

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 49

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 09 2015

RE: S.B. No. 665
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 665 entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO PRISONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Create an independent Prison Oversight Committee to monitor and report on the conditions of state correctional facilities;
- (2) Expand visitation access to correctional facilities to include Prison Oversight Committee members; and
- (3) Authorize Prison Oversight Committee members to privately interview an inmate confined in any state correctional facility.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Community Alliance on Prisons and two individuals. Your Committee received testimony in opposition to this measure from the Department of Public Safety.

Your Committee finds that there is growing concern regarding the operation of the State's correctional facilities. Over the past several years, there has been an increase in the State's incarcerated population despite a decrease in crime. Despite the massive expenditure of taxes and the Department of Public Safety's



mandate to operate humane and safe correctional facilities, there is little oversight of these facilities. Implementation of this measure will provide better assurance that the State's correctional facilities comply with federal and state laws and achieve transparency and accountability in the operation of safe and humane correctional facilities by establishing an independent Prison Oversight Committee and expanding correctional facility visitation access and authority to interview inmates to Prison Oversight Committee members.

Your Committee has amended this measure by making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 665, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 665, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental and Military
Affairs,

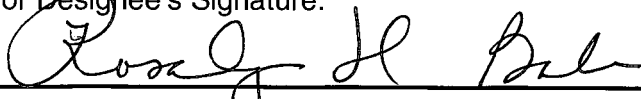


WILL ESPERO, Chair



The Senate
 Twenty-Eighth Legislature
 State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
PSM

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB 665	Committee Referral: PSM, WAM	Date: 2-3-15		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
ESPERO, Will (C)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H. (VC)	✓			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood				✓
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.				✓
SLOM, Sam		✓		
TOTAL	2	1	-	2
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes