

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 14 2020

RE: S.B. No. 3126

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi  
President of the Senate  
Thirtieth State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2020  
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and  
Military Affairs, to which was referred S.B. No. 3126 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) Establish a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism  
by providing educational programs and initiatives for  
inmates; and
- (2) Appropriate funds for the pilot program.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the Department of Public Safety, Office of the Public  
Defender, Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and  
County of Honolulu, Community Alliance on Prisons, Columbia  
Business School, Hour Children, Resilience Education, Chamber of  
Commerce Hawaii, and thirty-four individuals. Your Committee  
received testimony in opposition to this measure from one  
individual. Your Committee received comments on this measure from  
Department of Corrections of the Commonwealth of Virginia

Your Committee finds that Hawaii's correctional facilities  
are currently overcrowded, far exceeding the number of inmates the  
correctional facilities should house. This has led to the State  
sending inmates to a private prison located in Arizona. Your



Committee further finds that there are approximately five thousand six hundred inmates, costing the State about \$52,000 per inmate per year. Your Committee also finds that one reason the State's correctional facilities are overcrowded is due to numerous individuals returning to prison within one year of their release. Your Committee notes that forty-three percent of people who seek and attain education in prison are actually less likely to return to prison. This measure will reduce recidivism by offering educational opportunities to inmates to learn business skills and other trades to ensure a smooth transition back into society.

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. 3126 and recommends that it pass Second Reading and be referred to your Committee on Ways and Means.

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

*Clarence K. Nishihara*

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CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, Chair



The Senate  
 Thirtieth Legislature  
 State of Hawai'i

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

Bill / Resolution No.:* <b>SB 3126</b>	Committee Referral: <b>PSM, WAM</b>	Date: <b>2/11/2020</b>		
<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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (C)	✓			
WAKAI, Glenn (VC)	✓			
BAKER, Rosalyn H.	✓			
HARIMOTO, Breene				✓
FEVELLA, Kurt				✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original     Yellow     Pink     Goldenrod File with Committee Report     Clerk's Office     Drafting Agency     Committee File Copy				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes