

STATE OF HAWAI‘I
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

**Testimony of the Office of the Public Defender,
State of Hawai‘i to the Senate Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs**

February 8, 2020

S.B. No. 3126: RELATING TO PRISONS

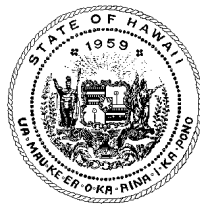
Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

The Office of the Public Defender supports S.B. 3126.

We support the development of educational programs in our prison system. Educational programs and programs that teach marketable trade skills, and promote future employment and financial stability as part of any re-entry training program are essential and needed to reduce recidivism. Too many of our incarcerated individuals enter the prison system with limited education and limited employment skills. Opportunities for further education in the prison system that provide basic business, financial and entrepreneurial education can be the positive motivation for a person seeking to change their lives, to attain financial stability, and to establish community connections that support a successful re-entry into the community.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

NOLAN P. ESPINDA
DIRECTOR

Maria C. Cook
Deputy Director
Administration

Shari L. Kimoto
Deputy Director
Corrections

Renee R. Sonobe Hong
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _____

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 3126
RELATING TO PRISONS.**

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 and

February 11, 2020; 1:35 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

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

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) supports the intent of Senate Bill (SB) 3126, which seeks to establish a 4-year pilot program with appropriate funding to reduce recidivism by providing inmates with the skills necessary to succeed in the workforce.

PSD welcomes all proactive and prosocial programs offered by the community to help reduce recidivism and create more opportunities for individuals being released from correctional institutions. Evidence-based practices have shown that inmates participating in education and programs prior to release, are less likely to return to prison.

If passed, PSD will work to collaborate with post-secondary educational institutions such as the University of Virginia and Darden School of Business to learn more about its curriculum on establishing a business, entrepreneurial, and financial literacy program. We look forward to increasing opportunities for post-secondary educational programs in our facilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

P.O. Box 37158, Honolulu, HI 96837-0158

Phone/E-Mail: (808) 927-1214 / kat.caphi@gmail.com



COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL & MILITARY AFFAIRS

Sen. Clarence Nishihara, Chair

Sen. Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

1:35 PM – Room 229

STRONG SUPPORT for SB 3126 – PILOT PROGRAM TO REDUCE RECIDIVISM

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 more than two decades. This testimony is respectfully offered on behalf of the families of **JAMES BORLING SALAS, ASHLEY GREY, DAISY KASITATI, JOEY O'MALLEY, JESSICA FORTSON AND ALL THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE DIED UNDER THE "CARE AND CUSTODY" OF THE STATE**, including the eleven (11) people that we know of, who have died in the last six (6) months. We also remind the committee of the approximately 5,200 Hawai`i individuals living behind bars or under the "care and custody" of the Department of Public Safety on any given day, and we are always mindful that more than 1,200 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 Kanaka Maoli, far, far from their ancestral lands.

SB 3126 establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives and appropriates funds.

Community Alliance on Prisons is in strong support of this measure. Education is the route out of poverty and incarceration. Our worry is the experience with the University of Hawai`i on the 4-year HREPS (Hawai`i Research and Evaluation in Public Safety) where the data collected was whitewashed by the department. The data was all kept secret until a Senate hearing forced the department to release some material to the public.

This project has many moving parts and must be carefully constructed so we don't end up with the same problems that we had with HREPS: \$4 million of taxpayer money spent and still, no usable data! With no data, one can only assume that their programs don't work.

The contract should be overseen by the Correctional Oversight Commission before it is finalized to ensure that the information and data collected will be publicly available on the department's website.

This is a good bill that needs proper oversight. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

February 10, 2020

Testimony for Senate Bill 3126 in Hawaii
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

Sandra Navalli

Managing Director, Adjunct Faculty
Tamer Center for Social Enterprise
Columbia Business School

Dear Chairman Nishihara and Committee members:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons. As you know, this bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

Columbia Business School, in New York City, is pleased to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's proposed pilot program to bring business education programs to incarcerated individuals. In 2016, the Tamer Center for Social Enterprise at Columbia University, through Professor Damon Phillips, partnered with Darden Professor Greg Fairchild and his wife Dr. Tierney Fairchild of Resilience Education to help us establish business and financial education programs for incarcerated students similar to the ones developed by the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia.

Resilience Education's expertise has been a critical foundation for our teaching programs. Their knowledge and experience helped us partner effectively with our correctional facilities at Taconic Correctional, and more recently Sing Sing. They provided a high-quality and rigorous case-based curriculum that ensured our incarcerated students — and our MBA instructors — would engage meaningfully in the classroom, and their digital tools and advice were invaluable in helping us learn how best to establish, deliver and manage these programs.

Three years in, we continue to manage our teaching programs largely on our own, though we know Resilience Education will continue as our curricular and technical assistance partner. We have taught over 190 incarcerated and formerly incarcerated students and more than 80 MBAs have taught in our programs at Taconic and Sing Sing. Further, we have developed an experiential learning course to accompany the experience, and we have a new curricular offering in managerial negotiations and interpersonal workplace skills that we and Resilience hope to share with future partners.

While the results are still preliminary, allow me to share quotes from our participants:

"It's a great privilege to take these classes. We can be productive members of society and pay taxes. We just need a chance to prove that, and then we can move forward."

—Bridget Osborne, incarcerated student at Taconic Correctional Facility.

"The most unexpected thing was how reciprocal the learning experience was. There was the role of the student and the instructor, but there was also discussion and mutual realization, and a feeling that the shared experience had given us all new tools."

—Zachary Shuster, Columbia MBA instructor.

It is our goal to help Resilience Education bring these programs to more business schools, universities and correctional facilities. We know the business community needs to be more engaged with the challenges vulnerable populations, like the incarcerated, have in becoming net contributors to their communities. We ask that you join us in this effort and vote to pass SB 3126.

Thank you for the opportunity to share this testimony.

Sincerely,





**36-11 12th Street
Long Island City, NY 11106
718-433-4724
www.hourchildren.org**

February 10, 2020

To: Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

Re: Draft Testimony for Senate Bill 3126 in Hawaii

Dear Chairman Nishihara and Members of this Committee,

As Executive Director of Hour Children, I am writing to you in support of *Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons*, to establish a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism among formerly incarcerated persons through educational programs and initiatives.

Hour Children is a New York City-based organization serving incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women and their children. Our mission is to help incarcerated and formerly incarcerated women and their children successfully rejoin the community, reunify with their families, and build healthy, independent, and secure lives. For over thirty years, we have developed an array of prison and community-based programs and services that have impacted thousands of families, including: transportation and visitation offered at no cost to/from prison; parenting education; re-entry preparation; advocacy; workforce re-entry preparation; child care; supportive housing; and mental health support.

In 2017, Hour Children began a partnership with *Columbia Business School* and *Resilience Education* that led to a series of business and financial education programs at Taconic Correctional Facility, New York State's medium-security facility for women. As a provider of family services and parenting education at Taconic for over twenty years, we had long seen the need for the kind of workforce re-entry education that would offer women a chance to gain financial intelligence and understand how to harness this as they re-entered the workforce. In addition to serving our women in prison, our partnership with *Columbia Business School* and *Resilience Education* has benefited formerly incarcerated women in our supportive housing provisions here in Queens, NY.

Over the past three years, *Columbia Business School* students have taught the following courses: Financial Empowerment; Achieving Success through Personal Finance; Entrepreneurship; and Getting to Yes. Over 100 women have taken part since in these courses since 2017. Reviews of the programs have been incredibly strong.

I am happy to note these thoughts shared with us by Nina, a woman in post-release programming, who took the course on Financial Empowerment. *"Taking this course was time-well spent. By the time I finished, so many of the things I never understood about money made sense. I was no longer afraid of money."*

Our partnership with *Columbia Business School* and *Resilience Education* is providing critical workforce development skills for our women, and benefits their families, as well. When our women leave prison, they have the dream of working and a desire to do so. The knowledge they gain from programs such as

this, when combined with the connections made available to them, places the dream of steady employment within their within their grasp. With a steady income, they can then access housing, pay expenses, and begin saving for the future. Achievement of these milestones is critical to creating stable families, which has a positive impact on the larger communities in which our women live.

I believe that the people of the beautiful state of Hawaii will when more of its citizens are ready and able to regain employment after prison. On behalf of all of us at Hour Children, I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,
Sister Tesa Fitzgerald, C.S.J.
Executive Director

10 February 2020

Hawaii Senate Bill 3126 Relating to Prisons.
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

We are writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons, which would establish a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

At Resilience Education (RE), our mission is to reduce recidivism by improving employment outcomes and reentry success for incarcerated and formerly incarcerated individuals through high-quality business education. Education is an effective and powerful tool to reducing recidivism – according to a recent Rand Study, offenders participating in prison education programs are 43% less likely to recidivate, the study further found that for every \$1 spent on education, \$5 taxpayer dollars could be saved on reduced recidivism.

Our programs are proving this. What began nine years ago with our flagship initiative in partnership with the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia and the Virginia Department of Corrections has expanded to New York with Columbia Business School, and programs in Washington state, Montana, to name a few. Through working with correctional facilities, higher education institutions and incarcerated people, we have developed a portable suite of Entrepreneurial Reentry Programs featuring case-based, college-level business courses: Financial Capability, Entrepreneurship and Foundations in Business. In Virginia, Darden MBA's teach these classes to incarcerated students at Fluvanna (women's), Dillwyn (men's), and Buckingham (men's) Correctional Centers. Over nine years and with over 575 certificates awarded, our early data show a 7 percent recidivism rate (~70% nationally).

We expect to award another 125 certificates at our partner facilities in Virginia by May 2020. Because of our success, we expanded three years ago to New York, in partnership with Columbia Business School. Last fall, we began our third year facilitating courses at Taconic Correctional Center (women's), and launched our first programs at Sing Sing (men's).

Our model is unique in that our programs are taught by MBA students and business professionals, who are broadening their own knowledge while sharing their skills and talents. We aim to equip our instructors with new knowledge they can take the marketplace to improve employment practices and outcomes for returning citizens and other vulnerable populations. Instructors are also modeling professionalism in the classroom and teaching. In total, nearly 200 MBA students have taught in the programs.

We know our programs have a lasting impact on our incarcerated graduates. Using the Socratic method of teaching, our case-based courses challenge students to situate themselves within a business, educational or personal challenge presented in the case in order to analyze the situation and arrive at a workable solution. Our students are selected for their commitment to prepare, engage and challenge their thinking in the room. And we find students work harder because of

the commitment made not only to themselves, but also because of the opportunity to receive a certificate from a higher education partner and to demonstrate to family, friends, or correctional staff that they are capable.

Further, in this discussion-based classroom environment, our instructors require full student engagement, facilitating a dynamic back-and-forth dialogue that results in the delivery of key educational concepts. This is the way we teach at Darden, and we do the same for our incarcerated students.

Our goal is that the knowledge gained in the classroom -- by both participants and our volunteer instructors -- has lasting impact, which means securing employment, pursuing higher education and starting new ventures. Our primary objectives are simple – to bring education and leadership to underserved populations to build bridges, expand perspectives and improve economic vitality.

Our program has transformed countless Resilience graduates' lives. The following are some of their stories:

“Graduating from Darden [Resilience Programs] has had an immensely positive impact on my life since my release four and a half years ago. I was able to become an extremely active student leader at a local community college because of the skills and experience that I gained in Darden. I am currently an honors student at Virginia Commonwealth University double majoring in psychology and sociology with the aim of earning a doctorate and becoming a professor one day. I would not be where I am today if not for Darden.” – Stephanie C.

“Prior to Entrepreneurship, I was not as word savvy or as sharp as I would have liked to be, but throughout the course I was taught how to make life changing decisions that I now use in my everyday life. That courageous jolt was given to me due to the constant encouragement and following of teachings by my instructors.” – Allie K.

“This program not only helped me get educated but also gave me hope. How do you express the incredible gratitude you feel for the gift of education and freedom after having made such horrible mistakes in life?” – Rick B.

We envision a network of universities sharing a common goal: to equip incarcerated individuals with the skills and knowledge needed to be successful, financially secure, and contributing members of their communities when they return home, thus reducing recidivism.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our testimony. On behalf of our entire team at Resilience, I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,

Tierney T. Fairchild, Ph.D.
Executive Director



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

HAROLD W. CLARKE
DIRECTOR

Department of Corrections

P. O. BOX 26963
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23261
(804) 674-3000

February 10, 2020

Hawaii State Capitol
415 S. Beretania Street, Room 202
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

I am writing today concerning Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I am delighted to recommend the Resilience Education programs to Hawaii. Please allow me to share a brief history. Darden Professor Greg Fairchild reached out to the Department of Corrections in 2011 to explore the possibility of delivering educational programs to inmates in Central Virginia. After careful deliberation, we were excited to launch a pilot program with Professor Fairchild at the Dillwyn Correctional Center for men that we expected could help prisoners become productive citizens upon release.

Given the positive experience of these initial classes, over time the program has expanded both to the Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women and Buckingham Correctional Center, and now includes a series of courses that are part of the Entrepreneurial Reentry Programs. Under the umbrella of Resilience Education, Professor Fairchild developed courses in financial capability, personal finance and foundations in business and entrepreneurship. Students are able to earn a certificate upon successful completion of each course recognizing their accomplishment.

Through October 2019, we had 360 Resilience program graduates who completed at least one of the course sequences. This set of courses has been of particular interest to inmates who will be returning to the community and want to find meaningful employment. Almost 70% of the program graduates will be 25-44 at release, so they will have many years of needing employment.

The Resilience programs, taught by Darden MBA students, have become a vital element of our educational and rehabilitation classes that prepare inmates for success upon their release. This success benefits not only the former inmate, but also their family, and the broader community in which they live.

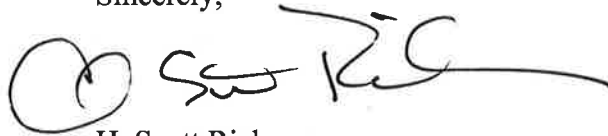
The Department of Corrections is currently conducting a formal evaluation of the program. Information tracks participants three years after they are released, and to date of the 14 former inmates meeting this threshold, only one had a subsequent conviction for a new crime.

Anecdotal information suggests that the opportunity to participate in this program has had tremendous benefits for our population. One example is an inmate who was serving a life sentence. After earning all three certificates, he was paroled on this 14th attempt. A year later, he had his “dream job” earning double what he might have expected without this training. Not only is this individual contributing to the tax base of his community, he has also returned to the Dillwyn men’s facility to share his journey with other inmates.

As other graduates are released, I am optimistic that they too will be contributing members of the community. This will provide benefits to the former prisoner and their family, plus will save taxpayers the direct costs associated with recidivism.

We are grateful to have the opportunity to share this testimony and look forward to being a resource to Hawaii in your efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "H. Scott Richeson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "H" and "R".

H. Scott Richeson
Deputy Director, Programs Education & Reentry



10 February 2020

Hawaii Senate Bill 3126 Relating to Prisons.
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

Please allow me to share these testimonies (attached) from three of our released graduates.

- Helenia Bragg
- Robin Martin
- Barbara Hurst

Thank you,

Sandra Kitembo
Program Administrator

Testimony #1

My name is Helenium Bragg. When I met the Mr. and Mrs. Fairchild, I was incarcerated 3 times at Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women in Virginia. I read a posting about the Resilience Education Entrepreneurship Program, and I signed up, filled out the application, was interviewed, and was accepted into the program. I successfully completed all 3 classes in the program. Mr. and Mrs. Fairchild encouraged me to give my business plan a chance. The MBA students who facilitated the classes challenged the students on resolving real-life possibilities in running a business. I wrote and presented my business plan in the Entrepreneurship Program, and I took this business plan home with me when I was released in 2016.

I graduated in May 2019 from Marymount University in Washington, DC with my bachelor's degree in Social Work. The business plan I wrote is being manifested today into a non-profit business. SHE (Seeking Higher Employment) was born in 2020, has received its 501(c)(3) approval, has 5 Board Members, a P.O. box, and a bank account. SHE is a unique program for females being released from incarceration to the community of Northern Virginia/ Washington, DC. These are the women who, while incarcerated, empowered themselves with career and technical educational opportunities that were available to them. The primary objective of SHE will be to connect these women to companies that will allow them to use their skills to become productive citizens by obtaining livable-wage careers, stable housing, and reuniting with family. The mission of SHE is to get every returning female citizen employment in a career, skill-based job within 60 days of release.

I am working in partnership with Resilience Education to help continue to build SHE into a successful venture that will help women in Virginia and Washington, DC find jobs that will allow them comparable wages for the field in which they are certified, despite being labeled a felon.

The Resilience Education program gave me the skills and motivation to work on my dream program and to help it become a reality. I am thrilled to be able to incorporate what I learned through Resilience Education to help make other's dreams become reality as well.

Helenium Bragg
Alexandria, Virginia

Testimony #2

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Robin, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons, scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives. I support this bill because I was fortunate to take the Darden programs while incarcerated at Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women. I received Darden certificates in Entrepreneurship, Financial Capabilities, and Capstone.

I served 18 and a half years and have been home 2 months shy of 2 years.

I am excited to offer this testimony because the Darden programs helped me gain social, financial, and life skills, which allowed me to become employed, find housing, and create a foundation for myself after my release. I especially enjoyed the students and the way they not only engaged the class through their teaching method, but how they believed in my ability to become a success and not a statistic. The opportunity to gain these important credentials from the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia changed my life for the better in more ways than I can count.

Today, I am living and working in Roanoke, VA. I have a lovely town home and I'm in the process of saving a down payment to purchase a home of my own. I have paid nearly all of the restitution that I owe and have been moved to low-risk probation monitoring. I am making a wonderful salary working for an AV company as a Sales Rep, Marketing Director, and Product specialist. I recently got engaged and I am living the dreams I had as a young girl before becoming incarcerated at the age of 15 and spending most of my young adult life in prison.

Without Darden, I would not have had the confidence to become productive and successful in my community. The Darden program prepared me for what I was about to face upon my release.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126. I know that the Darden program can help someone else like me if you will pass this Bill.

Thank you so much for allowing me to share,
Robin Martin
Roanoke, VA

Testimony #3

Barbara Hurst
Creative Consulting, LLC
9406 Robnel Avenue
Manassas, VA 20110
(703) 624-3132
February 10, 2020

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Barbara Hurst, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons, scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I support this bill because I was fortunate to take the Darden programs while incarcerated at Fluvanna Correctional Center for Women in Troy, Virginia. I received Darden certificates in all three programs (Financial Capability, Entrepreneurship, and Foundations in Business). This was my second incarceration for embezzlement, and I served 46 months.

I have been home for over 2 years.

I am excited to offer this testimony because the Darden programs helped me gain numerous skills and helped me become the businesswoman I am today. Today I own my own business consulting firm, and my services include writing business plans, grant proposals, financial plans, marketing, and more. I was blessed to work in partnership with other volunteers at Fluvanna and Resilience Education while I was incarcerated to write "Achieving Success in Personal Finance". This course is a modified version of the Financial Capability course but is focused more on helping inmates who are leaving incarceration within one year and who do not have time to take the other Darden Programs. This program also addresses habits regarding financial matters.

Regarding the courses, I especially enjoyed working with one of the MBA instructors, Kelly Gerhardt, who was my mentor for my business plan. She was so welcoming, accepting, and gave me great guided wisdom in my business plan. Her constructive criticism was welcomed and appreciated. Additionally, I LOVE the case method approach to teaching; it allows for open discussion with participants and is a fantastic way to learn! I learned so much while taking these three courses, and one of the biggest concerns (fears) I had was how I was going to pay back my nearly \$370,000 in restitution and \$3,500 in court fines. I was paralyzed with fear that I would not be able to pay the \$500 a month restitution payment I was required to pay and that I would be violated because I couldn't pay it. After taking Financial Capability, this fear was completely removed, and I had a 5-year plan and a 10-year plan to pay this off. I am hopeful that I will be able to pay this off within 5 years, and nothing will make me happier than to fully repay what I owe. I have already paid off all of my court fines.

The Darden programs helped challenge me to continue address my wrong ways of thinking about money and so much more. These Programs also helped me to know who I really am, grow in self-confidence, and also helped me in my marriage. I was blessed to come back home to my husband and grown son; however, I was very concerned about how I would ever pay that amount of money back in my lifetime.

My husband and I have been married for over 30 years and have grown in leaps and bounds since I came home, and the healing we have had, with God's help, has been astounding. We have the most fun, wonderful marriage today, a marriage I had only dreamt of having while I was incarcerated and after causing so much hurt and pain to those I loved and to my community. All I want to do is to help make it right by giving back all that I can.

Lastly, one of the most amazing things about the Darden Programs was that we were treated with dignity and respect, despite the mistakes we had made in our lives. When we walked into these classrooms, it was like we walked into a different world, a world where people believed in us, supported us, and it helped us see beyond the prison walls and into the future. These programs and amazing people helped me become the best version of myself. To be able to take and complete these programs has been the most incredible privilege and honor. I appreciate the opportunity to gain these important credentials from the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia. I cannot even begin to express to you how incredibly grateful I am for Drs. Gregory and Tierney Fairchild and their Team, including all of the MBA instructors. To say that I was given a second chance in life does not even begin to express the depth of gratitude I have.

Today, I live in Manassas, Virginia, and I own and operate Creative Consulting, LLC (www.creativeconsulting-llc.com). My business helps me to pay my \$500 a month restitution, in addition to being able to partner with others that I consult with that pay substantially more, in hopes to pay off my restitution in full within five years. Without Darden, I never would have been able to do and accomplish what I have since my release in October 2017.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

I am available anytime should you wish to ask any other questions at (703) 624-3132.

Sincerely,
Barbara Hurst
Manassas, Virginia

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 6:36:31 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Adam Doyle	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Adam Doyle, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons. scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I support this bill because I was fortunate to teach in Darden programs while an MBA student. I graduated in 2018 and now am a Director of a Technology Consulting firm.

I offer this testimony because I saw first-hand how the Darden Entrepreneurship program helped my students by showing them that there are other choices in life that they can make when they return to their lives post-prison, and that they can build a business and be a part of a community by giving them an actual road map to do so. A university partner is so important, as it's not a clear-cut program anyone can follow, and only because we were part of a university and support was provided from the students, it allowed for dynamic and truly caring engagement. That went both ways and the honest genuine concern and trust put in us as teachers because we were there helping the inmates to start a new life and find their way to not go back to prison showed them true investment in their success. This also got the students, who will go on to be upstanding leaders in the community, to see that no one is beyond helping and that just because inmates had made previous mistakes, that they are still human beings with a will do be better and do better. That makes for lasting investment and advocacy and supports their success both in prison and afterwards as well.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,

Adam Doyle

Charlottesville, VA

202-439-4400

10 February 2020

Gregory B. Fairchild
*Isadore Horween Associate Professor
of Business Administration*

**Hawaii Senate Bill 3126 Relating to Prisons.
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs**

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons. This bill, as you know, establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

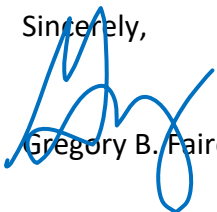
By way of background, in 2011, Darden Dean Bob Bruner received a letter from Jervon Herbin, an incarcerated man in Virginia, asking for assistance with business skills and a business plan so he could better support his teenage son post release. Darden didn't have a solution to offer this man but Professor Greg Fairchild had an idea. What if he could deliver an entrepreneurship certificate course with MBA students inside a prison to help men like Mr. Herbin? The successful launch of that program in the Dillwyn men's facility, led to an expansion to Fluvanna women's facility, and Greg's wife Tierney, also a Darden alum and PhD, joined him in developing two additional programs in personal finance and business and co-founding Resilience Education to help facilitate and expand the programs to other facilities, business schools and universities.

Nine years later, Resilience Education and Darden in partnership with the Virginia Department of Corrections have awarded over 575 certificates to 360 individuals. Nearly 200 MBA students have taught in the programs and a number continue to mentor released graduates. While recidivism data are only preliminary, 93 percent of graduates have not returned to prison.

Anecdotally, we have seen the transformational benefits of this program, both for the incarcerated graduates and the MBAs that teach them. One of our released graduates just landed a full-time position at UVA, with benefits. Another graduate is in the honors college at Virginia Commonwealth University, while another just became the general manager of a Marriott Fairfield Inn. We have countless stories of Resilience graduates finding stable employment, if not meaningful careers. And our MBAs often tell us that the Resilience programs helped them to become better business leaders, equipping them with the knowledge, skills and empathy to make a difference in their jobs and communities. The return on an investment in the Resilience programs is clear and in an economy with such low unemployment, all our citizens should be able to contribute positively to the economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to share this testimony. We support more universities and business schools engaging in this work and encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,



Gregory B. Fairchild

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/9/2020 6:26:49 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Yoona Koh	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Yoona Koh and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons. scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I support this bill because.... I was fortunate to teach in Darden programs while an MBA student. I graduated in 2019 and taught from 2018 to 2019.

I offer this testimony because I saw first-hand how the Darden helped my students:

1. developing basic but necessary financial management skills
2. learning how positively they can influence their own life
3. thinking/planning the life after prison.

The learning went two-way, which is why a university partner is so important. In my case, I was a business major in undergraduate, had a professional background in asset management, and was at my second year at Darden when I started to teach at the prison. I brought what I learned from college and MBA to the classroom, along with my professional experiences to provide examples. I was told by many of my students how this program help them focus on the future, have a tangible plan, and learn valuable skills that will protect themselves from others who will try to take advantage of them. My students also told me how this class was the only venue they can express their thoughts

in structured, productive manner. I am confident the time in this program made a difference to many of my students.

In return, I learned about the neglected part about our society. Before I heard from my students firsthand, I didn't know why it is so difficult for those who have been to prison, to get back on their feet. I did not think about how little things, like getting a credit card, or finding a place to live, may be so challenging to them. I realized how ignorant I was as a member of the society. Now I recognize that recidivism is not just about whether they are "trying hard". I have seen my students trying very hard to better themselves, but the list of problems they had to get through post prison, was very long. Participating in this program inspired me to become a better citizen who care about those who may face challenges I may not see or have experienced.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,

Yoona Koh

Arlington, Virginia

Ykoh1987@gmail.com

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/9/2020 6:52:55 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robert K. Merce	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/9/2020 6:59:13 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Semyon Shtulberg	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Semyon Shtulberg, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons, scheduled for hearing [on February 11, 2020](#). This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I support this bill because I have seen the impact this type of program can have on citizens re-entering society after incarceration. I was fortunate to teach in Darden programs while an MBA student. I graduated in 2012 and now am working in health care strategy.

I offer this testimony because I saw first-hand how the Darden Prisoner Entrepreneurship program helped my students gain skills that would help them thrive once back in their communities. The learning went two-ways, which is why a university partner is so important. As much as the program benefited its students it equally had a profound impact on my own perceptions and understanding of men and women serving time in prison. The compassion and empathy that I gained from the program will stay with me forever and undoubtedly shape my decisions as a business leader.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,

Semyon Shtulberg

Mikwaukee, WI

P: 812-219-4309

sshtulbe@gmail.com

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 4:01:38 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Feng	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Michael Feng, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, relating to Prisons. scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I was fortunate to teach in Darden education programs while an MBA student in 2018-2019. It was a fantastic program that gave me an opportunity to connect with community and give back to people who really appreciated our time and effort. How the program is run is a huge part of this, and Resilience education has the right mission and values to make a program like this successful. I say firsthand that the partnership between Resilience, Darden, and the Virginia department of corrections was a great partnership that everyone involved was able to benefit from. Resilience did a great job of coordinating and aligning visions and the outcomes have been fantastic. The students are always engaged and thankful, and go on to improve their lives post-release; the educators learn and get to give back. I'm grateful that I chose to join the program and it will always be with me.

Please feel free to reach out if you have any questions.

Thank you for letting me share,

Mike Feng, Boston, MA, fengmike00@live.com

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 4:57:03 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jennifer Rose	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Jennifer Rose and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons, scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I support this bill because I was fortunate to teach in the Darden prison program while an MBA student at Darden. I graduated in 2019 and now am in management consulting in Atlanta, Georgia.

I offer this testimony because I saw first-hand how the Darden program helped my students grow and develop as individuals. As we taught business fundamentals, I watched my students come to life, learning new concepts and getting excited for when they would be released and could put the new ideas into action. From understanding interest rates, to how to buy a house, to how credit cards work, many of these topics were unfamiliar or complicated to our students at first. That is until class when we talked through the details or logistics of the topic. Suddenly, what used to be challenging and intimidating was understandable, actionable, and would eventually be something they could incorporate into their life (such as buying a house). I watched them fill with hope as they prepared to re-enter society better equipped to handle life after prison. The learning went two-ways, which is why a university partner is so important. My peers and I who taught each week gained so much from our students. They taught us resilience, how to handle adversity with humor, patience with frustrating systems, humility, kindness, honesty, and strength. I think of my students often and how much I learned from their resilience and it is my sincere hope Hawaii will consider the benefits of this program, for the students, the teachers, and the broader community. With more individuals able to handle the demands of participating properly in society, the more productive and prosperous our communities will be.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126. Please feel free to reach out to me with any further questions.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Rose

Atlanta, Georgia

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 4:58:17 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cheryl Connery	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Cheryl Connery, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons. scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I support this bill because I have had the opportunity to teach in this program as part of my second year at Darden.

I offer this testimony because I saw first-hand how the Darden program inspired inmates to think about their future in a positive and encouraging way. The students in the program regularly give feedback on how the program has made them feel like they have a sense of purpose again and that they feel like they can take their life back post-release. The learning went two-way, which is why a university partner is so important, as it provides an opportunity to build relationships and networks that would otherwise no exist.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Connery

Charlottesville, VA

ConneryC20@darden.virginia.edu

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 5:03:12 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Patricia Martin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Patricia Martin and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons, scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I support this bill because when I was a 2nd year MBA student at UVA Darden I had the opportunity to teach inmates through the Darden Prison Program. I graduated in 2016 and now work as a Senior Manager of Finance and Accounting at the Center for Civilians in Conflict.

I offer this testimony because I understand how important it is for inmates to have resources that support overall learning as well as how to be better, more productive members of society upon release. When I taught through the Darden Prison Program many of my students did not understand how businesses worked or how they can start and grow their own business. Unfortunately, one of the challenges that this population faces is becoming gainfully employed upon release. The reasons for this include a lack of skills and discrimination. If students understand how to start their own business, they will be more successful upon release since they will be able to create their own opportunities to get work. For those that do not want to start their own business, they gain a better understanding of how to be a better employee. By gaining an understanding of the hurdles that business owners face and what it takes to run a business, they are more understanding of the challenges that come with working for someone else, which can help them better deal with being in a work environment.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,

Patricia Martin

Washington, DC

(301) 433-3949

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 5:39:54 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Danielle Jenks	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Danielle Jenks, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons. scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I support this bill because I have been fortunate enough to see Resilience Education while an MBA student at Columbia Business School. I taught students both financial empowerment and entrepreneurship over the course of two semesters. I was able to watch my students grow week over week and learn new skills, but I think that I learned and grew just as much as they did. I become better at breaking down complex problems, commanding a room, and developing a collaborating environment. I will take all of these skills with me upon graduation in May when I join Google as a Product Operations Manager. I hope others, both future teachers and students, have the opportunity to benefit from this incredible program in Hawaii.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,

Danielle Jenks

New York, NY

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 6:51:00 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emmanuel Caprais	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Emmanuel Caprais, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, relating to Prisons. scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I would like to share my experience when I participated to the Resilience Education/Columbia programs while an MBA student at the Columbia Business School.

When I chose to participate in this program, I felt that I could help incarcerated people aspire to a better future and that I could become a better person. It was important for me to challenge the privileged life I live and dedicate some of my time and energy to helping incarcerated people.

I therefore looked very much forward to sharing my knowledge and experiences in order to equip students with information and practical tips so that they not only successfully reintegrate society but also manage the critical first few months of freedom in the least disruptive way possible for them and society. It is clear to me that one's background determines so much of one's future. I could have experienced the same circumstances, had I not been born into a middle-class, nurturing family. This realization helped me to strongly relate to students during this experience.

My experience with the ReEntry Program was completely unique, in addition to teaching subjects that I knew little about beforehand, I truly enjoyed the opportunity to teaching to people who despite their difficult conditions, demonstrated a level of engagement and willingness to learn that I had not expected. The questions the students asked were both difficult and easy and most of the time insightful. They clearly showed that the students had been disconnected from life in society for so many years and that situations that seemed obvious to address, were not that easy for many of them.

The first two lessons that I taught dealt with how to choose a cell phone plan and house rent vs buy decision. Interestingly, even if I had gone through both these situations on my own, I was surprised at how complex such decisions can be. I had not realized the large number of alternatives there were for cell phones or the list of actions necessary

to buy a house for example, especially when you have a limited budget. It is a good reminder that so much of one's success depends on others and in particular on family. It was also clear that my students did not have access to those resources, thus potentially perpetuating a negative cycle even once outside of prison.

During classes, students, as usual, have been very engaged, even when I struggled answering all their questions. The students made a point in thanking us at the end of the lesson, knowing that it the last lesson I taught.

On one instance, I started a phrase by saying: "when you see the LTE signal on your cell phone..." and in a matter of seconds the class turned noisy and unsettled because I clearly had taken for granted something that they had never experienced. The reference points are clearly not the same and it was a constant adjustment between my experience and theirs, in both ways. This makes it even more important that students are guided before they exit the prison system.

During class, students made it easy for me to focus on my teaching mission; the class atmosphere was respectful and representative of our common goal to prepare them for life after prison. I think that most of us would behave this way once given the opportunity to see the prison environment and the quality of the student body.

Thinking back about criminal legal system, it is set up so that there is little incentive to be more efficient, quite the contrary. This is obviously a very complex issue but it is disappointing for the fate of incarcerated people, as it does not set them up for future success. This is why the Reentry Acceleration Program is so important.

Finally, my interest to help incarcerated people will not stop after this experience. I have sponsored the idea of ReEntry Acceleration at my company and we have decided to hire two formerly incarcerated people.

There are many barriers for incarcerated people even after they have paid their dues to society. If each of us can help our communities understand that the completion of a prison sentence should mean full acceptance back into society, then it would make it clear that the US criminal legal system is not only a system aimed at punishing criminals but also at rehabilitating them. There are many examples in Europe that prove that it works.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Emmanuel Caprais

Scarsdale, New York

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Emmanuel Caprais, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, relating to Prisons and scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I would like to share my experience when I participated to the Resilience Education/Columbia programs while an MBA student at the Columbia Business School.

When I chose to participate in this program, I felt that I could help incarcerated people aspire to a better future and that I could become a better person. It was important for me to challenge the privileged life I live and dedicate some of my time and energy to helping incarcerated people.

I therefore looked very much forward to sharing my knowledge and experiences in order to equip students with information and practical tips so that they not only successfully reintegrate society but also manage the critical first few months of freedom in the least disruptive way possible for them and society. It is clear to me that one's background determines so much of one's future. I could have experienced the same circumstances, had I not been born into a middle-class, nurturing family. This realization helped me to strongly relate to students during this experience.

My experience with the ReEntry Program was completely unique, in addition to teaching subjects that I knew little about beforehand, I truly enjoyed the opportunity to teaching to people who despite their difficult conditions, demonstrated a level of engagement and willingness to learn that I had not expected. The questions the students asked were both difficult and easy and most of the time insightful. They clearly showed that the students had been disconnected from life in society for so many years and that situations that seemed obvious to address, were not that easy for many of them.

The first two lessons that I taught dealt with how to choose a cell phone plan and house rent vs buy decision. Interestingly, even if I had gone through both these situations on my own, I was surprised at how complex such decisions can be. I had not realized the large number of alternatives there were for cell phones or the list of actions necessary to buy a house for example, especially when you have a limited budget. It is a good reminder that so much of one's success depends on others and in particular on family. It was also clear that my students did not have access to those resources, thus potentially perpetuating a negative cycle even once outside of prison.

During classes, students, as usual, have been very engaged, even when I struggled answering all their questions. The students made a point in thanking us at the end of the lesson, knowing that it the last lesson I taught.

On one instance, I started a phrase by saying: "when you see the LTE signal on your cell phone..." and in a matter of seconds the class turned noisy and unsettled because I

clearly had taken for granted something that they had never experienced. The reference points are clearly not the same and it was a constant adjustment between my experience and theirs, in both ways. This makes it even more important that students are guided before they exit the prison system.

During class, students made it easy for me to focus on my teaching mission; the class atmosphere was respectful and representative of our common goal to prepare them for life after prison. I think that most of us would behave this way once given the opportunity to see the prison environment and the quality of the student body.

Thinking back about criminal legal system, it is set up so that there is little incentive to be more efficient, quite the contrary. This is obviously a very complex issue but it is disappointing for the fate of incarcerated people, as it does not set them up for future success. This is why the Reentry Acceleration Program is so important.

Finally, my interest to help incarcerated people will not stop after this experience. I have sponsored the idea of ReEntry Acceleration at my company and we have decided to hire two formerly incarcerated people.

There are many barriers for incarcerated people even after they have paid their dues to society. If each of us can help our communities understand that the completion of a prison sentence should mean full acceptance back into society, then it would make it clear that the US criminal legal system is not only a system aimed at punishing criminals but also at rehabilitating them. There are many examples in Europe that prove that it works.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Emmanuel Caprais

Scarsdale, New York

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 6:56:30 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Becker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is William (Buzz) Becker and I am writing in support of SB3126. I taught with the Resilience Education program in Virginia when I was an MBA student at UVA. This was far and away the most impactful and meaningful community involvement I was a part of. It was clear to me that many of the students were looking for the skills and opportunities to ensure successful reintegration after their term and it was absolutely a dynamic environment. Please give this bill your full support.

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 7:12:45 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jarrett Walker	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Jarrett Walker, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons. scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I support this bill because of the profound impact this program has had on the lives of both, the students and the instructors, like myself. I was fortunate to teach in Darden programs while an MBA student. I taught Entrepreneurship at the Dillwyn Men's Correctional Facility in Dillwyn, Virginia. I graduated in 2018 and now am an Investment Banker at J.P. Morgan. The Darden Prison Program was the most impactful curriculum I experienced during my graduate studies at the University of Virginia. As business leaders, educators, and political leaders I believe we have an obligation to use our platforms and our talents for the betterment of others and the overall betterment of society. When I signed up to participate as an instructor at Dillwyn, I expected to share business methodologies and truly serve as an instructor for the classroom. What I did not expect was to form a family-like bond with a classroom of passionate gentlemen that I am proud to call my former students and even prouder to call my now friends. As one with family members that have had their own experience with the correctional system, I have witnessed firsthand the power of providing a positive and constructive support system to incarcerated persons. Additionally, as students in university mature and develop a holistic view of society, it is imperative that they participate in life-changes experiences like this program to deepen their knowledge of self and instill a foundation of civic-engagement.

I offer this testimony because I saw first-hand the impact this had on my peers whom had no prior experience with incarcerated persons. I watched their preconceived bias slowly breakdown and their minds and hearts become more open to being an agent of

change. I witnessed my peers become more passionate, develop more empathy, and personally debunk the stereotypes they had been conditioned to believe. I know that through this experience they will be more effective leaders in their own personal and professional communities. Secondly, I saw first-hand the impact this had on the students in the program. I witnessed them become deeply passionate about the curriculum. They were filled hope and that hope naturally transformed into discipline. The mental stimulation they received through education proved so impactful that they challenged their fellow peers to become more discipline during their sentence in preparation for their journey post-release. The program is mutually beneficial. The learning went two-way, which is why a university partner is so important for the success of this program.

In closing, during my time as an instructor I met a student, whose name I will not share out of respect for his privacy. We forged a unique relationship due to his natural business curiosity and ability to solve complex cases in a very short amount of curriculum time. I watched him grow each week as he prepared for his release and his unwavering positive attitude and personal drive changed my life. He was deeply committed to changing his circumstances because “his family deserved better.” He was released shortly after I graduated and we remain in contact. He has successfully secured employment and is currently saving his earnings to open his first personal training facility. He continues to share his business ideas with me and I remain a pillar of support. One would arrogantly think that he is the only one that has benefited tremendously from being a student in the program – and while I am confident that the program has had a positive impact on his trajectory – I humbly believe that I have benefitted most from our relationship. He reminded me that with the right attitude and work ethic, there is nothing one can’t achieve. He reminded me the power of hope. Most importantly, he reminded me that it is my duty as a citizen to use my platform and privilege for the betterment of others.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,

Jarrett M. Walker

New York, NY

917-715-6344

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 7:35:51 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kyle Rose	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Kyle Rose, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons, scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020.

I had the opportunity to teach in the Darden Resilience Education programs while in school at the University of Virginia before graduating in May 2019. I now work for a financial technology startup in Charlottesville, VA and remain committed to the mission of reducing recidivism by providing educational and employment opportunities to incarcerated individuals.

I have seen firsthand how difficult it is for released individuals to obtain a job with limited educational background and the black mark that a felony record represents to employers. As an instructor in a women's correctional facility in Virginia, I had the opportunity to speak with many women who were about to be released and apprehensive about how they would be treated with felony records. Providing business skills to these women allows them to stand out in the job market and, perhaps more importantly, feel comfortable enough to found their own business where they have the opportunity to make something of themselves free of judgement from traditional employers. Lack of employable opportunities is a huge contributor to the high national recidivism rate.

This learning was just as important to myself and my classmates, who had significant walls and stigmas broken down about the circumstances and personal character that led to the current status of incarcerated individuals. I now advocate in my current business for the equal treatment of ex-convicts in our application process and encourage many of the business leaders I know to do the same. I remain actively involved in trying to place many of my former students in full-time jobs. This program has had a profound impact on my life and I am eternally thankful for it.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,

Kyle Rose

Charlottesville, VA

My name is Chenault Taylor and I am a graduate of the Yale School of Management, currently working at the Boston Consulting Group. I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons, scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives focused on business skills, and partners with the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business and their related nonprofit, Resilience Education.

I learned about the Resilience Education programs through my business school and requested to implement their entrepreneurship program at the Monroe Correctional Complex in Washington State in fall 2019. I taught a semester class of twenty men residing at the medium security prison.

The program was extremely well received by the students and the facility partner, University Beyond Bars. I have been asked to return and expand the program at the facility. Students actively participated in a rigorous, graduate-school level curriculum and created their own well-executed business plans. I've included a few quotes from my students below:

"Thinking about the details necessary to operate a business was very helpful. I have a number of business experiences in which I operated covertly but this information helped me understand how the skills I already have can be applied to start and run a successful business upon my release."

"I came into this confident I will be successful at this very thing. Having been in prison 40 years, however, I realize there is much I don't know. This class helped me fill in many of the gaps in my knowledge. I'm sure I'll have to continue educating myself about this but the class was a great step on that path."

"This was one of the most personal and get out of my comfort zone classes I've done and now I feel more motivated to give myself a greater chance of success."

I offer this testimony because I saw first-hand the power of access to education, particularly business education.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,

Chenault Taylor
Seattle, WA
Chenault.Taylor@gmail.com
312-859-2298

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 8:46:51 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Maggie Gray	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Maggie Gray, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons. scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I support this bill because I was fortunate to teach in Darden programs while an MBA student. I graduated in 2017 and now am a Director at Mastercard.

I offer this testimony because I saw first-hand how the Darden curriculum impacted my students mentally and emotionally while incarcerated. It built up their confidence and provided a new toolkit for critical thinking and problem solving. Similarly, I gained new perspectives on the material that I taught and absorbed the determination that each student brought to class.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,

Maggie Gray

Richmond, VA

917-455-6464

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 8:52:58 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrew More	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Andrew More, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons. scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I support this bill because I was fortunate to teach in a similar program through the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business while I was an MBA student. I graduated in 2018 and now am a venture capitalist.

I offer this testimony because I saw first-hand how the Darden entrepreneurship course helped my students problem solve, think critically, and learn new concepts and skills that can be applied to many different jobs once they are released. The learning went two-way, which is why a university partner is so important.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,

Andrew More

Director

BlueStone Venture Partners

Tucson, AZ

andrew.more@bluestonevp.com

(520) 405-9256

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 9:23:00 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jim Howe	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Jim, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons. scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I support this bill because I am currently a student instructor at the Fluvanna Women's Correctional Center, in central Virginia. I have seen first hand that our students are eager to learn from the Darden instruction team, have participated effectively and consistently during our classes, and believe that the lessons they are learning will assist them in establishing themselves successfully in their communities upon release. The Darden PREP program meaningfully reduces recidivism and makes a difference in the lives of all of the students that it reaches. Further, our instructors from the Darden School of Business all believe the program has made a difference in our lives, by connecting us with offenders and helping us understand their strong capabilities, building in us a joy of teaching and an awareness of issues in the United States criminal justice system.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,

Jim Howe

Charlottesville, Virginia

HoweJ20@arden.virginia.edu

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 9:34:49 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sandra Navalli	Testifying for Columbia Business School	Support	No

Comments:

Testimony for Senate Bill 3126 in Hawaii

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

Dear Chairman Nishihara and Committee members:

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons. As you know, this bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

Columbia Business School, in New York City, is pleased to submit this testimony in support of Hawaii's proposed pilot program to bring business education programs to incarcerated individuals. In 2016, the Tamer Center for Social Enterprise at Columbia University, through Professor Damon Phillips, partnered with Darden Professor Greg Fairchild and his wife Dr. Tierney Fairchild of Resilience Education to help us establish business and financial education programs for incarcerated students similar to the ones developed by the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia.

Resilience Education's expertise has been a critical foundation for our teaching programs. Their knowledge and experience helped us partner effectively with our correctional facilities at Taconic Correctional, and more recently Sing Sing. They provided a high-quality and rigorous case-based curriculum that ensured our incarcerated students • and our MBA instructors • would engage meaningfully in

the classroom, and their digital tools and advice were invaluable in helping us learn how best to establish, deliver and manage these programs.

Three years in, we continue to manage our teaching programs largely on our own, though we know Resilience Education will continue as our curricular and technical assistance partner. We have taught over 190 incarcerated and formerly incarcerated students and more than 80 MBAs have taught in our programs at Taconic and Sing Sing. Further, we have developed an experiential learning course to accompany the experience, and we have a new curricular offering in managerial negotiations and interpersonal workplace skills that we and Resilience hope to share with future partners.

While the results are still preliminary, allow me to share quotes from our participants:

"It's a great privilege to take these classes. We can be productive members of society and pay taxes. We just need a chance to prove that, and then we can move forward."

—Bridget Osborne, incarcerated student at Taconic Correctional Facility.

"The most unexpected thing was how reciprocal the learning experience was. There was the role of the student and the instructor, but there was also discussion and mutual realization, and a feeling that the shared experience had given us all new tools."

—Zachary Shuster, Columbia MBA instructor.

It is our goal to help Resilience Education bring these programs to more business schools, universities and correctional facilities. We know the business community needs to be more engaged with the challenges vulnerable populations, like the incarcerated, have in becoming net contributors to their communities. We ask that you join us in this effort and vote to pass SB 3126.

Thank you for the opportunity to share this testimony.

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 11:40:23 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Justin Edmondson	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Justin Edmondson, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons, scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I support this bill because of the tremendous impact it has on the lives of inmates who hope to transition back to the workforce, the student-teachers who learn and grow immensely from this experience, and the surrounding communities who benefit from the reduction of recidivism. I was fortunate enough to teach Entrepreneurship in the Darden program while an MBA student and it was the most impactful experience of my time in graduate school. I graduated in 2017 and now work in the District of Columbia in Commercial Real Estate Development.

I offer this testimony because I witnessed first-hand how the Darden entrepreneurship class helped my students critically think about real world business issues and develop their own business plans to implement upon release. The learning was invaluable and reciprocal, which is why a university partner is so important for the success of this program.

I am forever grateful to Darden for the opportunity to participate

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,

Justin Edmondson

Jaedmondson@gmail.com

301-706-8775

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 12:29:25 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Shayla Campbell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Shayla Campbell, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I support this bill because I was fortunate to participate in the Resilience Education/Columbia programs while an MBA student at the Columbia Business School. The programs helped me gain leadership skills and allowed me to share my experiences with others.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

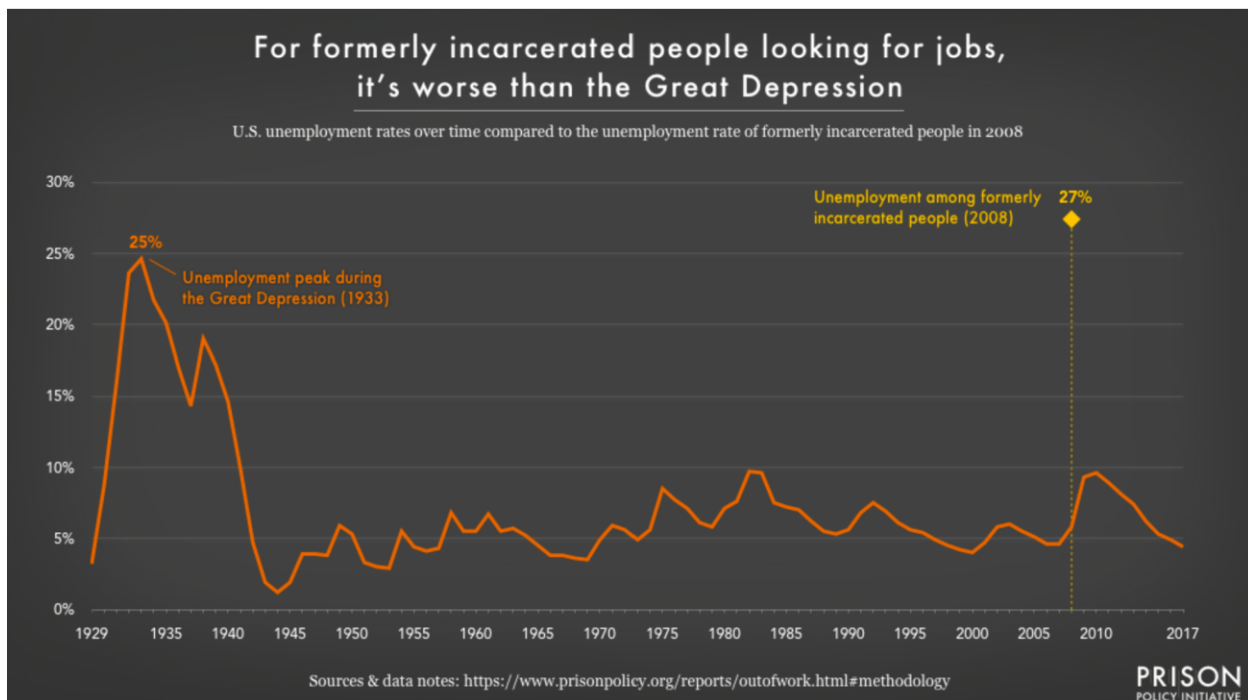
Sincerely,

Shayla Campbell

New York, New York

To: COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
Attention: Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

The primary goal of this bill is to reduce the recidivism rate. The recidivism rate in the United States over 9 years is 83.4%¹, so obviously this is a serious issue across the nation. Studies have shown that there is more to be gained by “Banning the Box” (Removing the criminal background box from the initial application) than other methods to reduce recidivism. Hawaii was the first state to enact this policy, which provided inconclusive results, which has been reflected in other state studies as well.² In Hawaii, it was discovered only 4 out of 20 employers were enforcing this state law.³ This has led to incorrect conclusions about the effectiveness of the “Ban the Box” solution. HRS § 378–2.5 is a good state law, only if it is enforced. Can there be an agency or department assigned to ensure the enforcement of this law? We must protect our most vulnerable population in order to give them a true second chance at life.



Thank you for your time,
Stephen M. Geib
Student (Master's Program)
Department of Urban and Regional Planning, College of Social Sciences
University of Hawaii, Manoa

¹ Alper, M., Durose, M. R., & Markman, J. (2018, May). *US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics*. Retrieved from 2018 Update on Prisoner Recidivism: A 9-Year Follow-up Period (2005-2014) : <https://www.bjs.gov/content/pub/pdf/18upr9yfup0514.pdf>

² D'Alessio, Stewart & Stolzenberg, Lisa & Flexon, Jamie. (2014). The Effect of Hawaii's Ban The Box Law on Repeat Offending. *American Journal of Criminal Justice*. 10.1007/s12103-014-9251-9. https://www.researchgate.net/publication/264158021_The_Effect_of_Hawaii's_Ban_The_Box_Law_on_Repeat_Offending

³ Lau, S.-A. (2000). Employment Discrimination Because of One's Arrest and Court Record in Hawaii. *Hawaii Law Review*, 22, 709-735.

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 1:10:26 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
R Siciliano	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Billie Loewen, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons. scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I support this bill because I was fortunate to teach in Darden programs while an executive MBA student. I graduated in 2019 and now am an executive consultant for a technology firm serving clients like IBM, Synchrony Financial, Regal Cinemas, HBO and more.

I offer this testimony because I saw first-hand how the Darden teaching program at Fluvanna Women's Correctional Prison helped my students learn critical business skills that will help them succeed after their sentence, grow their confidence, practice spirited debate in and out of the classroom, participate in a community atmosphere, act as a team player, improve their servant-leadership capacity, contextualize and internalize their potential, and solve complex problems — including roadmapping their own path to success and overcoming hurdles. The learning went two-ways, which is why a university partner is so important to bring greater awareness of inequality and the prison system to student-leaders, many of whom will graduate and become business leaders with the power to hire previously incarcerated members of their community and support initiatives that reduce systematic causes of imprisonment.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,

Billie Loewen
Charlottesville, VA
billieloewen@gmail.com
billie.loewen@willowtreeapps.com
541-972-2349
701 East High Street 314, Charlottesville, VA 22902



Chamber of Commerce HAWAII

The Voice of Business

Testimony to the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at 1:35 P.M.
Conference Room 229, State Capitol

RE: SB 3126, RELATING TO PRISONS

LATE

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

The Chamber of Commerce Hawaii ("The Chamber") **supports** SB 3126, which establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

The Chamber is Hawaii's leading statewide business advocacy organization, representing about 2,000+ businesses. Approximately 80% of our members are small businesses with less than 20 employees. As the "Voice of Business" in Hawaii, the organization works on behalf of members and the entire business community to improve the state's economic climate and to foster positive action on issues of common concern.

The Chamber continues to support the State's efforts to promote innovative education and workforce development initiatives within our state. Currently, 49.6% of convicted felons in Hawaii will return to prison within one year of being released. This directly contributes to rising concerns regarding prison overpopulation, in addition to the steep financial burden imposed on both the State and local taxpayers. The Chamber recognizes the importance of offering educational resources during incarceration that will provide inmates with the necessary skills to successfully reintegrate back into society and gain employment.

Additionally, studies have shown that providing higher education programs to inmates translate to lower recidivism rates, reductions in crime, and the fostering of stronger, safer communities. Formerly incarcerated individuals are also an often overlooked and underutilized workforce demographic. Implementing these educational programs and initiatives during incarceration could in the long-term, aid in alleviating Hawaii's workforce shortages as well as contribute to strengthening our local economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

LATE

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 9:40:36 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Tim Lu	Testifying for University of Virginia (Darden)	Support	No

Comments:

February 11, 2020

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Timothy Lu, and I'm writing to express my support of the Four-Year Pilot Education Program to reduce recidivism in Hawaii.

Over the last 6 months, I have participated as a volunteer educator in the Entrepreneurship module facilitated by Resilience Education (Virginia). Our curriculum matches and mirrors that of a world-class Business School – covering Marketing, Finance, Operations, and Leadership subjects, to name a few. However, the power of such an education initiative goes beyond the transaction of practical skills that map to the functions of an enterprise. I have seen firsthand how this brand of Case-based education can serve as a gentle but effective forcing mechanism for students to develop clarity of personal purpose and a deep sense of self-awareness in preparation for their re-entry into society.

I can best illustrate this with an anecdote from a class discussion I facilitated in one Entrepreneurship class. The students were asked to read *The Great Gatsby*, a classic novel that follows the fictional events of Jay Gatsby, whose “greatness” stems from his ability to turn ambition into wealth. The story ends tragically as Gatsby falls victim to the pitfall of unbridled passion (for Daisy). My co-teacher and I took this unique teaching opportunity with our students to kickstart a discussion on what “Daisy” could stand for in our own lives. Money, reputation, and love were a few of their thoughtful responses. In engaging with our teaching content, students had laid a critical foundation for self-examination of personal character traits. We pushed forward to talk about what that looks like in practice.

Humility. Authenticity. Trustworthiness. These are a few of the attributes that students were eager to discern and discuss with each other. They probed one another on how

they intend to seek and identify people with these characteristics after prison. They searched each other's stories for examples of demonstrating and upholding these qualities when faced with tough decisions. They reflected on what it meant to become masters of Self-control, Integrity, and Determination – in the context of business, family, and society. I hoped students would dig deeply into their “Why”, and even articulate their personal purpose as it relates to the business they’d one day start. In short, I was blown away.

In the 60 minutes that followed, I listened intently to our students reflect on the hard skills we’d taught them in previous weeks and integrate them with the soft skills (and life perspectives) covered from the readings and our current class discussion.

One student spoke about **purpose**: “I want my legacy to be about helping other people change and improve their situations. That’s because I’ve been on my own personal journey in prison and I think I can help a lot of folks out there.” Another tackled a specific **character trait** head on: “It takes a lot of humility – something I didn’t have when I got back from Afghanistan. My ego was so bad. Combined with all the stress I experienced in war, I got into a lot of trouble. My wife and friends told me they couldn’t even recognize me. That’s why when I get out (of Dillwyn), I’m going to work on myself so that my business can help other people.” A third student vocalized **commitment** to turn promise into reality: “Everyone looks at me and thinks I’m the lowest in society. I’m a prisoner, man. I refuse to let this be my legacy, which is why I’m going to take what I’ve learned here at Dillwyn and show my friends and family how different of a man I can become.”

The personal takeaways from these teacher-student engagements are significant, but on a macro-level, what is more clear than ever is this: Incarcerated individuals are hungry for both practical workplace skills and self-reflection. Through education programs like the Darden/Resilience Entrepreneurship curriculum, we have the means to provide both in big ways. Dozens of former students testify to the fact that it works – as many have found meaningful employment and discovered their purpose to enable true personal transformation. I urge this Committee to weigh and consider this opportunity today with the passing of SB 3126 in order to enable more opportunities for Hawaii's incarcerated population as soon as possible.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony.

Sincerely,

Timothy Lu

LATE

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 11:06:36 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brad Takei	Testifying for Darden School of Business	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Brad Takei, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126 scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I grew up in Honolulu but life has since taken me away from the Islands. One of my best high school friends was incarcerated after we graduated from highschool in Honolulu. I am now pursuing my MBA at Darden and am teaching in this prison program.

I offer this testimony because I have seen first-hand how difficult it has been for my people to reintegrate into society. I have also seen first-hand the difference this Darden program is making for my students.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,

Your name
City/State
contact info

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 6:29:08 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jimmy Figueroa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Jimmy Figueroa and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons. scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

While an MBA student at Darden (Class of 2017), I was fortunate enough to have the experience of teaching students in prison through the Resilience Education program. I saw first-hand the impact that an education program could have on this population:

- 1. Team-building and camaraderie:** These students supported one another inside and outside of the classroom in ways that would not have existed otherwise. They helped one another understand complex concepts, added advice to improve business ideas, and openly shared personal perspectives that broadened the learning environment.
- 2. Self-motivation:** The group of students I taught were self-motivated and applied themselves to mastering the curriculum. Their effort was on par, if not greater, than levels of effort of I've seen from peers through personal classroom experiences. It was amazing to see the level of effort given by a group of individuals, who in most cases, had grown up in education environments where they were not afforded this quality of education and had started to believe they were not "good students".
- 3. Positive intent:** Each week these students were able to step outside of their daily routine and practice skills that could support their lives once released. Their ambition was profound and they shared a passion for wanting to make a positive impact in their community if given the opportunity. Given the right support and attention we hoped that these ambitions could translate into a reality.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Figueroa
San Francisco, CA
jimmy.a.figueroa@gmail.com

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/10/2020 11:52:45 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Gerard Silva	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Wast Of Tax payer Money!!

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 8:50:24 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM



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

Comments:

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 7:53:07 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Royd Lim	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Royd Lim, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons. scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I support this bill because I was fortunate to participate in the Resilience Education/Columbia programs while an MBA student at the Columbia Business School. We were able to provide coursework on subjects like personal finance, a critical subject that is fundamentally required to become independent but that is not a part of public education. The programs helped me gain a much fuller understanding of prisons and recidivism that I would otherwise never come across in my life. As an instructor, I was able to interact with a number of personnel in prisons and ultimately, better understand what correctional officers, inmates, and other staff are going through on a daily basis. My experience as an instructor has better informed me of the challenges associated with prisons, allowing me to make better decisions not only as a voter, but also as a future manager in corporate America. Whether it means that I will support small business owners who were previously incarcerated or hire people who were previously incarcerated, I believe that my experience in Columbia's Resilience Education program has better informed me on how I can help contribute to solutions for the challenges of recidivism.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,

Royd Lim
New York, NY

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 9:30:38 AM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM



Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Colin Fogarty	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Colin Fogarty, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I support this bill because I have seen first-hand the impact that it could have upon students in prison, as I was fortunate to teach at Dillwyn Correctional Center while an MBA student at the University of Virginia's Darden School of Business. Graduating in 2016, I am now a management consultant in Atlanta, and would like to share some of my experiences teaching at Dillwyn as part of the Resilience Education Program.

Though it was nearly 4 years ago, I will never forget the enthusiasm that I saw from each and every prisoner that I had the opportunity to teach on a weekly basis. It was clear as day that every student I taught at Dillwyn greatly looked forward to their time in the classroom each week. Only a few steps into the classroom on my very first day, and the first thing I heard as I shook my student's hand was, "I'm Andrew – thank you for coming here tonight. Ever since I heard about this opportunity, I've been working towards becoming part of this program. I could not be more excited to be in this classroom right now!"

I truly believe that offering them the mentoring environment to dream about being a business owner down the road created an intangible and invaluable positive future outlook for them. I vividly remember John telling me about his plan to start "the best motorcycle repair shop I can think of... I know bikes and I think I can really do something with this!". It was truly awesome that the program helped him take that

enthusiasm and put together a true business plan that outlined how he could potentially make that dream a reality.

To help build the skills to support their entrepreneurial dreams, the students also eagerly dove into learning about basic business and financial principles. The concept of credit and credit cards is one example topic that comes immediately to mind. I've been fortunate enough to have only benefited from using credit cards, but it was a real eye-opener to me when it seemed like credit cards, and more broadly the concept of credit and loans, were completely alien to the majority of the classroom. As I look back, I take great pride in the discussion we had as a group – I personally learned what it was like to operate in life without credit, but more importantly, the group was able to leave the classroom that night with an understanding of how loans and credit can be a tremendous help in both life and business. I'm also confident they understood how to think about credit and how to avoid potential risks and pitfalls through its mismanagement.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony -- I hope that the above experiences have illustrated the value that an educational program with a university partner could bring to your prisons as a tool to help reduce recidivism. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,

Colin Fogarty

Atlanta, GA

912.658.0058 | colin0205@gmail.com

LATE

SB-3126

Submitted on: 2/11/2020 12:34:22 PM

Testimony for PSM on 2/11/2020 1:35:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Hack Smith	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hack Smith

11 February 2020

Hawaii Senate Bill 3126 Relating to Prisons.

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

Please allow me to share the testimony of Anders Hvelplund,

I support this bill as I strongly believe this is one of the most impactful ways to reduce recidivism. As one of the first volunteers, I witnessed how powerful it is to teach core concepts to the students to ensure they are well-prepared for life on the outside and to inspire hope for a new path ahead. Moreover, it is also an enriching experience to the teachers in the program - you can't get much better leadership experience than that. The partnership with Darden adds tremendous value both in forms of resources, processes, etc., and also importantly, in establishing a strong brand for the program.

Taking part of this initiative was one of the - if not the - highlights of my experience at Darden and I fully support its expansion.

Anders Hvelplund, VP Strategy and Business Development, Jabra

DEPARTMENT OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

ALII PLACE
1060 RICHARDS STREET • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
PHONE: (808) 547-7400 • FAX: (808) 547-7515

DWIGHT K. NADAMOTO
ACTING PROSECUTING ATTORNEY



LATE

LYNN B.K. COSTALES
ACTING FIRST DEPUTY
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

**THE HONORABLE CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, CHAIR
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY,
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2020
State of Hawai'i**

February 11, 2020

RE: S.B. 3126; RELATING TO PRISONS.

Chair Nishihara, Vice-Chair Wakai, and members of the Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu ("Department") submits the following testimony in support of S.B. 3126.

The purpose of S.B. 3126 is to establish a new pilot program that would provide additional educational opportunities for Hawaii's prison inmates, with a focus on business, entrepreneurial and financial literacy. The Department has always been in favor of the establishment, continuation & expansion of services and opportunities available to inmates, as a potential means of reducing recidivism and providing meaningful alternatives to returning the exact same circumstances that may have led an offender to commit the offense(s) for which they are currently incarcerated. Our hope is that S.B. 3126 would not only address the need of more programs and services, but also be incorporated into the "transitional phase" for offenders as they prepare for work furlough and/or reintegration back into the community.

If S.B. 3126 could be further expanded from offering business, entrepreneurial and financial literacy programs, to also offer various other trades and vocations, the Department believes that that would be of great value as well.

For all the reasons above, the Department of the Prosecuting Attorney of the City and County of Honolulu supports the passage S.B. 3126. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this matter.

LATE

Dear Chairman Nishihara and members of this Committee,

My name is Richard Boye, and I am writing today in support of Senate Bill 3126, Relating to Prisons. scheduled for hearing on February 11, 2020. This bill establishes a four-year pilot program to reduce recidivism through educational programs and initiatives.

I support this bill because I was fortunate to take the Darden programs while incarcerated at Dillwyn Correctional Center. I received Darden certificates in Financial Capability, Entrepreneurship, and Capstone. I served 28.25 years and have been home 2 years.

I am excited to offer this testimony because the Darden programs helped me gain basic financial skills, like using a bank, making budgets, learning how credit works, and using a credit card. I also developed interesting learning skills through the Socratic method. I learned how to develop and present a viable business plan, which helped my public speaking skills. All of these skills allowed me to open a bank account and apply for a credit card; which started me on the road to building a credit score after my release. I was also able to present and sell myself to prospective employers, which ultimately allowed me to land an incredible job with Buckingham Branch Railroad. I especially enjoyed learning the Socratic method of learning. It was so much easier for me to learn and retain the information. It was a light bulb moment in learning for me. The instructors (Dr's Greg and Tierney Fairchild), MBA instructors, were more helpful to me in preparing me for useful release knowledge than any class I took while incarcerated, and I took a lot of classes. I appreciated the opportunity to gain these important credentials from the Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia.

Today, I am a happily married man who has been writing an incredible chapter of my life after incarceration. I can honestly say that the Darden Resilience Program would be a vital tool in preparing individuals for release and being successful upon release. I watched for over 28 years the revolving door and know that this program offers and delivers what one can really utilize after incarceration.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my testimony. I encourage you to vote to pass SB 3126.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Boye
Charleston, SC