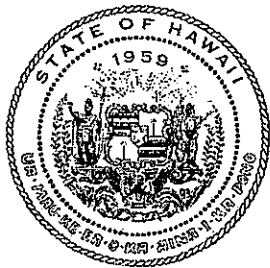


LATE TESTIMONY

HAWAII STATE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN



Chair
LESLIE WILKINS

COMMISSIONERS:

ELENA CABATU
ADRIENNE KING
CARMILLE LIM
AMY MONK
LISA ELLEN SMITH
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February 1, 2012

Testimony in Support, HB 2514

To: Representative Henry Aquino, Chair
Representative Ty Cullen, Vice Chair
Members of the House Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

From: Catherine Betts, Esq., Executive Director, Hawai'i State Commission on the Status of Women

Re: Testimony in Support of HB 2514, Relating to Public Safety

On behalf of the Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women, I would like to thank the committee for this opportunity to provide testimony on this issue. I would like to express my support for HB 2514.

The Justice Reinvestment Initiative has provided an independent inquiry into the flaws of our criminal justice system. This bill is based on the sound data culled by the Justice Reinvestment Initiative and would amend statutes to require a quickly conducted pre trial risk assessment, an expansion of the parole board to increase frequency and efficiency of parole board hearings, an increase in restitution to victims of crime and a required period of parole supervision prior to the maximum sentence date. By focusing on how to best reintegrate the incarcerated and support their rehabilitation, this legislation would allow for safer communities and less recidivism. Please pass HB 2514.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Catherine Betts, Esq.
Executive Director, Hawaii State Commission on the Status of Women