
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE REENTRY COMMISSION TO STUDY THE FEASIBILITY OF
ESTABLISHING THE REENTRY ACADEMY FOR TRAINING AND
ENTREPRENEURIAL RESOURCES (RAFTER) TRAINING AND MENTORING
PROGRAM FOR INMATES.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaii's prison system houses many more inmates
2 than it was designed for and may be in danger of violating
3 federal standards; and
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5 WHEREAS, there have been continual discussions about
6 building new prison facilities that would be completed in five
7 to ten years; and
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9 WHEREAS, 49.6 per cent of convicted felons return to prison
10 within one year of their release, further straining an
11 overburdened prison system; and
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13 WHEREAS, the reentry into society of former inmates has
14 often been difficult because they frequently lack marketable
15 skills, training they received earlier has become obsolete, or
16 they acquired negative habits while in prison and lack
17 motivation; and
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19 WHEREAS, to reduce recidivism, several states have
20 established programs that include vocational training and
21 mentoring to give inmates the opportunity to learn professional,
22 vocational, and life skills that enable them to become
23 productive and tax-paying contributors to society; and
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25 WHEREAS, Hawaii has the opportunity to implement a similar
26 program to provide inmates who demonstrate aptitude and desire
27 with a chance to learn valuable skills and receive
28 entrepreneurial training that will facilitate their successful
29 reentry into society; and



H.C.R. NO. 200


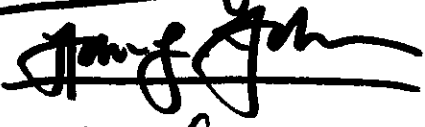

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 2 WHEREAS, Act 24, Special Session Laws of Hawaii 2009, as
 3 amended, established a Reentry Commission to work with the
 4 Department of Public Safety in monitoring and reviewing the
 5 department's comprehensive offender reentry program, including,
 6 among other things, facility educational and treatment programs;
 7 now, therefore,

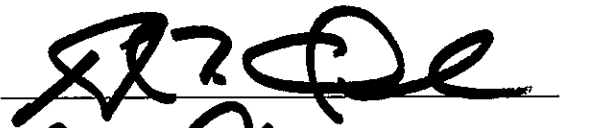

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 9 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
 10 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
 11 Session of 2016, the Senate concurring, that the Reentry
 12 Commission is requested to conduct a study regarding the
 13 feasibility of establishing the Reentry Academy For Training and
 14 Entrepreneurial Resources (RAFTER) program to offer inmates
 15 training and mentoring in business development and ownership,
 16 restaurant and hospitality industry skills, vocational trades,
 17 and life skills; and

18
 19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Reentry Commission is
 20 requested to submit a report of its findings and
 21 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
 22 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
 23 the Regular Session of 2017; and

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 25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
 26 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Reentry Commission.
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OFFERED BY:


 Linda Lehu

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 Hualin


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 Totah
