
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 353, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:
4 "§353- Inmate release; important government documents.
5 (a) The department shall work with the federal Social Security
6 Administration to enter into an agreement to establish an
7 effective, secure, and efficient means for staff from both
8 agencies to process applications from inmates for replacement
9 social security cards.
10 (b) Upon entering into the agreement in subsection (a),
11 the department shall assist each inmate in applying for and
12 obtaining a social security card before the inmate's release
13 from custody if the inmate needs a social security card;
14 provided that for an inmate released to a work furlough,
15 extended furlough, or community placement programs, the
16 department shall initiate the process of obtaining a social



1 security card at least ninety days prior to the inmate being
2 released.

3 (c) Subsection (b) shall not apply to inmates who:

4 (1) Have a valid social security card, as determined by
5 the department, unless the social security card has
6 been lost, destroyed, or stolen;

7 (2) Have an active detainer, unless the department
8 determines that cancellation of the detainer is likely
9 or that the incarceration for which the detainer was
10 issued will be less than twelve months in duration; or

11 (3) Are pretrial detainees or have been sentenced to less
12 than one year of imprisonment.

13 (d) The department, in conjunction with the department of
14 health, the department of transportation, and the examiner of
15 drivers of each respective county, shall provide, free of charge
16 by waiving all fees, for eligible inmates who are Hawaii-born, a
17 certified copy of the inmate's birth certificate and a civil
18 identification card before the inmate's release on parole or
19 upon expiration of the inmate's sentence. A replacement
20 driver's license or replacement civil identification card shall
21 be provided in lieu of a civil identification card if an inmate



1 has a valid driver's license or civil identification card issued
2 in the State that was lost, destroyed, or stolen. If the
3 replacement civil identification card or replacement driver's
4 license issued is within six months of expiration, the examiner
5 of drivers of the respective county of issue may also issue a
6 temporary permit, valid for at least six months after the
7 inmate's release date, to assist the inmate in the inmate's
8 transition. For an inmate released to work furlough, extended
9 furlough, or community placement programs, the department shall
10 initiate the process of obtaining a birth certificate, driver's
11 license, or civil identification card as described in this
12 section at least ninety days prior to the inmate being released.

- 13 (e) Subsection (d) shall not apply to inmates who:
- 14 (1) Have an active detainer, unless the department
15 determines that cancellation of the detainer is likely
16 or that the incarceration for which the detainer was
17 issued will be less than twelve months in duration; or
 - 18 (2) Are pretrial detainees or have been sentenced to less
19 than one year of imprisonment.

20 (f) The department, for purposes of assisting the inmate
21 in obtaining a birth certificate, shall submit to the department



1 of health the following information for all Hawaii-born inmates
2 in the custody of the department:

- 3 (1) Photo or digitized photo;
- 4 (2) Date of birth;
- 5 (3) Full name at birth and any subsequent legal name
6 changes;
- 7 (4) City and island of birth;
- 8 (5) Mother's full name, including maiden name; and
- 9 (6) Father's full name.
- 10 (g) For inmates born outside the State, the department
11 shall assist the inmate in completing the necessary forms or
12 applications to obtain a birth certificate and driver's license
13 or civil identification card. The department shall also provide
14 the inmate with the location and address of the appropriate
15 licensing authority from which the inmate may obtain a valid
16 identification card in proximity to the inmate's release
17 address.
- 18 (h) The department, as part of its annual report to the
19 legislature pursuant to section 353C-2, shall:



- 1 (1) Report on the number of inmates released with and
- 2 without social security cards, identification cards or
- 3 driver's licenses, and birth certificates;
- 4 (2) Identify any impediments in the implementation of this
- 5 section; and
- 6 (3) Provide recommendations to improve the process of
- 7 obtaining the documents identified in this section for
- 8 all inmates."

9 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
11 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 for the
12 purposes of this Act.

13 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
14 public safety for the purposes of this Act.

15 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

16 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on January 7, 2059.



Report Title:

Public Safety; Inmates; Social Security Card; Birth Certificate; Identification Card; Appropriation

Description:

Requires the Department of Public Safety to work with appropriate federal, state, and county agencies to assist inmates in obtaining important government documents, including a social security card, driver's license, civil identification card, or birth certificate necessary for successful reentry into society. (SB1039 HD1)

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