

STAND. COM. REP. NO. 1744

Honolulu, Hawaii

APR 15 2021

RE: H.C.R. No. 171
H.D. 1

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirty-First State Legislature
Regular Session of 2021
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs, to which was referred H.C.R. No. 171, H.D. 1, entitled:

"HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO RECOGNIZE THE VALUE OF CULTURE-BASED REHABILITATION ACTIVITIES IN THE STATE'S CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to urge the Department of Public Safety to recognize the value of culture-based rehabilitation activities in the State's correctional system.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Public Safety, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, Ko'olauloa Hawaiian Civil Club, and fourteen individuals.

Your Committee finds that studies have shown that the criminal justice system disproportionately impacts Native Hawaiians and that proactive policies and oversight are needed to alter that pattern. Your Committee further finds that Native Hawaiian cultural practices and programs, can serve as tools for inmates to reclaim their dignity and reassert their connection to a sense of identity, and that culture-based rehabilitation activities should be encouraged and their value recognized. This measure encourages the Department of Public Safety to implement



culture-based rehabilitation activities in the State's correctional system as a means to help alleviate the disproportionate burden of the criminal justice system on the Native Hawaiian community and provide for true healing and lasting rehabilitation.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.C.R. No. 171, H.D. 1, and recommends its adoption.

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



CLARENCE K. NISHIHARA, Chair



