

LATE TESTIMONY

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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THE HONORABLE WILL ESPERO, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND
MILITARY AFFAIRS
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature
Regular Session of 2014
State of Hawai'i

March 11, 2014

RE: H.B. 2363, H.D. 2; RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, and members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney, City and County of Honolulu, submits the following testimony in support of House Bill 2363, H.D. 2.

We thank the House Committee on Public Safety for amending H.B. 2363 with a H.D.2 that clarifies that the participants in the pilot project will be male and female nonviolent, low-risk drug offenders who are eligible for early release or parole, and not low-risk male and female offenders diverted from the Oahu Community Correctional Center.

The Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu supports H.B. 2363, H.D. 2. Thank for you the opportunity to testify on this matter.

LATE TESTIMONY



Committee: Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
Hearing Date/Time: Tuesday, March 11, 2014, 2:50 p.m.
Place: Room 224
Re: Testimony of the ACLU of Hawaii in Support of H.B. 2363, Relating to Public Safety

Dear Chair Espero and Members of the Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawaii ("ACLU of Hawaii") writes in support of H.B. 2363, which seeks to appropriate funds for state programs related to the reintegration of low-risk offenders into the general population.

The ACLU of Hawaii supports every effort aimed at rehabilitating prisoners and alleviating Hawaii's over-incarceration problem. Further, the ACLU of Hawaii supports the development of programs and policies that are more cost-efficient and more effective at reducing recidivism. Every effort should be made to provide Hawaii's inmates with the support and services they need to become productive and responsible community members.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Daniel M. Gluck
Senior Staff Attorney
ACLU of Hawaii

The mission of the ACLU of Hawaii is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawaii fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawaii is a non-partisan and private non-profit organization that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds. The ACLU of Hawaii has been serving Hawaii for over 45 years.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 3:52 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: elizabeth.outman@student.chaminade.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2363 on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM

LATE TESTIMONY

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 |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| liz outman | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: This bill is an investment to increase public safety with in our community. This bill will stop the revolving door justice system. Recidivism rates will decrease because offenders will have a fulfilling purpose in society.

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LATE TESTIMONY

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 4:18 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: antone.silva@student.chaminade.edu
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 |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| antone silva | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: I support this bill, I believe it is a clear and cost effective way to reduce recidivism and prison population. I believe that if this bill passes the pilot program will show evidence that these offenders will do better with in society with the drug programs and mentoring this program will supply. it all starts with this bill. thank you for your time

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LATE TESTIMONY

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 5:14 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: michael.ribo@student.chaminade.edu
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 |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Michael Ribao | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: I believe this Bill will lower the cost of are raising incarceration rate and the cost that affects us all.

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LATE TESTIMONY

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 10:38 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: lloyd.palik@student.chaminade.edu
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 |
|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Lloyd Palik | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: As a college Criminal Justice student, I choose to support this bill because of the strong empirical evidence linking the effectiveness of substance abuse programs. These kind of programs not only help offenders transition back into our community easier with lower rates of recidivism among nonviolent, low-risk drug offenders but also, it reduces our prison population. Seeing that our main problems with our prison systems come overwhelmingly from our incarceration/recidivism rates, implementing this bill into law would greatly reduce our numbers while helping us financially.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 10:20 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: vriedent@gmail.com
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

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|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Vivian Niedenthal | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: By transitioning these low risk drug users through treatment services to the community, the need for expanding prison space will be eliminated and will lessen the need for more prisons.

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LATE TESTIMONY

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 9:42 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: andreana.gasparagcaoili@student.chaminade.edu
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

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| Andreana Gaspar Agcaoili | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: I support HB2363 for many reasons. One reason being that it saves money but the main reason being that it focuses on the offender being placed back into the community, OUR community. Locking up these non-violent drug offenders will do no good for that individual or for our society. This bill will grant them a chance to better themselves without the confinement of bars. 95% of offenders will be released. They will become our neighbors. This bill supports that fact and helps them better integrate themselves back into our community.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 9:01 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: edward.semetara@student.chaminade.edu
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

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|-----------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Edward Semetara | Individual | Comments Only | No |

Comments: The cost for every non-violent offender is still too much on what Hawaii can handle. I hope this plan is open to everyone that qualifies. I understand that they will be monitored by someone, however, the more rules you imply on them the more likely they are going fail. We must find a way to have them succeeding and not any discrepancy alone the way. I do like the idea that this Bill will reduce the growing population of inmate in prison. I think we should focus on the question that if non-violent offenders are really dangerous to the public?

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 8:27 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: Ayashaabut@gmail.com
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

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| Ayasha Abut | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: Our unmistakable policies in our prisons have emerged tremendously over the years. Incarcerating people understandably cost more, but the fact that many American's who are a threat to no one and our community are incarcerated and are dealt with the most dangerous criminals while incarcerated. With sending all types of offenders, violent and non-violet, a rapid growth of beds fill up, making prisons less effective on the ultimate reason for why we have prisons. We all know that more than half of the people that are incarcerated are drug offenders, and Without these basic educations, the prison has already failed to provide counseling that are available for non-violent offenders. Those that were incarcerated for drug offenses lost the proper treatment that is needed to rehabilitate and deter future drug offenses and new crimes.the focus on these drug offenses should not be throwing them in with dangerous criminals, but providing them with community-based treatment programs and also increasing the amount of education and work programs available to these inmates after release. This of course would not put an end to crime, but simply cutting recidivism rates to a better percentage.Ultimately, are focus is to make smarter investments, and better support for the people who are released to the community, all in which will reduce incarceration rates Researches have all shown that, keeping any types of offenders locked up is the least effective way to provide public safety and rehabilitation. It has been shown that funding other types of correctional programs and substance abuse treatment, as well as programs that are designed to help inmates upon release have all been correlated to reducing incarceration.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 7:27 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: ianakira@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2363 on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM

HB2363

Submitted on: 3/10/2014

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| Ian Nakamura | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: This bill will not only help the people and communities of Hawaii, but the economy as well. By allowing this bill to be implemented, it will provide jobs by allowing the people working the program to ensure its success. Those workers will have a positive cascade effect by helping the nonviolent drug offenders. The success of the offenders will help themselves, as well as their friends and family, to proceed past their lapse in judgment to provide a meaningful contribution to their community and the state of Hawaii. I would also hope that when this program proves its worth, that it will NOT be considered to be cut during any times of financial hardships of the state.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 6:47 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: brittany.viloria@student.chaminade.edu
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB2363 on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM

HB2363

Submitted on: 3/10/2014

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| Brittany Viloria | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: The Reentry Pilot Project for Nonviolent, Low-risk Drug Offenders seems to be a highly effective investment in our system. In this day and age, the population in prisons and jails has been increasing significantly to the point of overcrowding which is many effects on those incarcerated. Implementing this program would be able to reduce the prison population while slowly bringing those back into society as an effective, contribution citizen. While they may have went in as a criminal, they are a low-risk one and would be able to receive help to ease them back into the working world. This program would be able to bring them back into society and start anew as a vital contributing citizen. They would also be able to serve as a role model to those in prisons, to take advantage of different programs offered to them while incarcerated so that they will be successful upon their release. I believe that this bill/act will be effective in our society and should be implemented.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 6:28 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: melanie.boehm@usw.salvationarmy.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

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| Melanie Boehm | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 11:42 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: takadat@hawaii.edu
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

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|---------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Tamaki Takada | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 11:13 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: hase9d@gmail.com
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 |
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| brett | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: I fully support this motion.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, March 10, 2014 11:58 PM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: joannachang808@gmail.com
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 |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Joanna Chang | Individual | Support | No |

Comments: I am a Criminology and Criminal Justice student who strongly agrees with the 3 goals this bill will try to achieve. Thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Tuesday, March 11, 2014 10:42 AM
To: PSMTestimony
Cc: dr.hannah@bisac.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB2363 on Mar 11, 2014 14:50PM*

HB2363

Submitted on: 3/11/2014

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

| Submitted By | Organization | Testifier Position | Present at Hearing |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Hannah Preston-Pita | Individual | Support | No |

Comments:

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