

---

---

## HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE STATE TO DEVELOP A PLAN TO IMPLEMENT AN EARNED-TIME 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  
4

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  
8

9           WHEREAS, earned-time programs can reduce the corrections  
10 budget burden by reducing recidivism; and  
11

12           WHEREAS, earned-time programs can also help build safe  
13 communities; and  
14

15           WHEREAS, typically, earned-time programs enable eligible  
16 inmates to earn credits for earned-time through education and  
17 work activities; and  
18

19           WHEREAS, for example, in more than a dozen states, inmates  
20 earn time off their sentences by:  
21

- 22           (1) Participating in or completing educational courses;
- 23
- 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;
- 28
- 29           (3) Completing vocational programs;
- 30
- 31           (4) Participating in rehabilitative programs, including  
32 substance abuse and mental health treatment; and



1 (5) Performing meritorious service, such as preventing  
2 escape, helping in emergency situations, and helping  
3 to maintain the safety and security of the  
4 institution; and  
5

6 WHEREAS, the National Council on Crime and Delinquency  
7 recently published a literature review of studies on states'  
8 accelerated release policies over a 23-year period, and of the  
9 13 research reports reviewed, none found a statistically  
10 significant increase in rates of recidivism for offenders who  
11 obtained an accelerated release and a few studies instead found  
12 a decrease in recidivism rates; and  
13

14 WHEREAS, the National Conference of State Legislatures  
15 reported in 2011 that Hawaii was one of only seven states that  
16 did not offer "good time" or earned-time credits; now,  
17 therefore,  
18

19 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
20 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
21 Session of 2013, that the Hawaii Paroling Authority, with the  
22 assistance of the Department of Public Safety and Department of  
23 the Attorney General, is requested to develop a plan to  
24 implement an earned-time program that allows inmates under the  
25 jurisdiction of the Department of Public Safety, whether housed  
26 in Hawaii or in contracted correctional facilities on the  
27 mainland, to earn credit toward reducing their minimum term of  
28 imprisonment if certain requirements are met; and  
29

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that under the plan for the earned-  
31 time program, an inmate shall become eligible for parole before  
32 the expiration of the inmate's minimum term set by the Hawaii  
33 Paroling Authority upon demonstrating progress toward  
34 rehabilitation in each of the following categories to the extent  
35 that such services are available at the person's correctional  
36 facility:  
37

38 (1) Work, vocational, or occupational training and skills;  
39 provided that a determination of progress shall  
40 include consideration of factors such as attendance,



- 1                   promptness, performance, cooperation, care of
- 2                   materials, and safety;
- 3
- 4           (2)   Social adjustment, including skills such as group
- 5                   living, housekeeping, personal hygiene, and
- 6                   cooperation;
- 7
- 8           (3)   Counseling sessions and self-help groups;
- 9
- 10          (4)   Therapeutic and other similar departmental programs;
- 11                   and
- 12
- 13          (5)   Education or literacy programs; and
- 14

15           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the plan for the earned-time  
16 program include an annual review by the Department of Public  
17 Safety of the records of each inmate committed to the custody of  
18 the Director of Public Safety for the purposes of the earned-  
19 time program and to determine whether to grant, withhold,  
20 withdraw, or restore an earned-time deduction from the inmate's  
21 minimum term of imprisonment; and

22

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

26

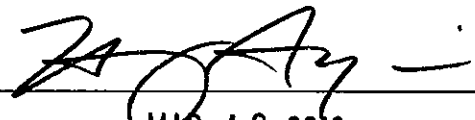
27           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Paroling Authority,  
28 with the assistance of the Department of Public Safety and  
29 Department of the Attorney General, submit to the Legislature a  
30 plan to implement the earned-time program no later than 20 days  
31 before the commencement of the Regular Session of 2014; and

32

33           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
34 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Public Safety,  
35 Attorney General, and Administrator of the Hawaii Paroling  
36 Authority.

37  
38  
39

OFFERED BY:

  
MAR 13 2013

