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No. \_\_\_\_\_

TESTIMONY ON SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 82  
REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TASK FORCE TO MAKE  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A CORRECTIONAL  
TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICE.

by  
Nolan P. Espinda, Director  
Department of Public Safety

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs  
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair  
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 28, 2017; 1:20 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) **opposes** Senate Concurrent Resolution (SCR) 82 in its current form. The Department has operated the Training and Staff Development Branch (currently located at 801 Dillingham Boulevard in the Dole Cannery complex) as our Training Academy. The academy's organizational structure, staffing resources, hardware resources, and recruit and in-service training course directory are firmly institutionally established as an integral part of our Administration Division.

Additionally, PSD is already compliant with the applicable staff training Sections (UPW) and Articles (HGEA) of our employees' representatives contracts, as appropriately negotiated through the constitutionally-mandated collective bargaining process.

The Department strongly asserts that the Task Force proposed by SCR 82 is a step beyond what should be reasonably sought by this Legislature prior to

contemplating such a large undertaking, the basis of which (Staff Training), is already covered within the boundaries of the collective bargaining process.

PSD respectfully proposes, instead, that it be requested to provide to the Legislature, 20 days prior to the convening of the 2018 Session, a report on the current status, staffing, resources, curriculum, and levels of staff participation at its current training academy.

The PSD Academy has been the “tip of the spear” in our ongoing CALEA certification efforts, which is well on the way to officially seeking initial accreditation candidacy status. Initiating wholesale institutional reorganization and revisions in the midst of the ongoing process would dramatically set back the Department’s progress in this important area.

For the reasons above, PSD respectfully asks that SCR 82 be amended to require the Department to provide a comprehensive report to the Legislature, so that this body will have a documented baseline and data regarding the current training programs and be better informed as to what improvements and upgrades may be necessary.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

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## COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Sen. Clarence Nishihara, Chair

Sen. Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 28, 2017

1:20 pm

Room 229

### SCR 82 COMMENTS - Correctional Training & Professional Development Office

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai 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 1,700 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.

SCR 82 requests the establishment of a task force to make recommendations for the implementation of a correctional training and professional development office.

While Community Alliance on Prisons supports the intent of this resolution, we see the HCR 85 Task Force as the entity perfectly poised to discuss this proposal and develop recommendations for training and professionalizing all staff.

Community Alliance on Prisons, therefore, respectfully suggests that this proposal be folded into the Program Committee of the HCR 85 Task Force since the committee has had a presentation by Ms. Martinez, PSD's Training Coordinator previously.

It is crucial that security and programming work together to ensure the rehabilitation of those individuals in the "care and custody" of the state.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.