I also had joint custody of my toddler twins and full custody of my older daughter. If I had had the opportunity to qualify for earned time credits, I would have been able to be reunited with my children faster which is so important in preserving the mother-child attachment that is crucial for young children. I firmly believe that if we are to reduce recidivism and prevent future crime and drug addiction then we must think of the emotional and behavioral impact of parental incarceration on the children.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this bill.

Respectfully submitted,

Jolene Molinaro

Erin Welsh
73-1142 Oluolu Street
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(808) 325-5322

February 15, 2011

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY & MILITARY AFFAIRS

Rep. Henry Aquino, Chair

Rep. Ty Cullen, Vice Chair

VIA: email

STRONG SUPPORT for HB 218 - EARNED TIME

Good Morning Chair Aquino, Vice-Chair Cullen and Committee Members:

I am in strong support of HB 218 for Earned Time. Every mother knows that incentives work much better than punishment. I think that applies no matter how old you are or what the situation is. Earned time has proven effective in many other states. I believe it will save our state a lot of money.

Sincerely,

Erin Welsh

PBMtestimony

From: Emy Furusaki [maukalani78@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 9:49 AM
To: PBMtestimony
Subject: HB 218, Earned Time

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Rep. Henry Aquino, Chair
Rep. Ty Cullen, Vice Chair
Thursday, February 17, 2011
9:00 AM
Room 309
HB 218 – Earned Time
STRONG SUPPORT

Dear Chair Aquino, Vice Chair Cullen, and Committee Members:

Thank you for HB 218. Please support this measure which would encourage imprisoned people and, at the same time, improve our state's economy.

To live under conditions where there is no incentive for any positive performance suffocates the individual's spirit. There are many ways, some of them punitive, that the inmates can lose their privileges, but there is no incentive for good behavior.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my testimony.

With aloha,

E. Funakoshi

PBMtestimony

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 16, 2011 11:34 AM
To: PBMtestimony
Cc: maucrowe@gmail.com
Subject: Testimony for HB218 on 2/17/2011 9:00:00 AM

Testimony for PBM 2/17/2011 9:00:00 AM HB218

Conference room: 309
Testifier position: support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Jim Crowe
Organization: Individual
Address:
Phone:
E-mail: maucrowe@gmail.com
Submitted on: 2/16/2011

Comments:

I support bill HB 218 because it will be a help to Public Safety as it is an enticement for inmates' good behavior, good time served. A by product will be lessening the numbers of prisoners to be served.

I have been a volunteer mentor for inmates reintegrating into the community. I understand first-hand that this will work to the benefit to Public Safety.