HB 2363 HD2

RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

Provides systematic reentry programming for nonviolent, low-risk drug offenders by establishing the Reentry Pilot Project for Nonviolent, Low-risk Drug Offenders. Effective July 1, 2020, and repealed on June 30, 2016. (HB2363 HD2)

NEIL ABERCROMBIE GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor Honolulu, Hawaii 96814 TED SAKAI DIRECTOR

Martha Torney
Deputy Director
Administration

Max Otani
Deputy Director
Corrections

Shawn Tsuha Deputy Director Law Enforcement

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL (HB) 2363, HOUSE DRAFT (HD) 2
RELATING TO
PUBLIC SAFETY

by
Ted Sakai, Director
Department of Public Safety

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Senator Will Espero, Chair
Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 11, 2014; 2:50 p.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 224

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) would like to comment on HB 2363, HD 2 which establishes a two-year reentry pilot project within PSD for the provision of a coordinated system of reentry treatment and support services to assist non-violent, low-risk male and female drug offenders in transitioning to the community from jail or prison.

PSD agrees that the amendments made in HD 1 and HD 2 helps clarify the intended participants in the pilot project, the intended role of PSD, and the intended services to be provided. Having inmates prepared for release into the community will provide offenders a better opportunity for success, thereby increasing public safety. This bill as written, will allow PSD to provide reentry services to offenders, other than the sentenced felon population. Many jail detainees are in need of similar services to

HB 2363, HD 2 March 11, 2014 Page 2

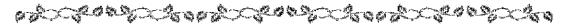
those that were sentenced to prison, and without such services, will often recidivate and return to incarceration.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

P.O. Box 37158, Honolulu, HI 96837-0158

Phone/email: (808) 927-1214 / kat.caphi@gmail.com



COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Sen. Will Espero, Chair Sen. Rosalyn Baker, Vice Chair Tuesday, March 11, 2014 2:50 p.m. Room 224

SUPPORT HB 2363 HD2 - REENTRY PROGRAM FOR NONVIOLENT DRUG OFFENDERS

Aloha Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker 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.

HB 2363 HD2 provides systematic reentry programming for nonviolent, low-risk drug offenders by establishing the Reentry Pilot Project for Nonviolent, Low-risk Drug Offenders. Effective July 1, 2020, and repealed on June 30, 2016.

Community Alliance on Prisons supports this measure and anything that will jump start Chapter 353H, HRS –Hawai'i's Reentry Law that was passed in 2007 and never implemented.

There's an old adage that says you need to spend money to make money. Community Alliance on Prisons respectfully asks the committee to view the funding needed to secure contracts for service delivery in our communities as an investment in social capital.

This is a good start and we are happy to see the evaluation as an important part of reentry. We hope that the evaluation piece would be done by an independent entity and presented to the Legislature and the general public for review.

Although this is a program, Community Alliance on Prisons wants to emphasize that reentry is not a program; *REENTRY IS A PROCESS*. And the process starts the day someone is incarcerated. Without ongoing preparation, success is an even greater challenge.

"Reentry isn't rocket science; it's actually much harder."

Ted Sakai, Hope in Hawai`i Conference

Humans are complex beings. NASA can find the broken part and replace it...in humans...not so easy.

The National Institute of Corrections *Transitions from Prison to Community* Reentry Handbook chapter on "Beyond Corrections and Criminal Justice - Barriers to Reentry" indicates some of the barriers individuals exiting incarceration face in reentering the community and some of the services they need.

- Up to one-third of all adult offenders within correctional institutions have a diagnosable mental disorder, yet receive no appropriate services in prison.¹
- Three-fourths of adult inmates have substance abuse problems, yet only about 10 percent receive formal treatment while incarcerated.²
- Of incarcerated adults and juveniles with mental disorders, 60 to 75 percent have co-occurring substance abuse difficulties.³
- Of adults released from correctional placement, 40 percent have not obtained a general equivalency diploma (GED) or high school diploma.⁴
- Only one-third of inmates receive vocational training while incarcerated.5
- Fifty-five percent of inmates have children under 18 years of age.6

Clearly, these deficits and challenges raise barriers to offenders seeking employment that will generate a living wage and lead to a stable and law-abiding lifestyle. Yet the public agencies

¹ Paula M. Ditton, Mental Health and Treatment of Inmates and Probationers (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 1999); and Caroline Wolf Harlow, Profile of Jail

Inmates, 1996 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 1998).

² Theodore Hammett, "Health-Related Issues in Prisoner Reentry to the Community" (paper presented at the Reentry Roundtable on Public Health Dimensions of Prisoner Reentry, Urban Institute, Washington, DC, October 2000); and Christopher J. Mumola, Substance Abuse and Treatment, State and Federal Prisoners, 1997 (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 1999).

³ The Prevalence of Co-Occurring Mental and Substance Abuse Disorders in Jails (Washington, D.C.: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, National GAINS Center for People With Co-Occurring Disorders in the Justice System, 2002); and "Co-Occurring Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders Among Youth Involved in the Juvenile Justice System," online tutorial, National GAINS Center for People With Co-Occurring Disorders in the Justice System and the University of Washington, 2001), www.ncmhjj. com/curriculum/juvenile/index.htm (accessed May 22, 2008).

⁴ Caroline Wolf Harlow, Education and Correctional Populations (Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics, 2003).

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Jeremy Travis, Elizabeth Cincotta McBride, and Amy Solomon, Families Left Behind: The Hidden Costs of Incarceration and Reentry (Washington, DC: Urban Institute, 2006), www.urban.org/url.cfm?ID=310882.

created and funded to provide services to address these challenges have not traditionally identified returning offenders as a population in which they have an interest.⁷

"Reentry occurs outside of the bricks and mortar of the prison walls, and, therefore, involving those state and local partners who connect with . . . offender[s] once they leave prison is critical While engaging those nontraditional partners certainly takes more time and effort, it's very encouraging to see solutions brought to the table that any one agency alone could never provide, and to see agencies begin to understand their organization as playing a part in ensuring that prisoners exit prison as law-abiding, contributing members of society."

Hannah Heck, Policy Director Office of the Governor State of Georgia

HAWAI'I DATA FROM THE INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON INTERMEDIATE SANCTIONS9:

Agency (Probation, Parole, and PSD) recidivism rates*:

The data reveal a 48.9% recidivism rate for probationers; 49.9% recidivism rate for offenders released to parole; and 66.3% recidivism rate for offenders released from prison (maximum-term release).

*defined as Criminal Rearrests, Criminal Contempt of Court, and Revocations-Violations

2009 recidivism rates, by agency and recidivism type:

The differences in recidivism rates between agencies with respect to recidivism type (Criminal Rearrests, Revocations - Violations, and Criminal Contempt of Court) are statistically significant at the p<.001 level.

- PSD had the highest Criminal Rearrest rate (46.9%) and Criminal Contempt of Court rate (19.4%).
- Parole had the highest Revocation-Violation recidivism rate (20.3%) and the lowest Criminal Contempt of Court rate (7.6%).
- Probation had the lowest Revocation-Violation recidivism rate (6.4%).

2009 recidivism rates for felony probationers, parolees, and maximum-term release prisoners, by county.

The differences in recidivism rates between agencies are statistically insignificant, with respect to individual counties, except for the City and County of Honolulu. The recidivism rate for maximum-term release prisoners in the City and County of Honolulu is almost 19 percent greater than for parolees and nearly 18 percent greater than for probationers.

⁷ TPC REENTRY HANDBOOK Implementing the NIC Transition from Prison to the Community Model, THE National Institute of Corrections TPC Case Management Handbook, August 2008, page 6. https://s3.amazonaws.com/static.nicic.gov/Library/022669.pdf

⁸ TPC REENTRY HANDBOOK, page 7

⁹ State of Hawaii, FY 2009 Cohort, 2012 Recidivism Update, Interagency Council on Intermediate Sanctions, Timothy Wong, ICIS Research Analyst, June 2013, pages 4, 8, 9, 12. http://icis.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/2012 ICIS-Baseline-Recidivism-Study-Final.pdf

2009 Recidivism Rates For Felony Probationers, By County And Recidivism Type.

The differences in recidivism rates for probationers between counties with respect to recidivism type are statistically significant for Criminal Rearrests (p<.01 level), and Criminal Contempt of Court (p<.001). Kauai County had the highest recidivism rate for Criminal Rearrests (38.5%), while the City and County of Honolulu had the highest Revocation-Violation recidivism rate (7.4%), and Criminal Contempt of Court rate (17.6%).

2009 recidivism rates, by initial offense type.

The data show that the differences in recidivism rates, by initial offense type, are predictive of recidivism at the p<.001 level of statistical significance. Offenders convicted for criminal property offenses had the highest recidivism rate (60.7%), as compared to sex offenders, who had the lowest recidivism rate (41.8%).

Community Alliance on Prisons respectfully asks the committee to see this bill as an investment in social capital. Instead of bricks and mortar, you are investing in developing safe, healthy and just communities.

Reducing our imprisoned population by providing more and better community services to directly address the most common pathway to crime is a sound social policy and fiscal decision. We must always remember that more than 95% of incarcerated persons will be returning to their communities. How do we want them to return?

Community Alliance on Prisons urges your support...build communities; not prisons!

Coday's Inmate Is Comorrow's Neighbor

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.



HB2363 HD2 PUBLIC SAFETY: Re-entry Pilot Program for Treatment to Low Risk COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS: Senator Will Espero, Chair; Senate Rosalyn Baker, Vice Chair

- Tuesday, March 11, 2014 at 2:50 p.m.
- Conference Room 224

HSAC Supports HB2363 HD2:

Good Morning Chair Espero; Vice Chair Baker; And Distinguished Committee Members. My name is Alan Johnson, Chair of the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition, an organization of more than twenty treatment and prevention agencies across the State.

The Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition fully supports funding a two-year pilot project to demonstrate the cost effectiveness of providing an alternative to incarceration by helping early release, nonviolent offenders with substance-abuse issues reenter community from incarceration into a coordinated system of community-based treatment programs, community organizations, and reentry support services.

To break the cycle of recidivism and save huge dollars, research indicates that the best results are achieved by integrating criminal justice supervision with community-based treatment coupled with wrap around services. Treatment would focus on criminality, drug abuse and mental health problems in an integrated approach that would include medications as well as treat any serious medical condition, especially HIV/AIDS, hepatitis B and C and tuberculosis.

A structured substance use disorder treatment would coordinate with other services such as mental health services, vocational rehabilitation, physical medical treatment, family reunification, faith-based services, case management support, parenting skills, domestic violence or anger management, and culture oriented programs.

Outcomes are improved by cross-agency coordination and collaboration among treatment providers, criminal justice professionals, various other social service agencies and

community groups including faith-based and culturally oriented groups.

Combining a structured treatment plan with correctional supervision monitoring can be more effective for reentry by utilizing a balance of rewards and sanctions that would encourage pro-social behaviors and treatment participation. Offenders need support because

Using modern science, this pilot will demonstrate improved effectiveness and reduce costs by integrating structured treatment services with supervision and community support groups. they generally have family difficulties, limited social skills, mental health disorders, educational and employment problems, infectious diseases, and other medical issues. Offenders must be guided to avoid or cope with environments associated with drug use, which can trigger cravings and cause relapse.

Recovery from drug addiction requires effective treatment, followed by management of the problem over time.

The best treatment is to match evidenced-based interventions to individual needs at each stage of recovery development:

- Cognitive-behavioral therapy, positive and negative reinforcements to effect behavior change and motivational enhancements can improve recovery success. Community care after release is critical for reducing relapse and recidivism..
- Case management and referrals to other medical, psychological, and social services are crucial components for offender treatment.
- Connections to faith-based organizations, culturally oriented groups, and other positive and supportive social groups are important as well.

Treatment is needed to provide the skills necessary to avoid or cope with situations that could lead to relapse.

- Motivation, problem solving, skill-building and healthy interpersonal relationships for resisting drug use and criminal behavior.
- Personality disorders and other mental health problems that is prevalent in offender populations.
- Changing offender needs during re-entry especially housing; child care; medical, psychiatric, and the need for social support services; as well as vocational and employment assistance.

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

Research reveals that with effective drug abuse treatment, individuals can overcome persistent drug effects and lead healthy, productive lives

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Saturday, March 08, 2014 12:17 PM

To:

PSMTestimony

Cc:

rmiller@aya.yale.edu

Subject:

Submitted testimony for HB2363 on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM

HB2363

Submitted on: 3/8/2014

Testimony for PSM on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Richard S. Miller	Kokua Council	Support	No

Comments: • This is an investment in social capital to build safe, just, and healthy communities for Hawai'i's families • Reducing our imprisoned population by providing more and better community services to directly address the most common pathway to crime is a sound social policy Thank you for considering this important bill! Richard S. Miller, Prof. of Law, Emeritus

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Sunday, March 09, 2014 2:28 PM

To:

PSMTestimony

Cc:

sherrianwitt@aol.com

Subject:

Submitted testimony for HB2363 on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM

HB2363

Submitted on: 3/9/2014

Testimony for PSM on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sherrian witt	Witt Counseling Service	Support	No

Comments:

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mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Monday, March 10, 2014 10:55 AM

To:

PSMTestimony

Cc:

hlusk@chowproject.org

Subject:

Submitted testimony for HB2363 on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM

HB2363

Submitted on: 3/10/2014

Testimony for PSM on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Heather Lusk	CHOW Project	Support	No

Comments: Thank you for taking the time to read my testimony. The CHOW Project is in strong support of this measure because it provides an opportunity for those who have been incarcerated to get support in re-entering our community. Many of CHOW's participants spend time incarcerated and there are few services to support them in their sobriety, getting a job and reintegrating into our community. Research has shown that supporting re-entry lowers recidivism. Please make this investment and support HB 2363!

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.



A sister organization of the Drug Policy Forum of Hawai'i PO Box 241042, Honolulu, HI 96824 ~ (808) 988-4386

Dedicated to safe, responsible, and effective drug policies since 1993

TO:

Senate Committees on Public Safety, Intergovernmental & Military Affairs

FROM:

Pamela Lichty, MPH

President

DATE:

March 11, 2014, 2:50 p.m., room 224

RE:

HB 2363, HD 2 RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY - IN SUPPORT

Aloha Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, and members of the Committee. My name is Pam Lichty and I'm testifying in strong support of this measure on behalf of the Drug Policy Action Group, the governmental affairs arm of the Drug Policy Forum of Hawaii.

We strongly support this measure to set up a pilot program for non-violent drug offenders reentering the community. The problems of substance abuse, mental health, and criminal offenses are inextricably linked, but hopefully some of the programs and metrics enumerated in this bill will begin the process of disentangling and successfully addressing each of these complicated issues. It's the right thing to do — not only for the people who are involved but for our communities and the future of our entire state.

The measure itself, in its findings section, lays out very comprehensively the rationale for this program. We are pleased to see that it requires evidence-based practices since this has been a principle that our organizations have been espousing of more than two decades.

Even though a comprehensive re-entry bill passed in 2007, HB 2363 is the first measure that would actually implement that law.

In sum, we believe that evidence from other jurisdictions and data and analysis of Hawaii's situation argue strongly for adoption of this measure. We urge the Committee to pass this bill

on with a strong recommendation. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

1000 1000 1000

From:

mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Saturday, March 08, 2014 9:15 AM

To:

PSMTestimony

Cc: Subject: shannonkona@gmail.com

:: Sub

Submitted testimony for HB2363 on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM

HB2363

Submitted on: 3/8/2014

Testimony for PSM on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

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

Comments: Strongly Support

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mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Saturday, March 08, 2014 9:19 AM

To:

PSMTestimony

Cc: Subject: pgellatly@mac.com Submitted testimony for HB2363 on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM

HB2363

Submitted on: 3/8/2014

Testimony for PSM on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Peter Gellatly	Individual	Support	No	

Comments: Aloha Senators Baker, Espero and committee members, Why has it taken seven years to implement a measure that can save money and lives? We — all of us, not just you — should be ashamed of this delay. Let's move forward, please, and make Hawaii a safer, saner place for our families. mahalo & aloha, Peter Gellatly

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mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Saturday, March 08, 2014 8:18 PM

To:

PSMTestimony

Cc:

rbkarasuda@hotmail.com

Subject:

Submitted testimony for HB2363 on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM

HB2363

Submitted on: 3/8/2014

Testimony for PSM on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
RaeDeen Karasuda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Sunday, March 09, 2014 2:56 PM

To:

PSMTestimony

Cc:

tjsimms2000@hotmail.com

Subject:

Submitted testimony for HB2363 on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM

HB2363

Submitted on: 3/9/2014

Testimony for PSM on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

•	Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
	tj simms	Individual	Support	No	ı

Comments:

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mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Sunday, March 09, 2014 3:04 PM

To:

PSMTestimony

Cc:

koohanpaik@gmail.com

Subject:

Submitted testimony for HB2363 on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM

HB2363

Submitted on: 3/9/2014

Testimony for PSM on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

	Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
-	Koohan Paik	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov Sunday, March 09, 2014 3:54 PM

Sent: To:

PSMTestimony

Cc:

maukalani78@hotmail.com

Subject:

Submitted testimony for HB2363 on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM

HB2363

Submitted on: 3/9/2014

Testimony for PSM on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
E. Ileina Funakoshi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: HB 2363 HD2 RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY will help to put the law into practice since 353H, HRS passed in 2007 but was not implemented.

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mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Sunday, March 09, 2014 5:47 PM

To:

PSMTestimony

Cc:

hilobliss@yahoo.com

Subject:

Submitted testimony for HB2363 on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM

HB2363

Submitted on: 3/9/2014

Testimony for PSM on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

	Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
ſ	joy cash	Individual	Support	No	

Comments: Do the right thing. Support this bill.

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mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Sunday, March 09, 2014 6:00 PM

To:

PSMTestimony

Cc: Subject: moonstruckfarm@hawaiiantel.net

Submitted testimony for HB2363 on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM

HB2363

Submitted on: 3/9/2014

Testimony for PSM on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Beth Webb	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Such programs save the government money as well as honoring the will of the people who have placed a low priority on prosecuting minor drug offenders. This will also enhance the chances of those caught to lead productive lives in the future.

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mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Sunday, March 09, 2014 6:10 PM

To:

PSMTestimony

Cc:

res1z0vb@hawaiiantel.net

Subject:

Submitted testimony for HB2363 on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM

HB2363

Submitted on: 3/9/2014

Testimony for PSM on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dana G. Moss	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is about us help each other and all our Ohana's.

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mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Sunday, March 09, 2014 6:55 PM

To:

PSMTestimony

Cc:

clareloprinzi@gmail.com

Subject:

Submitted testimony for HB2363 on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM

HB2363

Submitted on: 3/9/2014

Testimony for PSM on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
clare loprinzi	Individual	Support	· No

Comments:

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mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Sunday, March 09, 2014 7:13 PM

To:

PSMTestimony

Cc: Subject: mh@interpac.net Submitted testimony for HB2363 on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM

HB2363

Submitted on: 3/9/2014

Testimony for PSM on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitte	ed By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cory Ha	rden	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Hello legislators, People addicted to drugs need treatment,not just incarceration. mahalo, Cory Harden

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mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov

Sent:

Sunday, March 09, 2014 10:46 PM

To:

PSMTestimony

Cc:

paulakomarajr@yahoo.com

Subject:

Submitted testimony for HB2363 on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM

HB2363

Submitted on: 3/9/2014

Testimony for PSM on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM in Conference Room 224

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Paul A. komara, Jr.	Individual	Support	- No

Comments: I support Bill HB2363. I have worked for a county community justice department in Oregon that has a successful program such as this Bill proposes.

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Lisa Cates lisacates@hawaii.rr.com>

Sent:

Monday, March 10, 2014 10:28 AM

To: Cc: PSMTestimony
Sen. Laura Thielen

Subject:

Testimony HB2363 HD2

Aloha Honorable Chair Will Espero and members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on HB2363 which will establish a 2 year re-entry pilot program for non-violent, low risk drug offenders.

Currently, the second House draft of this measure states in SECTION 2 (e) Data shall be collected by service providers and shall be submitted to the department of public safety every six months for evaluation purposes.

In order to accurately measure the effectiveness of this project, ongoing assessments should be conducted at each stage of the treatment process. An evaluation every six months is not ample for a 2-year program. Frequent monitoring and evaluation of participants will ensure public safety, and will determine success in recovery or indicate danger of relapse before it is too late.

Finally, most drug offenders commit property crime to feed their addiction. Property crime accounts for over 90% of indexed crime in Hawaii, affecting a large majority of residents and visitors. Offering participant's volunteering opportunities for community service will instill pride in the individual while making a positive impact upon their communities. Fostering meaningful relationships within the neighborhoods they reside can only help with their ability to become productive members of society.

Mahalo for considering my comments regarding HB2363 HD2.

Lisa Cates Kailua, Oahu