
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE TASK FORCE ESTABLISHED TO STUDY EFFECTIVE INCARCERATION POLICIES TO IMPROVE HAWAII'S CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM, ALSO IDENTIFY IN ITS FINAL REPORT SITES FOR A NEW CORRECTIONAL FACILITY THAT ARE TEN ACRES OR LESS IN SIZE.

1 WHEREAS, the Department of Public Safety proposes to
2 replace the current Oahu Community Correctional Center with a
3 modern facility that broadens its custody and treatment scope
4 and capability with county- and community-based correctional
5 services; and
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7 WHEREAS, eleven parcels of land ten acres or greater in
8 size have been identified as potential development sites for the
9 proposed replacement facility; and
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11 WHEREAS, the environmental impact statement process has
12 begun for the four potential sites short-listed by the
13 Department of Public Safety for the proposed replacement of the
14 Oahu Community Correctional Center; and
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16 WHEREAS, a thirteen-member task force was established by
17 H.C.R. No. 85, H.D. 2, S.D. 1 (H.C.R. No. 85), Regular Session
18 of 2016, to study effective incarceration policies to improve
19 Hawaii's correctional system; and
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21 WHEREAS, members of the task force include public safety
22 officials, former prisoners, and chairpersons of the legislative
23 committees that oversee public safety; and
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25 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives Committee on Public
26 Safety and the Senate Committee on Public Safety,
27 Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs held a joint
28 informational briefing on February 23, 2017, to discuss the
29 progress of the task force; and
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31 WHEREAS, the task force suggested at the briefing that
32 current planning for development of new correctional facilities



1 may be premature as the task force is looking at options to
2 significantly reduce the State's inmate population and create a
3 more cost-effective system focusing on rehabilitation rather
4 than punishment; and
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6 WHEREAS, policies the task force is studying to reduce the
7 incarceration rate include providing nonmonetary bail options,
8 increasing substance abuse treatment programs, and improving
9 support systems for parolees to reduce recidivism; and
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11 WHEREAS, the task force is also recommending that the State
12 expand its substance abuse treatment courts, create an academy
13 to train correctional workers, and increase efforts to reduce
14 the incarceration rate of Native Hawaiians; now, therefore,
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16 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
17 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017,
18 that the final report of the task force established pursuant to
19 H.C.R. No. 85, H.D. 2, S.D. 1, Regular Session of 2016, which is
20 due no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the
21 Regular Session of 2018, also identify sites ten acres or less
22 in size, to reflect the concept that modern correctional
23 facilities can be developed vertically; and
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all state laws, including those
26 laws pertaining to environmental impact statements and
27 environmental assessments, and county ordinances be complied
28 with in the process of studying and developing a new
29 correctional facility; and
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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
32 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Director of Public
33 Safety; provided that the Director of Public Safety is requested
34 to transmit copies of this Concurrent Resolution to the members
35 of the task force created by H.C.R. No. 85, H.D. 2, S.D. 1,
36 Regular Session of 2016.

