

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL (SB) 2315, SENATE DRAFT (SD) 1
MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
TO PROVIDE SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT SERVICES

by

Ted Sakai, Director
Department of Public Safety

House Committee on Finance
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair
Representative Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice Chair
Representative Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 27, 2014; 3:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) **supports** SB 2315, SD 1. The bill, as written, will provide PSD resources to engage an inmate in addressing substance abuse problems upon entry into the Reception, Assessment and Diagnostic Unit at the Halawa Correctional Facility (HCF). This bill will increase the availability of substance abuse treatment services at HCF. Inmates will benefit by receiving appropriate substance abuse treatment services based on their assessed level of care.

The interaction of inmates with a certified substance abuse counselor in the initial stage of the incarceration period may help motivate inmates to seek treatment and participate in other correctional programs that promote education, positive social behavior, or vocational training.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

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COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair

Rep. Scott Nishimoto, Vice Chair

Rep. Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 27, 2014

3:00 p.m.

Room 308

SUPPORT SB 2315 SD1- Funding for Substance Abuse Treatment at Halawa

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chairs Nishimoto and Johanson and Members of the Committee!

My name is Kat Brady and I am the Coordinator of Community Alliance on Prisons, community initiative promoting smart justice policies for more than a decade. This testimony is respectfully offered on behalf of the 5,800 Hawai'i individuals living behind bars, always mindful that approximately 1,500 Hawai'i individuals are serving their sentences abroad, thousands of miles away from their loved ones, their homes and, for the disproportionate number of incarcerated Native Hawaiians, far from their ancestral lands.

SB 2315 SD1 appropriates funds to the PSD to provide substance abuse treatment services to Halawa Correctional Facility inmates.

With the current news of ACOs being busted for bringing in drugs, we imagine the need for substance abuse treatment at Halawa is great. Therefore, Community Alliance on Prisons supports dedicating money for substance abuse treatment at Halawa.

We suggest that the committee ask the department to file a report before the opening of the 2015 Legislature outlining how this money was spent, how many treatment slots were available and filled, the number of individuals who completed the program(s) and the after care provided to those who completed the program.

We also want to take this opportunity to express the concerns of many families about the change in visitation at Halawa. We have been told that there are no more contact visits for all custody levels. The data is clear that visitation and contact with loved ones has a positive effect on recidivism and Community Alliance on Prisons expresses our concern over this change.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.



SB2315 SD1 Substance Abuse Treatment for Halawa

- COMMITTEE ON FINANCE: Representative Luke, Chair; Representative Nishimoto, Vice Chair; Representative Johanson, Vice Chair
- Thursday, March 27, 2014; 3:00 p.m.
- Conference Room 308

HAWAII SUBSTANCE ABUSE COALITION Supports SB2315 SD1

Good Morning Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, Vice Chair Johanson, and Distinguished Committee Members. My name is Alan Johnson. I am the current chair of the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition (HSAC), a statewide organization of more than twenty non-profit treatment and prevention agencies.

The connection between drug abuse and crime is well known.

50% to 67% of inmates in jails and State and Federal prisons meet standard diagnostic criteria (DSM-IV) for alcohol/drug dependence or abuse. Yet only 7% to 17% of these prisoners receive treatment in jail or prison.

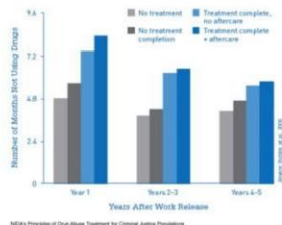
Left untreated, drug-abusing offenders can relapse to drug use and return to criminal behavior. This jeopardizes public health and public safety, leads to re-arrest and re-incarceration, and further taxes an already over-burdened criminal justice system.

Prolonged abstinence does NOT cure addiction.

Drug abuse treatment in criminal justice settings include therapeutic communities (TCs) in prison and community work-release settings, drug courts designed to blend treatment with judicial monitoring and sanctions, Treatment

Accountability for Safer Communities (TASC) case management approaches, and drug treatment alternatives to incarceration.

After treatment in prison, research strongly indicates that continuing treatment and aftercare in the community is needed to sustain gains.



Follow-up Community-Based Treatment is Necessary

Combining prison-based treatment with community-based treatment upon release reduces the risk of recidivism, decreases substance abuse, improves prospects for employment, and increases pro-social behavior.

Medications Can Improve Treatment and Reduce Crime

Research shows that combining treatment medications with behavioral therapy is the best way to ensure success for most patients. Yet despite known efficacy, pharmacological treatments for drug addiction are underused in the criminal justice system.

**Treatment with Medications
Can Work with Criminal Justice
Populations**

Case management and referral to other medical, psychological, and social services are crucial components of treatment for many offenders.

**Treatment reaps the
greatest cost savings.**

Treatment for adults and adolescents is cost-effective because it reduces costs related to drug use, health care, and crime, including incarceration costs. Adding treatment components to both in- and out-of-prison reaps the greatest cost savings.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony and are available for questions.

finance1

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, March 26, 2014 12:21 PM
To: FINTestimony
Cc: shannonkona@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2315 on Mar 27, 2014 15:00PM

SB2315

Submitted on: 3/26/2014

Testimony for FIN on Mar 27, 2014 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Support.

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COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chairperson
Honorable Representatives Scott Nishimoto & Aaron Ling Johanson, Vice Chairpersons
Thursday, March 27, 2014
3:00 p.m.
Room 308

STRONG SUPPORT SB 2308 SD1- RELATING TO CHILDREN; SB 2315 SD1 MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO PROVIDE SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT SERVICES; and SB 2884 SD2 RELATING TO PAROLE

Please vote yes to pass these three measures to improve our corrections strategies to make our community safer and healthier.

SB 2308 SD1 Relating to Children would give the department of public safety funding to assist the children of imprisoned parents and help with family reunification for imprisoned people. We have done research and written on the importance of assisting children and families deal with the effects of incarceration on their lives. A paper we wrote is forthcoming in a book being edited by law professors Tali Gal at Haifa University, Israel, and Benedetta Faedi Duramy at Golden Gate University, California, being published by the Oxford University Press. Also research on criminal desistance by Dr. Shadd Maruna, Queen's University, Ireland, discussed in his numerous publications including *Making Good: How Ex-Convicts Reform and Rebuild Their Lives* shows how vital it is for the rehabilitation of people in prison to make amends with family.

SB 2315 SD1 Making an Appropriation for the Department of Public Safety to Provide Substance Abuse Treatment Services would provide funding for drug and alcohol treatment at Halawa prison. It is common knowledge well supported by research that the motivation for many crimes is substance abuse. This appropriation is absolutely necessary for the protection of our community.

SB 2884 SD2 Relating to Parole makes clear that funds may be provided for people leaving incarceration and clarifies other parole matters. This measure is also in the best interests of our community.

All three measures are a step in making our corrections system more effective for rehabilitation, which makes our community safer and healthier. Please contact Lorenn Walker, JD, MPH (808) 218-3712 or lorenn@hawaii.edu if you have any questions about our work since our non-profit incorporation established to improve the justice system in Hawai'i since 1980.

Thank you for your time and efforts serving the public and our community.