COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Testifier Sheet 3/12/2012 2:45

HB2848 RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

HWN/WLH/PG M, WAM

Establishes a Legislative Wellness Center Task Force to move forward with the concept of pu'uhonua, or wellness center, and to recommend a location for the wellness center on lands owned or controlled by the State with preference given to the site formerly used as the Kulani Correctional Facility in east Hawaii. Effective July 1, 2030. (HB2848 HD3)

<u>Testifier</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Position</u>	Proposes Amend.
William Aila, Jr.	Department of Land and Natural Resources	Submits Comments	
Alapaki Nahale-a	Department of Hawaiian Homelands	Supports	
	Department of Public Safety	Supports	
	Office of Hawaiian Affairs	Supports	
Soulee Stroud	Oahu Council Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs	Supports	
Samuel Kaleleiki, Jr.	Ohana Hoopakele	Supports	
Joe Lander	Na Maka o Ka Aina	Supports	
Jim Johnson	East Hawaii Chapter, Buddhist Peace Fellowship	Supports	
Dante Carpenter	Ohana Hoopakele	Supports	. 🔲
Kat Brady	Community Alliance on Prisons	Supports	
Jim Albertini	Malu`Aina	Supports	
Hanalei Fergestrom	Na Kupuna Moku o Keawe	Supports	
Uncle Joe Tassil	Individual	Supports	
Galen Kelly	Individual	Supports	
Cory Harden	Individual	Supports	
Dr. Manu Aluli Meyer	Individual	Supports	
Tj Simms	Individual	Supports	
Michael McDaniel	Individual	Supports	
June Toguchi-Tassil	Individual	Supports	
Evern E. Williams	Individual	Supports	
Lis Kirbin	Individual	Supports	
Julie Jergensen	Individual	Supports	
Safi	Individual	Supports	
Matthew Rifkin	Individual	Supports	
Denise Chillingworth	Individual	Supports	
Bonnie Morgan	Individual	Supports	
Carol Murry	Individual	Supports	
Bobbie Alicen	Individual	Supports	
Robert Petricci	Individual	Supports	
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Supports	
Kalani Tassil	Individual	Supports	

L.V. Kelly	Individual	Supports	<u> </u>
Catherine Lampton	Individual	Supports	

NEIL ABERCROMBIE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of WILLIAM J. AILA, JR. Chairperson

Before the Senate Committees on HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS and WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING and PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

> Monday, March 12, 2012 2:45 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 224

In consideration of **HOUSE BILL 2848, HOUSE DRAFT 3** RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

House Bill 2848, House Draft 3 proposes to establish a Wellness Center Task Force within the Legislature to: 1) Develop a plan and make recommendations to move forward with the concept of pu'uhonua, or wellness center, and; 2) Establish a location for the wellness center on lands owned or controlled by the State with preference given to the site formerly used as the Kulani Correctional Facility in east Hawaii. The Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) offers comments on the proposal and defers to the Department of Public Safety on the feasibility and details of plans for such a model wellness center.

- 1. The Department notes that the former Kulani Correctional Facility is surrounded by lands currently in the Natural Areas Reserve System (NARS) and other forestry lands.
- 2. Approximately 279.76 acres, constituting the footprint of the former Kulani Correctional Facility, is currently being used by the Department of Defense, under a revocable permit, for the Hawaii Youth Challenge Academy (HYCA).
- 3. The Department enjoys an ongoing and productive association with HYCA and is working together to develop a natural resource management curriculum that may be incorporated into their program.
- 4. If HYCA elects to relocate their campus to another location, the Department prefers to develop the facilities at Kulani, including the existing structures of the former correctional

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR. CHAIRERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

GUY H. KAULUKUKUI

WILLIAM M. TAM DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

facility, into a world class environmental, educational, and outdoor recreation center with guest accommodations for overnight or longer stays.

NEILABERCROMBIE GOVERNOR STATE OF HAWAI'I



ALBERT "ALAPAKF" NAHALE-A CHAIRMAN HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

> MICHELLE K. KAUHANE DEPUTY TO THE CHAIRMAN

M. WAIALEALE SARSONA EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

STATE OF HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

P. O. BOX 1879 HONOLULU, HAWAI'I 96805

ALAPAKI NAHALE-A, CHAIRMAN

HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION

PROVIDING COMMENTS TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS,

WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING &

PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

HB 2848 HD 3, RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

March 12, 2012

Chair Galuteria, Chair Dela Cruz, Chair Espero and Members of the Committees:

The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands offers the following comments on HB 2848 HD 3.

DHHL supports this measure to the extent that it calls for the planning of a pu'uhonua, or wellness center, to provide substance abuse treatment and intervention programs aimed at supporting the native Hawaiian community and the community at-large. We acknowledge that a part of the community who would benefit from this type of program is our Hawaiian Home Lands beneficiaries. Further, we appreciate the outreach effort outlined in this bill to our department.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide these comments.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

JODIE F. MAESAKA-HIRATA DIRECTOR

Martha Torney Deputy Director Administration

Joe W. Booker, Jr.
Deputy Director
Corrections

Keith Kamita Deputy Director Law Enforcement

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 2848 HD3 RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

by Jodie F. Maesaka-Hirata, Director Department of Public Safety

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair Senator Pohai Ryan, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs Senator Will Espero, Chair Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair

> Monday, March 12, 2012 at 2:45 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 224

Chairs Galuteria, Dela Cruz, and Espero, Vice Chairs Ryan, Solomon, and Kidani, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) supports House Bill 2848 HD3. This measure establishes a Wellness Center Task Force which will allow the affected agencies to further study the concept of developing a wellness center by narrowing the potential, viable and ideal location, whether it be at the site formerly used for the Kulani Correctional Facility or another location suited to the goals that will be developed by the Wellness Center Task Force.

PSD is in the process of developing its strategic plan. It is through this process that PSD will develop and address the programmatic needs for Hawaii's offenders, which may include a wellness center. PSD supports this measure as the formation of a

House Bill 2848 HD3 March 12, 2012 Page 2

Wellness Center Task Force will provide a road map to the successful implementation of a wellness center by networking with subject matter experts.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.



HB2848 HD3 RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

Senate Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Housing

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations, and Military Affairs

March 12, 2012

2:45 p.m.

Room 224

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers comments on HB2848 HD3, which creates a task force that looks into creating a pu'uhonua or wellness center.

OHA's 2010 report, "The Disparate Treatment of Native Hawaiians in the Criminal Justice System," and the recently completed study by the Justice Reinvestment Initiative indicate that there is a clear need for smart justice solutions that are culturally appropriate. With that in mind, OHA has the following suggestions:

The closing of Kulani was a shock to the justice community. It was done with short notice and shut down one of the few effective sex offender treatment programs in the state. The closing of the facility should be explored in the task force's report and explained in a public forum before further resources are committed to this facility. Otherwise, the community will not be able to trust that this new center will be a reliable neighbor.

Section 2(a) describes giving a "preference" for using Kulani as a site. This is vague. A pu'uhonua is a place, and the location should be determined in part by cultural practitioners who can help guide the task force in its determination of whether a site would be successful.

The membership of the task force is large and voluntary. Past experience serving on task forces lead us to suggest that the membership be cut down to a mandatory amount needed to make key decisions and remain efficient. Additional members could be added at the discretion of the task force. For instance section 2(c)(7) could be read to mean four representatives from 'Ohana Ho'opakele and four more from other restorative justice groups for a total of 8. OHA suggests either separating out part 7 into two groups of representatives and/or lowering the amount to two. Because it is a voluntary task force, additional members could attend as needed. A similar cut could be made to 2(c)(8).

As written, the current working group in this bill would have an even number of members. If this group intends to votes on matters, it should have an odd numbered membership to avoid tie votes.

Section 2(c) lists potential members. For OHA, we suggest the following change and similar changes for the other agencies:

"(1)—Office of Hawaiian affairs;—The chief executive officer of the office of Hawaiian affairs, or the chief executive officer's designee;"

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.



O'ahu Council Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs

P.O. Box 37874 Honolulu, Hawaii 96837-1122

March 10, 2012

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB2848, HD3 RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

Hearing, Monday, March 12, 2012, 2:45 p.m., Conference Room 224, State Capitol

Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair Senator Pohai Ryan, Vice Chair Members, Committee on Hawaiian Affairs

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair Members, Committee on Water, Land & Housing

Senator Will Espero, Chair Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair Members, Committee on Public Safety, Government Operations and Military Affairs

Aloha mai, kākou

The O'ahu Council of the Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs comprised of 25 civic clubs located on the island of O'ahu testifies in support of HB 2848, HD3, Relating to Public Safety.

HB2848, HD3 establishes a Legislative Wellness Center Task Force to move forward with the concept of a pu'uhonua, or wellness center, and to recommend a location for the wellness center on lands owned or controlled by the State with preference given to the site formerly used as the Kulani Correctional Facility in east Hawai'i.

As the proposed bill recognizes, many studies conducted both nationally and statewide show native Hawaiians to be at particularly high risk for substance abuse. While we do not have readily the statistics for the population of Oʻahu, we know that substance abuse is high among the Native Hawaiian community. The creation of a puʻuhonua that comprises a culturally-based substance abuse treatment and intervention program that embraces Native Hawaiian cultural practices should help to create a sensitive setting to

address this issue and to restore the well-being of individuals and families. We commend those who have initiated this bill.

We urge support for HB 2848, HD3.

Makealari Cypher

Me kealoha pumehana

MAHEALANI CYPHER

President

About the O'ahu Council, Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs (AHCC)

The O'ahu Council is one of five councils that comprise the AHCC. It advocates actions that enhance the civic, economic, educational, health and social welfare of our communities and elevates the social and intellectual status of all Hawaiians. Twenty-five clubs located throughout the island of O'ahu comprise the council.

From:

Na Maka o ka 'Aina [namaka@interpac.net]

Sent:

Sunday, March 11, 2012 11:12 AM

To:

HWN Testimony

Subject:

*****SPAM**** HB 2848 HD3 - PU`UHONUA

aloha mai,

please pass HB 2848 HD3 (the pu'uhonua bill).

several years ago we made a documentary on the Ka Lae area, South Point, Hawai'i island.

the residents there at the time advocated for it to be a place where people could go to relearn a pono way of living.

there is nothing stronger than the 'aina to help people reconnect with their human-ness.

we know that western style prisons do more harm than good.

break with that unworkable paradigm and go with an island way of thinking.

mahalo.

~Joan Lander Na Maka o ka 'Aina PO Box 29 Na'alehu, Hawai'i

From: Sent:

Jim Johnson [yachtlove@hotmail.com]

To:

Monday, March 12, 2012 6:41 AM HWN Testimony

Subject:

HB 2848 HD3

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Sen. Brickwood Galuteria, Chair Sen. Pohai Ryan, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ONWATER, LAND, AND HOUSING

Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair Sen. Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Sen. Will Espero, Chair

Sen. Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

Aloha Senators:

Our organization stands in strong support of HB 2848 HD3 for a model Pu'uhona as a positive alternative to prison. Please support this measure as a truly sensible cost effective method to deal with crime in our community.

Sincerely,

Jim Johnson

East Hawaii Chapter, Buddhist Peace Fellowship

Dante K. Carpenter 3054 Ala Poha Place, #401 Honolulu, HI 96818

HAWAII STATE SENATE – REGULAR SESSION 2012 COMMITTEES ON HWN, WLH, AND PGM Monday, March 12, 2012 - Conference Room 224 – 2:45 PM

HB 2848 HD3 - RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

Co-Chair Senators Galuteria, Dela Cruz, Espero and Committee Members:

Aloha kakou. My name is Dante Keala Carpenter, Member-Advisor to 'Ohana Ho'opakele. I speak in support of HB2848 HD3 Relating to the establishment of a wellness center and pu'u-honua at the Kulani Prison Site on the Island County of Hawai'i.

President Sam Kaleleiki (Kupuna Sam) and the 'Ohana Ho'opakele members, have a continuing and unwavering commitment and dedication to its mission and purpose: to advocate for alternatives to prisons in the form of pu'uhonua for pa'ahao – now, and for over a decade!

Literally *pu'uhonua* is defined in Pukui & Elbert's Hawaiian Dictionary (1986) as a "sanctuary, refuge, asylum or place of peace & safety" for *pa'ahao* – prisoners, convicts and/or inmates. In modern vernacular it can best be defined or classified as a cultural wellness center with all that title entails.

Notwithstanding the vague and limited testimonies of both DPS and DLNR, ostensibly for the use of facilities for other more puritanical purposes, the much larger portion of natural area comprises more than 5,000 acres that could very easily, in part or total, be used for their stated and/or "preferred" purposes.

However, the longstanding history at Kulani Honor Camp is testimony to the rehabilitative programming and treatment success previously realized in this location, far removed from major community concentrations in Hawai'i County. Further, there is nothing prohibitive about operating in parallel with or adjacent to a mere 200 acres, of the former Kulani Site for a well-structured pu'uhonua or wellness center operation.

To that end, the organization anticipates working with any and all cognizant state department(s) including the Department of Public Safety, DLNR, DHHL, DHHS, OHA as well as any/all other restorative justice groups to utilize appropriate facilities as a *pu'uhonua* or wellness center for substance abuse treatment and intervention programs that take a holistic and cultural approach to help redirect the lives of those affected.

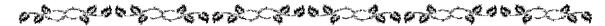
We strongly recommend passage of HB2848 HD3.

E laulima pu kakou! (Let's all work together.) Mahalo a nui loa.

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

76 North King Street, Honolulu, HI 96817

Phones/E-Mail: (808) 533-3454, (808) 927-1214 / kat.caphi@gmail.com



COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Sen. Brickwood Galuteria, Chair Sen. Pohai Ryan, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ONWATER, LAND, AND HOUSING

Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair Sen. Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Sen. Will Espero, Chair

Sen. Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

Monday, March 12, 2012 2:45 p.m. Room224 STRONG SUPPORT for HB 2848 HD3 - PU`UHONUA

E-mail Testimony to: HWNTestimony@Capitol.hawaii.gov

Aloha Chairs Galuteria, Dela Cruz and Espero and Members of the Committees!

My name is Kat Brady and I am the Coordinator Community Alliance on Prisons, a community initiative promoting smart justice policies for more than a decade. This testimony is respectfully offered, always being mindful that 6,000 Hawai`i individuals are living behind bars, including 1,800 men who are serving their sentences abroad, thousands of miles from their loved ones, their homes and, for the disproportionate number of incarcerated Native Hawaiians, far from their ancestral lands.

HB 2848 HD3 establishes a Legislative Wellness Center Task Force to move forward with the concept of pu'uhonua, or wellness center, and to recommend a location for the wellness center on lands owned or controlled by the State with preference given to the site formerly used as the Kulani Correctional Facility in east Hawai`i.

Community Alliance on Prisons is in strong support of this measure. We are pleased to see this bill moving forward and thank the committees for this hearing. Our host culture holds many answers to healing our communities and it is about time we listen to their wisdom!

Establishing a broad-based task force composed of the Office of Hawaiian affairs; the Department of Hawaiian home lands; the Department of Public Safety; the Department of Land and Natural Resources; the Department of Health; the Department of Human Services; four representatives from 'Ohana Ho'opakele and other restorative justice groups; and four representatives from wellness center advocate groups is exactly what is needed.

'Ohana Ho'opakele, led by Kupuna Sam Kaleleiki as well as other kūpuna and other concerned community members has been working on developing Pu'uhonua/wellness centers for more than a decade. We applaud their perseverance and their commitment to heal the people and the land. Uncle Joe Tassel has also been a huge proponent for healing our people.

The majority of our incarcerated population is Native Hawaiian and establishing a Pu`uhonua/wellness center acknowledges that using traditional practices is a way that will resonate with and restore an individual.

Let us make clear, however, that the pu'uhonua is not just for Native Hawaiians. All individuals can benefit from learning Native Hawaiian practices and values. In fact, our communities would be better if we all lived and practiced those values daily.

Healing an individual is more effective than punishment and many misinterpret healing as not holding the individual accountable. This is not true. Ho'oponopono (to make right) is based on accepting responsibility and helping to rebuild and restore relationships. Using practices that connect individuals to the 'aina, their 'ohana, and the larger community is vital to what this session of the legislature strives for...strengthening families and reducing recidivism.

This bill is being watched by the world as the cites below indicate (and this is not all of them!).

MEDIA HITS ON PU'UHONUA BILLS - HB 2848; SB 3016

http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/hawaiian-culture-based-wellness-center-proposed-15617990#.Tz7ZRIcS2V1

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http://www.utsandiego.com/news/2012/feb/14/hawaiian-culture-based-wellness-center-proposed/?ap

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http://www.cfnews13.com/article/news/ap/february/382592/Hawaiian-culturebased-wellness-center-proposed

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http://www.hawaiifreepress.com/ArticlesDailyNews/tabid/65/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/6138/February-16-2012-News-Read.aspx

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MINNESOTA:

http://kstp.com/news/stories/S2497086.shtml?cat=1

MISSISSIPPI:

http://www.sunherald.com/2012/02/15/3753619/hawaiian-culture-based-wellness.html http://www.wlbt.com/story/16937796/hawaiian-culture-based-wellness-center-proposed http://www.wdam.com/story/16937796/hawaiian-culture-based-wellness-center-proposed

_____.

MISSOURI

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NEVADA:

http://www.ktvn.com/story/16937796/hawaiian-culture-based-wellness-center-proposed http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2012/feb/14/hi-xgr-hawaiian-wellness/?hpap

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http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/H/HI_XGR_HAWAIIAN_WELLNESS?SITE=NHCON&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT

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http://www.kob.com/article/stories/S2497087.shtml?cat=600

NEW YORK:

http://www.newsday.com/news/nation/hawaiian-culture-based-wellness-center-proposed-1.3530895

NORTH CAROLINA:

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OHIO:

http://www.hometownstations.com/story/16937796/hawaiian-culture-based-wellness-center-proposed

OREGON:

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PENNSYLVANIA:

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RHODE ISLAND:

http://ww.abc6.com/story/16937796/hawaiian-culture-based-wellness-center-proposed

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TEXAS

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VERMONT:

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VIRGINIA:

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http://www.wvva.com/story/16937796/hawaiian-culture-based-wellness-center-proposed

WASHINGTON, D.C.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/lawmakers-are-looking-into-a-hawaiian-culture-based-wellness-center-torehabilitate-prisoners/2012/02/15/gIQANaqzER_story.html

WASHINGTON STATE:

http://www.theolympian.com/2012/02/14/1990707/hawaiian-culture-based-wellness.html

http://www.onenewspage.com/n/Front+Page/74r3t9eb0/Hawaiian-culture-based-wellness-center-proposed.htm

http://www.i4u.com/2012/02/cathy-mcmorris-rodgers/hawaiian-culture-based-wellness-center-proposed

WISCONSIN:

http://www.wbay.com/story/16937796/hawaiian-culture-based-wellness-center-proposed http://www.wxow.com/story/16937796/hawaiian-culture-based-wellness-center-proposed

WYOMING:

http://www.kotatv.com/story/16937796/hawaiian-culture-based-wellness-center-proposed

We urge the committee to pass this important bill. We need to find alternative means to reintegrate our people who have lost their way. Establishing pu`uhonua is a wonderful way to rebuild our `ohana and communities.

Mahalo for this opportunity to share our thoughts on this important measure.

Today's Inmate is Tomorrow's Neighbor!

From: Sent: Jim Albertini [ja@malu-aina.org] Saturday, March 10, 2012 7:29 PM

To:

HWN Testimony

Subject:

STRONG SUPPORT for HB 2848 HD3 - PU'UHONUA

STRONG SUPPORT for HB 2848 HD3 - PU'UHONUA

Monday, March 12, 2012 2:45 p.m. Room224

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Sen. Brickwood Galuteria, Chair

Sen. Pohai Ryan, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ONWATER, LAND, AND HOUSING

Sen. Donovan Dela Cruz, Chair

Sen. Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Sen. Will Espero, Chair

Sen. Michelle Kidani, Vice Chair

Aloha Senators:

Our organization stands in strong support of HB 2848 HD3 for a model Pu'uhona as a positive alternative to prison.

Please support this measure which offers the best hope to save money, reduce recidivism, prevent crime, and help heal our people and communities.

Mahalo.

Jim Albertini

President

Malu 'Aina

Jim Albertini Malu 'Aina Center For Non-violent Education & Action P.O. Box AB Ola'a (Kurtistown) Hawai'i 96760 Phone 808-966-7622 Email ja@malu-aina.org Visit us on the web at www.malu-aina.org

COMMITTEE ON HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Senator Brickwood Galuteria, Chair Senator Pohai Ryan, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND HOUSING

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Malama Solomon, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Senator Will Espero, Chair Senator Michelle N. Kidani, Vice Chair Monday, March 12, 2012; 2:45 PM; Conference Room 224, State Capitol SUPPORT **HB 2848, HD3 RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY**

Establishes a Legislative Wellness Center Task Force to move forward with the concept of pu'uhonua, or wellness center on lands owned or controlled by the State with preference given to the site formerly used as the Kulani Correctional Facility in east Hawaii. Effective July 1, 2030.

Aloha Senators! My name is Samuel Kaleleiki, Jr., President of Ohana Hoopakele, an organization dedicated to rescuing our *pa`ahao* or incarcerated brothers and sisters in prison. Our vision is to build a *Pu`uhonua* or a Wellness Center that heals rather than punishes. We have been sending spiritual advisors to lead our *pa`ahao* in the Makahiki ceremonies in the past at Diamondback prison in Watonga, Oklahoma and from February 7-12, 2012 at Saguaro prison in Eloy, Arizona and at FCI Safford in Safford, Arizona.

We first want to commend the Representatives who re-introduced this bill to this session of the State legislature and the key role of Mr. Renwick Valentine Ili`ilipuna "Uncle Joe" Tassill. Our members of Ohana Ho`opakele began by opposing the building of new prisons on Hawai'i Island because it was incarcerating mainly Kanaka Maoli. However, we realized that we couldn't just be opposed to something but had to find solutions. After research on what would heal our Kanaka Maoli, we realized that the solution lay in what the Kanaka Maoli did a long time ago. The model for healing was the Pu'uhonua or wellness center where ho`oponopono and aloha aina were the principal values. Our research led to some funding from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs which has resulted in a Feasibility Study of a Pu'uhonua written by consultant Ms. Chelle Shand Pahinui. We also completed with the help of funding from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, a complete needs assessment complete with a survey conducted among our pa'ahao, ex-pa'ahao, families of pa'ahao, cultural practitioners and the general public. It is time to test this model. It cannot be done without the support of the Department of Public Safety of the State of Hawaii. Even within the State of Hawaii Public Prosecutors office, there has been a long-time task force on restorative justice. A prison system built upon the philosophy of punishment has proved NOT to be a solution.

The premises at Kulani Correctional Facility are almost perfect for a Pu'uhonua

or a wellness center. There is adequate land there for a model Pu`uhonua even while continuing a correctional facility. The infrastructure is more than adequate. The staff has been involved in healing for many years. Notable among this was the program initiated by Warden Peter McDonald modeled after the Life Stand program of Neal Wagatsuma at the Kauai Correctional Center. ACOs like Mr. Ikaika Dombriguez were trained by Kupuna Sam Lono in the cultural and spiritual practices of the ancient Kanaka Maoli traditions.

There are other lands under the control of the Department of Public Safety that would also make ideal locations for a Pu`uhonua. One site in East Hawai`i is Field 33 which is just above the zoo in Hilo on Stainback Highway.

Our organization has been developing the curriculum for the Pu`uhonua by sending spiritual leaders to lead our pa`ahao in the opening and closing Makahiki ceremonies every year since 2004 at Diamondback Correctional Facility in Watonga, OK and continuing to the present when the men were transferred to Saguaro Correctional Facility in Eloy, AZ. In the second week of February we sent Mr. Kini Kaleilani Burke to lead a Makahiki Closing Ceremony at Saguaro Correctional Facility at Eloy, AZ and for the first time at FCI Safford at Safford, AZ.

If you would take the time to visit our website at www.ohanahoopakele.org, you will see a Kahea (Call) to Support Pu'uhonua as an Alternative to Prison. The Kahea reads, "We support the mission of 'Ohana Ho'opakele (To Rescue the Family) in establishing Pu'uhonua (Decentralized Wellness Centers – residential and non-residential) on all islands as an alternative to building more prisons. Pu'uhonua are places open to all, not just Kanaka Maoli, where the traditional ho'oponopono process of making right will be used to help heal individuals, families, and communities. We believe Pu'uhonua centers are for the good of all Hawai'i's people and can provide real hope in saving money, reducing recidivism, crime prevention, and long-term positive change." There are now 550 people who have signed on to this Kahea. They include Kanaka Maoli leaders, cultural practitioners, university professors, social workers, religious leaders, lawyers, one county councilman and even two pa'ahao leaders in Saguaro Correctional Facility.

With the assistance of Kumu Richard and Lynette Paglinawan Ohana Ho`opakele has continued to conduct ho`oponopono training sessions and have recently met with leadership at Hale Nani Correctional Facility in East Hawai`i to begin the process of conducting ho`oponopono sessions with pa`ahao and family members on a voluntary basis even before their release from incarceration. This is a specific step in working together with the Department of Public Safety to work toward wellness employing Kanaka Maoli cultural practices.

Our Governor has promised to bring back the 1,700 or so pa`ahao from Arizona. This is an opportune time to plan for a model Pu`uhonua that employs Kanaka Maoli cultural practices. The news of a possible Pu`uhonua in Hawaii has been carried widely by the press in the U.S.A. We believe this is happening because people are looking for alternatives to incarceration in prison. This is an

opportunity for Hawaii to take the lead in finding a better solution than to building more prisons in Hawaii or to send our pa`ahao to be incarcerated in private prisons based on making a profit.

We commend you senators for passing SB 3016 which is essentially the same bill as that before you. Thank you for this opportunity to testify on behalf of our members of Ohana Ho`opakele and on behalf of our *pa`ahao* who have been and are presently incarcerated both here in Hawaii and in Arizona. You can contact me by my cell at 808-937-7193. I would be more than glad to fly over to Honolulu to meet the members of your committees to answer questions. Mahalo!

From: Sent: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Sunday, March 11, 2012 5:08 AM

To:

HWN Testimony

Cc:

Puuhonua2@gmail.com

Subject:

Testimony for HB2848 on 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/WLH/PGM 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM HB2848

Conference room: 224

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: Yes Submitted by: Uncle Joe Tassill

Organization: Individual E-mail: Puuhonua2@gmail.com Submitted on: 3/11/2012

Comments:

I am in strong support of HB2848. The Hooponopono system has worked in the past, is still working today and I am sure it will work in the future. This is a cultural practice that is part of the healing of an INDIVIUALES wrongdoing that may have put him/her in a bad situation with family or friends and needs to be made Pono. This practice is so much better then the present practice we are using , it will help all involved. I strongly support the measure.

From: Sent: galenis@hawaiiantel.net

Sent:

Sunday, March 11, 2012 5:07 AM

To: Subject: HWN Testimony HB 2848 HD3

3/10/12

Aloha Hawaii Representatives,

As a resident of Hawaii, I stand in full support of HB 2848 HD3, the building of a model Pu'uhonua (Ancient Hawaiian Wellness Center). This would be an immense contribution to our islands in that it would assist many to live productive and meaningful lives, and to strengthen the family bonds that are the foundation of a healthy society.

Your support of this endeavor would be a true blessing for our communities, providing a venue for all to look after each other, encouraging decency, cooperation, and a giving back to life. Thank you for helping to make this come into being.

Respectfully, Galen Kelly, Pahoa

From: Sent:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Sunday, March 11, 2012 8:25 AM

To:

HWN Testimony mh@interpac.net

Cc: Subject:

Testimony for HB2848 on 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/WLH/PGM 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM HB2848

Conference room: 224

Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Cory Harden
Organization: Individual
E-mail: mh@interpac.net
Submitted on: 3/11/2012

Comments:

Please support the model Pu'uhona as a positive alternative to prison which offers the best hope to save money, reduce recidivism, prevent crime, and help heal our people and communities.

Dr. Manulani Aluli Meyer 116 Asquith Avenue, Auckland Aotearoa, New Zealand, 1025 <u>manulani@hawaii.edu</u>

Aloha mai kakou:

This is a letter in support HB 2848 RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY. The bill asks for the creation of a Wellness Center on Hawaii Island for the purpose of cultural and healing practices shaped by Hawaiian values and principles.

March 11, 2012

I believe it is a timely and needed discussion to see Hawaiian culture play a more central view in the healing of our people. Because of my experiences offering workshops on ho'opono (truth-telling) for many years in our Hilo jails and prisons, I have grown to understand their/our problems differently. It is clear to me that more exposure to the wealth, strength and beauty of Hawaiian practices and beliefs are needed, and indeed would be greatly beneficial, especially as they link to farming and land practices.

In every island there are practitioners who are available to assist in these practices. We need 'sites of practice' and 'places of healing' so that we can ritualize and intentionalize the practices of kukakuka, mu ka waha, ho'oponopono, ai pono, ku pono, etc. There is simply an un-tapped well-spring from which to draw healing practices for our fractured and displaced people.

I believe each island should have these Wellness/Cultural Centers and that each island can develop their own processes for how they should operate and run. Here are the distinct lessons I am learning through my employment here in Aotearoa/New Zealand, as I work within Maori culture and communities. We can gain much knowledge from the dysfunction we all experience when we wander away from basic practices and ideas that have endured for thousands of years. Why not explore this possibility?

I look forward to returning home to be of service to these cultural centers that will vibrate with the efficacy of *na mea wai wai*, with the wealth of our Hawaiian culture/practices.

Me ka oia i'o,

Manulani Aluli Meyer

Dr. Manu Aluli Meyer Visiting International Scholar Te Wananga o Aotearoa manulani@hawaii.edu

From: Sent: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Sunday, March 11, 2012 9:33 AM

To:

HWN Testimony

Cc:

tjsimms2000@hotmail.com

Subject:

Testimony for HB2848 on 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/WLH/PGM 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM HB2848

Conference room: 224

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: tj simms Organization: Individual

E-mail: tjsimms2000@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 3/11/2012

Comments:

We support HB 2848 Pu`uhonua bill

From: Sent:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sunday, March 11, 2012 9:34 AM

To:

HWN Testimony

Cc: Subject: Kuponomc@gmail.com Testimony for HB2848 on 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/WLH/PGM 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM HB2848

Conference room: 224

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Michael McDaniel

Organization: Individual E-mail: Kuponomc@gmail.com Submitted on: 3/11/2012

Comments:

I want to assert my support for this legislation. I believe this innovative plan will help our citizens in a humane way. Unique programs must be attempted as the old way has proven to be ineffective. For non violent criminals this would provide a way to help them back into society with compassion. Like the successful drug court, this positive approach must be tried. The relationship changes from adversarial to a partnership and I have hope that it will be successful. If we do not try we will never know if we could have helped these confused citizens.

From: Sent: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Sunday, March 11, 2012 9:40 AM

To:

HWN Testimony

Cc:

Puuhonua2@gmail.com

Subject:

Testimony for HB2848 on 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/WLH/PGM 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM HB2848

Conference room: 224

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: Yes

Submitted by: June Y. Toguchi-Tassill

Organization: Ohana Hoopakele E-mail: <u>Puuhonua2@gmail.com</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2012

Comments:

Aloha to the Chairpersons, Vice-Chairpersons and members of the committees, my name is June Toguchi-Tassill and I thank you for hearing HB2848. I am in strong support to the measure. I know this will improve the crises situation our state and it's people face with the high cost of incarsiration and the problem we face with out of state imprisonment and the hardship placed on family that are separated from the imprisoned.

I strongly support the Puuhonua system and the cultural practice it will provide all involved, the individual, family members and close friends the individual may have done wrongdoing against. It will help address and cutback the high rate of individuals returning to prison adding more cost on the tax payer. Although the focus may be on the Hawaiians incarcirated, the hooponopono practice will be beneficial to the entire prison population. For these reasons I ask you to pass this bill and help this become a win win for all the people of Hawaii. Again thank you for hearing my testimony.

Aloha June Toguchi-Tassill

From: Sent:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Saturday, March 10, 2012 7:21 PM

To:

HWN Testimony evernw@aol.com

Cc: Subject:

Testimony for HB2848 on 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/WLH/PGM 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM HB2848

Conference room: 224

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Evern E Williams

Organization: Individual E-mail: evernw@aol.com Submitted on: 3/10/2012

Comments:

HB 2848 H3 is forward thinking, solution oriented legislation that deserves your approval. Please pass it.

From: Sent:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Sunday, March 11, 2012 10:26 AM

To:

Cc:

Subject:

HWN Testimony ggexcavations@hotmail.com Testimony for HB2848 on 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/WLH/PGM 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM HB2848

Conference room: 224

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: lis kirbin Organization: Individual

E-mail: ggexcavations@hotmail.com

Submitted on: 3/11/2012

Comments: support

From:

Sent:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Sunday, March 11, 2012 10:27 AM HWN Testimony

To:

09jjuji@hotmail.com

Cc: Subject:

Testimony for HB2848 on 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/WLH/PGM 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM HB2848

Conference room: 224

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: julie jergensen Organization: Individual E-mail: <u>09jjuji@hotmail.com</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2012

Comments:

From:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Sunday, March 11, 2012 10:52 AM

To:

HWN Testimony

Cc: Subject: safialoha@yahoo.com Testimony for HB2848 on 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/WLH/PGM 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM HB2848

Conference room: 224

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: SAFI

Organization: Individual E-mail: <u>safialoha@yahoo.com</u> Submitted on: 3/11/2012

Comments:

Aloha Senators:

I stands in strong support of HB 2848 HD3 for a model Pu'uhona as a positive alternative to prison.

Please support this measure which offers the best hope to save money, reduce recidivism, prevent crime, and help heal our people and communities.

Mahalo.

Safi

International Holistic Consultant/practitioner

From:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Sunday, March 11, 2012 11:24 AM

To:

HWN Testimony

Cc:

mattrifkin28@gmail.com

Subject:

Testimony for HB2848 on 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/WLH/PGM 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM HB2848

Conference room: 224

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Matthew Rifkin Organization: Individual

E-mail: mattrifkin28@gmail.com

Submitted on: 3/11/2012

Comments:

Aloha. I am a Big Island resident.

Bringing back prisoners from the privately run mainland prisons is a good idea.

Using a new approach to the healing and rehabilitation process and using Native Hawaiian cultural practices is an even better idea. The current, harsh punitive nature of the prison system does not work, and it is time to try new methods.

This form of rehabilitation could become a model used by many communities to restore, rebuild and heal. It deserves a chance, and it needs your full and enthusiastic support.

From: Sent: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Sunday, March 11, 2012 11:37 AM

To:

HWN Testimony

Cc:

denisechillingworth@yahoo.com

Subject:

Testimony for HB2848 on 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/WLH/PGM 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM HB2848

Conference room: 224

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No

Submitted by: Denise K. Chillingworth

Organization: Individual

E-mail: denisechillingworth@yahoo.com

Submitted on: 3/11/2012

Comments:

I am submitting my support for HB2848. It is imperative that we have an alternative to incarceration to promote wellness to the individual and their 'ohana.

Mahalo,

Denise K. Chillingworth

From: Sent: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Sunday, March 11, 2012 12:07 PM

To:

HWN Testimony

Cc:

artsyoceanic@yahoo.com

Subject:

Testimony for HB2848 on 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/WLH/PGM 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM HB2848

Conference room: 224

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: bonnie morgan Organization: Individual

E-mail: artsyoceanic@yahoo.com

Submitted on: 3/11/2012

Comments:

From:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Sunday, March 11, 2012 1:41 PM

To:

HWN Testimony murry@hawaii.edu

Cc: Subject:

Testimony for HB2848 on 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/WLH/PGM 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM HB2848

Conference room: 224

Testifier position: Support
Testifier will be present: No
Submitted by: Carol Murry
Organization: Individual
E-mail: murry@hawaii.edu
Submitted on: 3/11/2012

Comments:

I strongly support formation of a Legislative Wellness Center Task Force to move forward with the concept of pu'uhonua, or wellness center, and to recommend a location for the wellness center on lands owned or controlled by the State with preference given to the site formerly used as the Kulani Correctional Facility in east Hawaii. It is counterproductive to send those who have ended up in prison away from their families and culture. And it is clearly an expensive option that is not working. It is way past time to move forward with a culturally based solution that has the potential to turn our mostly drug-related criminal problems around. It will save both money and lives.

From:

Sent:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Sunday, March 11, 2012 2:12 PM

To:

HWN Testimony

Cc:

kaiwahine@hawaiiantel.net

Subject:

Testimony for HB2848 on 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/WLH/PGM 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM HB2848

Conference room: 224

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Bobbie Alicen Organization: Individual

E-mail: <u>kaiwahine@hawaiiantel.net</u>

Submitted on: 3/11/2012

Comments:

From:

Robert Petricci [nimo1767@gmail.com]

Sent:

Sunday, March 11, 2012 6:30 PM

To: Subject:

HWN Testimony HB 2848 HD3 – PU'UHONUA

STRONG SUPPORT for HB 2848 HD3 - PU'UHONUA

- This bill acknowledges that individuals who violate the law need healing as much as the victims
- Healing an individual is more effective than punishment and many misinterpret healing as not holding the individual accountable. This is not true.
- Ho'oponopono (to make right) is based on accepting responsibility and helping to rebuild and restore relationships.
- Using practices that connect individuals to the 'aina, their 'ohana, and the larger community is vital to what this session of the legislature strives for...strengthening families and reducing recidivism
- Using Native Hawaiian cultural practices is a better approach since the majority of our incarcerated people are Native Hawaiian.
- The pu'uhonua is not exclusively for Native Hawaiians, it is for everyone who can benefit from learning Native Hawaiian values and practicing them because they promote community wellness, connection, and accountability.
- It's about time we acknowledge that we need to do things differently punishment alone has not worked we need to employ strategies that resonate with our incarcerated population that connect them to the community and help them to understand their responsibilities as members of the community
- Pu'uhonua is a PLACE, NOT A PROGRAM finding state land on all islands for this purpose will benefit us all
- Kulani's original purpose was all about healing, reflection, and helping people to develop skills that would enable them to support themselves and their families
- The world is watching this bill as the story has been picked up by more than 100 media outlets worldwide
- Hawai'i can be a model for the world of how to rehabilitate, restore and rebuild communities

From: Sent: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Sunday, March 11, 2012 7:19 PM

To:

HWN Testimony

Cc:

shannonkona@gmail.com

Subject:

Testimony for HB2848 on 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/WLH/PGM 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM HB2848

Conference room: 224

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Shannon Rudolph Organization: Individual

E-mail: shannonkona@gmail.com

Submitted on: 3/11/2012

Comments:

From: Sent:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Monday, March 12, 2012 7:12 AM

To:

HWN Testimony

Cc:

kaukauking@yahoo.com

Subject:

Testimony for HB2848 on 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM

Testimony for HWN/WLH/PGM 3/12/2012 2:45:00 PM HB2848

Conference room: 224

Testifier position: Support Testifier will be present: No Submitted by: Kalani Tassill Organization: Individual E-mail: kaukauking@yahoo.com Submitted on: 3/12/2012

Comments:

Aloha,

I'm in total support of hb2848.

Mahalo

Kalani Tassill

From:

dekinekind@hawaiiantel.net

Sent:

Sunday, March 11, 2012 7:08 AM

To:

HWN Testimony

Subject:

Pu'uhonua

Dear Elected or Appointed Official,

I support Pu'uhonua as this alternative to the prison system we now have is the most humanitarian thing we can do for our community. It addresses the spirit of the individual in philosophy rather than as a side note and a healed spirit will be an asset when released into any community including yours.

Aloha,

L. V. Kelly, Pahoa

From:

Catherine Lampton [clampton@hawaii.rr.com]

Sent:

Monday, March 12, 2012 9:19 AM

To:

HWN Testimony

Subject:

HB 2848 HD 3 Pu'uhonua support

Aloha Sirs:

I am writing today in strong SUPPORT for HB 2848 HD 3 for making Kulani grounds into Pu'uhonua because:

- Uncle Sam, President of 'Ohana Ho'opakele and Uncle Joe Tassel deserve the credit for getting this bill this far
- This bill acknowledges that individuals who violate the law need healing as much as the victims
- Healing an individual is more effective than punishment and many misinterpret healing as not holding the individual accountable. This is not true.
- Ho'oponopono (to make right) is based on accepting responsibility and helping to rebuild and restore relationships.
- Using practices that connect individuals to the 'aina, their 'ohana, and the larger community is vital to what this session of the legislature strives for...strengthening families and reducing recidivism
- Using Native Hawaiian cultural practices is a better approach since the majority of our incarcerated people are Native Hawaiian.
- The pu'uhonua is not exclusively for Native Hawaiians, it is for everyone who can benefit from learning Native Hawaiian values and practicing them because they promote community wellness, connection, and accountability.
- It's about time we acknowledge that we need to do things differently punishment alone has not worked we need to employ strategies that resonate with our incarcerated population that connect them to the community and help them to understand their responsibilities as members of the community
- Pu'uhonua is a PLACE, NOT A PROGRAM finding state land on all islands for this purpose will benefit us all
- Kulani's original purpose was all about healing, reflection, and helping people to develop skills that would enable them to support themselves and their families
- The world is watching this bill as the story has been picked up by more than 100 media outlets worldwide
- Hawai'i can be a model for the world of how to rehabilitate, restore and rebuild communities

Mahalo for your time and consideration of this great opportunity to build community and save money!

Catherine Lampton Keaau 96749

NA KUPUNA MOKU O KEAWE

Hanalei Fergerstrom, Spokesperson

We stand in STRONG SUPPORT for HB 2848 HD3

Na Kupuna Moku O Keawe stands in support of the creation of a Puu Honua (Wellness Center) at ther former Kulani Prison grounds.

Several of our founding Kupuna were directly involve with the efforts of Ohana Ho'opakele and stand ready to help further this project.

We humbly ask for youe support also.

Aloha Mai, Hanalei Fergerstrom Na Kupuna Moku O Keawe