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GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
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No. _____

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 478
RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

by

Nolan P. Espinda, Director
Department of Public Safety

House Committee on Public Safety
Representative Gregg Takayama, Chair
Representative Matthew S. LoPresti, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 9, 2017; 10:00 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 312

Chair Takayama, Vice Chair LoPresti, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) strongly **supports** House Bill (HB) 478, which seeks to appropriate funds to support a full-time (1.00 FTE) agricultural management position and provide attendant equipment to develop the Kulani Correctional Facility's (KCF) agricultural operation.

PSD appreciates the Legislature's support to enhance this program, which will effectively utilize Kulani's location and natural characteristics in developing an appropriate reentry option for its minimum security inmates.

The Department would also like to respectfully request that HB 478 be amended to appropriate funds for a second full-time (1.00 FTE) agricultural management position for Waiawa Correctional Facility's agricultural operation, which has been running for several years. At present, there is only one full-time Farm Supervisor, and the added Agricultural management position would enable this facility to substantially increase and diversify its agricultural program even further, for the benefit of the inmates.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

Iopresti2 - Isabella

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Monday, February 6, 2017 4:07 AM
To: pbstestimony
Cc: blawaiianlvr@icloud.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB478 on Feb 9, 2017 10:00AM

HB478

Submitted on: 2/6/2017

Testimony for PBS on Feb 9, 2017 10:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
De MONT R. D. CONNER	Ho'omana Pono, LLC.	Support	Yes

Comments: We FULLY SUPPORT this bill. The agriculture program was a great success in the past & taught prisoners the value of hard work that pays off big dividends in terms of self-worth/values, as well as to cut cost of purchasing agriculture products. This is a win-win for all stakeholders.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

Rep. Gregg Takayama, Chair

Rep. Matt LoPresti, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 9, 2017

10:00 am

Room 312

STRONG SUPPORT FOR HB 478 - KULANI AGRICULTURAL OPERATION

Aloha Chair Takayama, Vice Chair LoPresti and Members of the Committee!

My name is Kat Brady and I am the Coordinator of Community Alliance on Prisons, a community initiative promoting smart justice policies in Hawai'i for two decades. This testimony is respectfully offered on behalf of the almost 6,000 Hawai'i individuals living behind bars or under the "care and custody" of the Department of Public Safety. We are always mindful that approximately 1,400 of Hawai'i's imprisoned people 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.

Community Alliance on Prisons is in strong support of developing a real agricultural operation at Kulani Correctional Facility. It is common knowledge that the majority of our imprisoned population are of Native Hawaiian ancestry, and connecting people with their ancestral lands can only produce positive benefits for the individual and the farm.

Hawai'i has the perfect weather to grow our own food. It would be great if all facilities emulated WCCC, Waiawa and now proposed at Kulani and established farm, where feasible! We know that food affects behavior and a plant-based diet that adds more fresh fruits and vegetables could help the management of our facilities.

The benefits of having agricultural operations at Kulani are numerous outside of providing a more nutritional diet for our imprisoned people. The program can teach marketable skills to our people serving sentences as Hawai'i focuses on food self-sufficiency and sustainability.

We must always remember that today's inmate is tomorrow's neighbor and we want people to return with skills, knowledge, and a strong desire to help build more safe, healthy and just communities.

Mahalo for this opportunity to champion HB 478!

Iopresti2 - Isabella

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 5, 2017 4:35 PM
To: pbstestimony
Cc: maukalani78@hotmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB478 on Feb 9, 2017 10:00AM

HB478

Submitted on: 2/5/2017

Testimony for PBS on Feb 9, 2017 10:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
E. Ileina Funakoshi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: GREAT BILL. WILL HELP THE PRISONERS AS WELL AS COMMUNITY.

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Iopresti2 - Isabella

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Sunday, February 5, 2017 5:49 PM
To: pbstestimony
Cc: drjoeka@gmail.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for HB478 on Feb 9, 2017 10:00AM

HB478

Submitted on: 2/5/2017

Testimony for PBS on Feb 9, 2017 10:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
joe kassel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Representatives: Thank you for sponsoring and considering this legislation. All efforts to improve constructive engagement in productive work close to the land for our prisoners is welcome. I have worked in chemical dependency treatment for 30 years and coordinate a gardening program at The Bridge House, a clean and sober living facility. We grow produce for the house, a produce distributor and the local food bank. As you know the majority of our prisoners are sentenced for drug related offenses, so my experience supports your intentions with this bill. I do hope that you pass this legislation. Sincerely, Dr. Joseph Kassel N.D. L.Ac.

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Iopresti2 - Isabella

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 8, 2017 11:19 AM
To: pbstestimony
Cc: rkailianu57@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for HB478 on Feb 9, 2017 10:00AM*

HB478

Submitted on: 2/8/2017

Testimony for PBS on Feb 9, 2017 10:00AM in Conference Room 312

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Rachel L. Kailianu	Individual	Support	Yes

Comments:

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