

SB 2315

MAKING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC SAFETY TO PROVIDE SUBSTANCE ABUSE
TREATMENT SERVICES.

Appropriates funds to the PSD to provide substance abuse
treatment services to Halawa Correctional Facility inmates.

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR



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

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, February 04, 2014; 3:45 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 224

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

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) **supports** SB 2315. 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.



SB2315 Substance Abuse Treatment for Halawa

- COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS: Senator Espero, Chair; Senator Baker, Vice Chair
- Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2014; 3:45 p.m.
- Conference Room 224

HAWAII SUBSTANCE ABUSE COALITION Supports SB2315

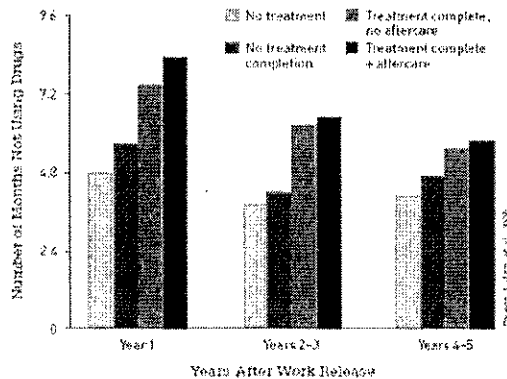
Good Morning Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, and Distinguished Committee Members. My name is Alan Johnson. I am the current chair of the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition (HSAC), a statewide hui of more than twenty non-profit treatment and prevention agencies.

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.

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.

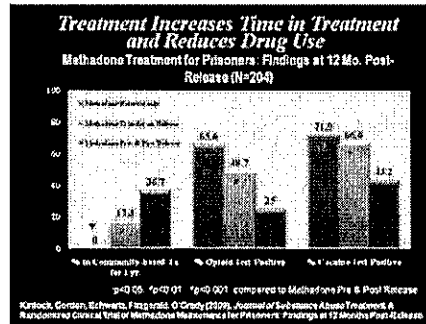
After treatment in prison, research strongly indicates that continuing treatment and aftercare in the community is needed to sustain gains. Combining prison-based treatment with community-based treatment upon release reduces the risk of recidivism, decreases substance abuse, improves prospects for employment, and increases pro-social behavior.



**Follow-up
Community-
Based
Treatment is
Necessary**

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.

Medications Can Improve Treatment and Reduce Crime



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 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.

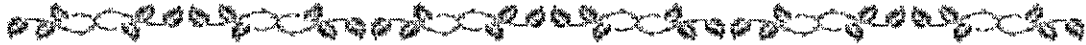
Treatment reaps the greatest cost savings.

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

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

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COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL & MILITARY AFFAIRS

Sen. Will Espero, Chair

Sen. Rosalyn Baker, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 4, 2014

3:45 p.m.

Room 224

SUPPORT SB 2315 - FUNDING for SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT AT HALAWA

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.

SB 2315 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 might want to receive a report on how this money was spent, how many treatment slots were available, the number of individuals who completed the program and their after care.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.