
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that older inmates are
2 the fastest growing segment of the prison population in the
3 United States. A recent American Civil Liberties Union report
4 noted that more than 246,000 people over the age of fifty were
5 behind bars. Generally, older inmates need more frequent and
6 more expensive health care. Not surprisingly, older prisoners
7 are a growing expense for the State since tax dollars pay for
8 most of the expenses of inmate health care. To establish a plan
9 to manage the rising cost of inmate health care, particularly
10 for older inmates, the department of budget and finance and
11 department of public safety, collaboratively, should conduct an
12 economic impact analysis to identify ways to reduce costs, while
13 providing adequate health care.

14 The purpose of this Act is to require the department of
15 budget and finance and the department of public safety to
16 collaborate in conducting an economic impact analysis relating
17 to managing the increasing costs of caring for aging inmates and



1 establishing a plan to manage and reduce the cost of inmate
2 health care, especially for older inmates.

3 SECTION 2. (a) The department of budget and finance and
4 the department of public safety shall collaborate to conduct a
5 study of the economic impact of the current and future projected
6 health care cost for incarcerated persons, with an emphasis on
7 the health care needs of inmates fifty-five and older. The
8 study shall include:

- 9 (1) The current number of incarcerated persons fifty-five
10 years of age or older;
- 11 (2) An estimate of the number of incarcerated persons who
12 will be fifty-five years of age or older in each of
13 the next ten years;
- 14 (3) An analysis of the current health care costs for
15 incarcerated persons fifty-five years of age and
16 older;
- 17 (4) An analysis of current health care costs for
18 incarcerated persons under the age of fifty-five
19 years; and
- 20 (5) A projected analysis of health care costs for
21 incarcerated persons over the age of fifty-five years
22 in 2024.



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1 (b) The department of budget and finance and department of
2 public safety shall establish a plan to manage the projected
3 increase of health care costs for the aging incarcerated
4 population for the next ten years.

5 (c) The department of budget and finance and the
6 department of public safety shall submit report of their
7 analysis, findings, and recommendations, including any proposed
8 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
9 to the convening of the 2015 regular session.

10 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

11

INTRODUCED BY:

Cindy Evans

JAN 14 2014



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Report Title:

Aging Prison Populations; Economic Fiscal Impact; Costs

Description:

Requires BUF and PSD to conduct a study of the economic impact of health care costs for the aging incarcerated population and establish a plan to manage the projected health care costs.

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