
HOUSE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND THE UNIVERSITY
OF HAWAII SYSTEM TO ADDRESS THE SHORTAGE OF HIGHLY EDUCATED
AND QUALIFIED ADULT CORRECTIONS OFFICERS.

1 WHEREAS, adult corrections officers are tasked with the
2 essential responsibility of enforcing the rules and procedures
3 in Hawaii's prisons, while ultimately ensuring public safety;
4 and
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6 WHEREAS, adult corrections officers are required to
7 complete Basic Corrections Training, which includes four hundred
8 forty hours of classroom time and physical training, suicide
9 monitoring and prevention, first aid, cardiopulmonary
10 resuscitation, and crisis intervention for incarcerated
11 individuals; and
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13 WHEREAS, the number of adult corrections officers employed
14 by the Department of Public Safety is disproportionately small
15 compared to the increasing number of prisoners, resulting in
16 staff shortages that can create an unsafe environment for both
17 correctional staff as well as prison inmates; and
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19 WHEREAS, the University of Hawaii system currently offers
20 programs that educate students on all aspects of administration
21 of justice, including crime detection, corrections, and
22 forensics, that help the students enrolled in that program to
23 prepare for careers in law enforcement; and
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25 WHEREAS, the Department of Public Safety has recently
26 revamped its training methods to include psychological and
27 competency assessments in order to attract highly qualified and
28 competent individuals; and
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1 WHEREAS, the Legislature strongly supports the recruitment
2 of highly qualified individuals to become employed as adult
3 corrections officers; now, therefore,
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5 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
6 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
7 Session of 2014, that the Department of Public Safety in
8 collaboration with the University of Hawaii is strongly
9 encouraged to develop and implement an educational pathway for
10 students currently enrolled in the administration of justice
11 programs offered throughout the University of Hawaii system that
12 will prepare students to succeed in careers as adult corrections
13 officers; and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the University of Hawaii
16 community colleges are requested to focus on providing
17 instruction and curricula that provide administration of justice
18 students with the skills necessary to become the type of adult
19 corrections officer with the Department of Public Safety that
20 can meet the demanding challenges presented by Hawaii's prison
21 population; and
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23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
24 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Public Safety and
25 the President of the University of Hawaii.
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OFFERED BY: _____



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