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# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE STATE TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO IMPLEMENT A THREE-YEAR  
EARNED-TIME PILOT PROGRAM TO ALLOW INMATES UNDER THE  
JURISDICTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO EARN  
CREDIT TOWARD REDUCING THEIR MINIMUM TERM OF IMPRISONMENT.

1           WHEREAS, earned-time programs reduce the length of  
2 incarceration for certain non-dangerous offenders while  
3 maintaining public safety; and  
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5           WHEREAS, earned-time programs can create an incentive for  
6 motivated inmates to work, take part in rehabilitation, and  
7 prepare for successful reintegration into the community; and  
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9           WHEREAS, earned-time programs can reduce the corrections  
10 budget burden by reducing recidivism; and  
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12           WHEREAS, earned-time programs can also help build safe  
13 communities; and  
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15           WHEREAS, typically, earned-time programs enable eligible  
16 inmates to earn credits for earned-time through education and  
17 work activities; and  
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19           WHEREAS, for example, in more than a dozen states, inmates  
20 earn time off their sentences by:  
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- 22           (1) Participating in or completing educational courses;  
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- 24           (2) Working, including engaging in facility work  
25 assignments, jobs with prison industries or work  
26 crews, or working in disaster relief or conservation  
27 projects;  
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- 29           (3) Completing vocational programs;



1 (4) Participating in rehabilitative programs, including  
2 substance abuse and mental health treatment; and  
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4 (5) Performing meritorious service, such as preventing  
5 escape, helping in emergency situations, and helping  
6 to maintain the safety and security of the  
7 institution; and  
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9 WHEREAS, the National Council on Crime and Delinquency  
10 recently published a literature review of studies on states'  
11 accelerated release policies over a 23-year period, and of the  
12 13 research reports reviewed, none found a statistically  
13 significant increase in rates of recidivism for offenders who  
14 obtained an accelerated release and a few studies instead found  
15 a decrease in recidivism rates; and  
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17 WHEREAS, the National Conference of State Legislatures  
18 reported in 2011 that Hawaii was one of only seven states that  
19 did not offer "good time" or earned-time credits; now,  
20 therefore,  
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22 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
23 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
24 Session of 2013, the Senate concurring, that the Hawaii Paroling  
25 Authority, with the assistance of the Department of Public  
26 Safety and Department of the Attorney General, is requested to  
27 develop a plan to implement a three-year earned-time pilot  
28 program that allows inmates under the jurisdiction of the  
29 Department of Public Safety, whether housed in Hawaii or in  
30 contracted correctional facilities on the mainland, to earn  
31 credit toward reducing their minimum term of imprisonment if  
32 certain requirements are met; and  
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34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that under the plan for the earned-  
35 time pilot program, an inmate shall become eligible for parole  
36 before the expiration of the inmate's minimum term set by the  
37 Hawaii Paroling Authority upon demonstrating progress toward  
38 rehabilitation in each of the following categories to the extent  
39 that such services are available at the person's correctional  
40 facility:  
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42 (1) Work, vocational, or occupational training and skills;  
43 provided that a determination of progress shall  
44 include consideration of factors such as attendance,



- 1           promptness, performance, cooperation, care of
- 2           materials, and safety;
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- 4           (2) Social adjustment, including skills such as group
- 5           living, housekeeping, personal hygiene, and
- 6           cooperation;
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- 8           (3) Counseling sessions and self-help groups;
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- 10          (4) Therapeutic and other similar departmental programs;
- 11          and
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- 13          (5) Education or literacy programs; and
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15           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that under the plan for the earned-  
 16 time pilot program, the Hawaii Paroling Authority is requested  
 17 to establish criteria for inmates who are ineligible for the  
 18 earned-time pilot program; and

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20           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public  
 21 Safety, Department of the Attorney General, Hawaii Paroling  
 22 Authority, and other involved parties are requested to develop  
 23 structured guidelines that clearly establish that inmates have  
 24 the opportunity to earn credits to reduce their minimum term of  
 25 imprisonment, but they do not necessarily have a right to  
 26 participate in this pilot program; and

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28           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the plan for the earned-time  
 29 pilot program include an annual review by the Department of  
 30 Public Safety of the records of each inmate committed to the  
 31 custody of the Director of Public Safety for the purposes of the  
 32 earned-time pilot program and to determine whether to grant,  
 33 withhold, withdraw, or restore an earned-time deduction from the  
 34 inmate's minimum term of imprisonment; and

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36           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Director of Public Safety  
 37 is urged to promptly notify the crime victim, as applicable, of  
 38 any adjustment in the inmate's minimum term completion date; and

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40           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Paroling Authority,  
 41 with the assistance of the Department of Public Safety and  
 42 Department of the Attorney General, submit to the Legislature a  
 43 plan to implement the three-year earned-time pilot program no



1 later than 20 days before the commencement of the Regular  
2 Session of 2014; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
5 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Public  
6 Safety, Attorney General, and Administrator of the Hawaii  
7 Paroling Authority.

