

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



LATE

CATHY BETTS
DIRECTOR

JOSEPH CAMPOS II
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

P. O. Box 339
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809-0339

February 4, 2021

TO: The Honorable Representative Takashi Ohno, Chair
House Committee on Corrections, Military, & Veterans

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: **HB 1389 – RELATING TO THE HAWAII CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM OVERSIGHT
COMMISSION.**

Hearing: Friday, February 5, 2021, 10:0 a.m.
Via Videoconference, State Capitol

DEPARTMENT'S POSITION: The Department of Human Services (DHS) respectfully requests clarification and provides comments.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the bill transfers the administrative attachment of the Hawaii correctional system oversight commission from the department of the attorney general to the department of human services.

Without understanding the nature of the conflict with the Department of Attorney General noted in the preamble, it is difficult to predict whether a transfer of the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission to the DHS would avoid a similar or other conflict. DHS respectfully requests clarification as the mission and goals of the Commission are not related to the mission, goals, or programs of DHS and DHS is not a part of the Commission.

DHS offers the following comments on supporting administratively attached agencies as the relationship is more than a simple pro forma transaction. Any "hosting" department requires its own administrative resources to support an administratively attached commission or agency. The hosting department is required to absorb the commission's budget

responsibilities, human resources, IT needs, communication, and facilitate procurement processes. In pre-pandemic times, other logistical support such as work space, parking, phone lines, internet, conference rooms, access to copiers were also required. For volunteer commissions, DHS staff are needed to support commissioners' travel, meetings, communications, and other logistics – all unfunded. Director's Office staff also receive UIPA requests, complaints, and various other inquiries regarding attached agencies. All of these administrative services require time and resources that take DHS staff away from their primary work and mission. For a transfer of the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission from the Department of the Attorney General to DHS to occur, DHS will need additional resources to support this commission.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on this measure.

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

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

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



COMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS, MILITARY AND VETERANS

Rep. Takashi Ohno, Chair

Rep. Sonny Ganaden, Vice Chair

Friday, February 5, 2021

10:00 AM

COMMENTS ON HB 1389 - TRANSFERRING THE CORRECTIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMISSION FROM THE AG TO HUMAN SERVICES

Aloha Chair Ohno, Vice Chair Ganaden, 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 more than 4,100 Hawai`i individuals living behind bars or under the “care and custody” of the Department of Public Safety on any given day. We are always mindful that 1,000 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.

Community Alliance on Prisons offers comments on this measure that seeks to transfer the administrative attachment of the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission from the department of the attorney general to the department of human services.

While we support transferring the Commission out of the AG’s office, which has proven to be an intentional disaster, we are not convinced that DHS is the proper agency - in fact any agency in the Executive Branch would not be good in our humble opinion.

The Department of Human Services has a HUGE mandate with many moving parts. It seems unwise to continue to attach different entities to that agency where they can get lost in the shuffle.

A better fit would be to attach the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission to the Ombudsman's office since their mission is to handle complaints against executive branch agencies.

Therefore, Community Alliance on Prisons urges the committee to consider our recommendation: Fund and Staff the Commission and attach it to the Ombudsman's office.

We can support the bill if the transfer is to the Ombudsman's office.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

Testimony on HB621, HB1080, HB1082, and HB1389
February 4, 2021
House Committee on Housing, State of Hawaii

Aloha Honored Members of our State House Committee on Housing,

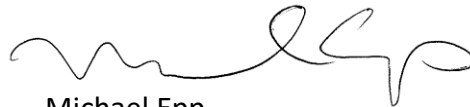
We fully support HB621, HB1080, HB 1082 and HB1389, all of which address important changes to our State corrections system.

- HB621 establishes a community working group to guide the redevelopment of the current Oahu Correction Center site. Acreage under the current Oahu Correction Center Site is a key community asset that should be redeveloped using principles and strategies that ensure their alignment with 'aina values and the sustainability, resilience, and health of current Kalihi residents. For the last two years, Kokua Kalihi Valley has been working with a collaborative of leaders focused on increasing community voice in urban development in Kalihi. We look forward to fully participating in this essential working group.
- HB1082, HB1080, and HB1389 phase out the use of private correctional facilities, transfer the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission to the State Department of Human Services, and place a moratorium on the construction of new private correctional facilities in the State until such time as a reconfigured commission reviews, advises, and approves new construction and any correction facility expansions. We fully support this legislation. Many of our Kalihi subcommunities are over-represented in our prison systems, due to significant economic, social, and cultural barriers to equity and empowerment. Prisoners are among our beloved friends and family members and deserve a correctional system that minimizes the perverse and harmful incentives of the for-profit prison industry and that maximizes opportunities for humane and caring rehabilitation that employs the best practices of community, social and human service. Phasing out dependence on the for-profit prison industry and transferring the commission to the Department of Human Services are both important steps in creating a correctional system the better aligns with Hawaii's unique cultural and community values.

Thank you.



Dr. David Derauf
Executive Director
Kokua Kalihi Valley
2239 North School Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96819
808 791 9400
dderauf@kkv.net



Michael Epp
Special Projects Coordinator
Kokua Kalihi Valley
mepp@kkv.net

LATE

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 11:03:48 AM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ronald S. Fujiyoshi	Ohana Ho`opakele	Support	No

Comments:

Ohana Ho`opakele strongly supports HB 1389, a bill "Relating to the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission.

Ohana Ho`opakele has been in existence since 2000. We were started by kupuna who were looking for ways to help our youth who were straying from the straight and narrow path. We trained more than 90 people in Ho`oponopono, a process to mend broken relationships. We got to advocate for Pu`uhonua as the best model for healing our pa`ahao or incarcerated brothers and sisters. We firmly believe that the prison system is still based upon a concept of punishment that should be changed clearly to a concept of healing.

This this respect, it makes completely good sense to have the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission attached to the Department of Health and Human Services instead of to the Department of the Attorney General.

We humbly ask you to pass this bill.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify!

LATE

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 3:05:43 PM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeff Nash	Habilitat	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

We fully support HB1389. Since its inception, the oversight committee has been mostly impotent. Calls for funding seem to have been ignored. Although there was a commission formed, interaction with the AG's office seems to be lacking and not a priority. Shifting the administration over to the Department of Human Services seems to be a move in the right direction. Perhaps that department will help them get some traction and support their efforts to actually do oversight. Of course none of this really matters unless we, as tax payers, are willing to fund the commission. We need a commission with teeth. They need authority, their opinions need to be heard for full consideration on their recommendations.

Please pass HB 1389 and let's get this commission active in making changes to improve our community. Many community partners are willing to participate. Many of us have decades of experience and are willing to contribute to improving our correction system.

Respectfully,

Jeff Nash

Habilitat, Inc

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/3/2021 10:49:03 AM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

Oversight of the correctional system should be conducted by entities outside of the criminal justice system. This will allow reviews & recommendations to happen objectively. I support this move to transfer oversight of the correctional system from the AG to the dept. of human services.

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/3/2021 3:16:33 PM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Katie Foy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/3/2021 4:12:14 PM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Will Caron	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha committee members,

Please support HB1389. For too long, mass incarceration has made a mockery of our justice system, worsening racial inequality, destroying communities, and utterly failing to reduce crime in any effective way. It's time we took the critical steps to move us toward a more effective and less costly (in every sense of the word) restorative justice system.

Part of achieving that goal requires an oversight commission that is empowered to report on the aspects of our current system that need to be changed to move forward. The move toward restorative justice means treating the underlying problems that lead to crime. The Attorney General's office has a different mission and is ill-equipped to house the oversight commission. What we are talking about here is various kinds of social diseases: poverty, racism, addiction, generational trauma--all things that the Department of Human Services (and Department of Health in some cases) are far better equipped to address because it is their mission to do so.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/3/2021 4:52:30 PM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support the transfer of Administrative Support of the Oversight Commission from the Attorney General's office to the Dept. of Human Services. I believe it will provide more positive and independent work for the commission for the benefit of all.. Mahalo.

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/3/2021 5:28:10 PM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Raelyn Reyno Yeomans	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Strong support.

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/3/2021 5:46:54 PM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Van Wishingrad	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Testifying in support.

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/3/2021 6:09:19 PM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

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

Comments:

I support this bill.

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/3/2021 6:26:59 PM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joan Gannon	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I am Joan Gannon of West Hawaii asking you to vote for HB 1389. Having oversight for correctional facilities under the Department of Human Services just makes sense.

Thank you

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/3/2021 6:44:31 PM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
cathy lee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Incarceration and the correctional system are human services issues and this should be reflected administratively as well.

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/3/2021 8:37:53 PM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
April C McLean	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

I would like to hear the detailed definition of 'administrative' oversight that is referred to in this bill.

I reserve my position of bill HB1389, until the details are layed out of the resposnsibilities that would be transferred to human services.

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/3/2021 8:52:59 PM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carolyn Eaton	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Carolyn Eaton and I am in support of HB 1389. I believe administration of the Hawai'i Correctional Oversight Commission would be best removed from the Department of the Attorney General. Perhaps the administrative assignment of the Commission would find its happiest fit in the Office of the State Ombudsman, but moving it away from the Dept. of the Attorney General is important. The Commission is a shining light which has been kept under a basket to date. It needs an Oversight Coordinator and staff and an administrative attachment which appreciates it's worth.

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/3/2021 11:18:13 PM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
RaeDeen Keahiolalo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

February 3, 2021

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES GANADEN, KAPELA, PERRUSO, and WILDBERGER:

RE: HB 1389 Transfer Administrative Support of the Oversight Commission from the Attorney General’s Office to the Department of Human Services

I support HB 1389 without any reservation whatsoever. The following excerpt is quoted from the *Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission, Annual Report, December 2020*:

“The Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission was created by Act 179, Session Laws of Hawaii 2019, to “ensure transparency, support safe conditions for employees, inmates, and detainees, and provides positive reform towards a rehabilitative and therapeutic correctional system.” The establishment of the Commission was a result of recommendations provided by the Task Force on Prison Reform to the Hawaii State Legislature... In 2016, in part to study and consider alternatives to massive construction costs, the Legislature determined “Hawaii’s correctional system can benefit from the implementation of effective incarceration policies, programs, and best practices that aim to reduce correctional spending, alleviate inmate overcrowding at correctional facilities, lower recidivism, and address other challenges... Hawaii’s correctional system is not producing acceptable, cost-effective, or sustainable outcomes and needs immediate and profound change.”

Despite ongoing requests, the Attorney General’s office has not provided appropriate administrative support, including releasing the budget for the Oversight Commission to act, effectively rendering the commission as ineffectual. Notwithstanding the fact the budget is more than reasonable for its intended goals, it is clear the AG’s office does not view the commission or its service to the community as a priority or important. Conceivably, COVID-19 may be used to justify inaction. However, I urge the committee to look beyond any excuses and do the right thing by providing appropriate administrative support for the commission.

The Department of Human Services is better equipped to understand the significance of this commission’s work and to provide administrative support. We need the commission

to be fully operational to address and act on many of the existing problems in the state's correctional system—which will benefit all of us.

Please support HB 1389 to Transfer Administrative Support of the Oversight Commission from the Attorney General's Office to the Department of Human Services.

Mahalo,

RaeDeen M. Keahiolalo, PhD

rbkarasuda@hotmail.com

808-429-7166 (mobile)

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE HAWAII CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM OVERSIGHT COMMISSION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Act 179, Session
2 Laws of Hawaii 2019, established the Hawaii correctional system
3 oversight commission as an agency attached to the department of
4 the attorney general for administrative purposes only. Although
5 the Hawaii correctional system oversight commission has been in
6 existence for only one year, it has already had at least one
7 conflict with the department of the attorney general. The
8 possibility of future conflicts with that department may
9 interfere with the commission's ability to fulfill its critical
10 responsibilities.

11 The legislature further finds that the correctional system,
12 at its core, is as much a matter of health and human services as
13 it is law enforcement. Accordingly, the legislature believes
14 that it would be appropriate to transfer the Hawaii correctional
15 system oversight commission to the department of human services
16 for administrative purposes.



1 The purpose of this Act is to transfer the administrative
2 attachment of the Hawaii correctional system oversight
3 commission from the department of the attorney general to the
4 department of human services.

5 SECTION 2. Section 353L-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

7 "(a) There is established within the department of [~~the~~
8 ~~attorney general~~] human services for administrative purposes
9 only a Hawaii correctional system oversight commission
10 consisting of five members who shall be residents of this State
11 and appointed as follows:

- 12 (1) One member shall be appointed by the governor;
- 13 (2) One member shall be appointed by the president of the
14 senate;
- 15 (3) One member shall be appointed by the speaker of the
16 house of representatives;
- 17 (4) One member shall be appointed by the chief justice;
- 18 and
- 19 (5) One member shall be appointed by the chairperson of
20 the board of trustees of the Office of Hawaiian
21 Affairs.



1 The commission members shall annually elect one of the
2 members to serve as chairperson of the commission."

3 SECTION 3. All rights, powers, functions, and duties of
4 the department of the attorney general relating to the Hawaii
5 correctional system oversight commission are transferred to the
6 department of human services.

7 SECTION 4. All appropriations, records, equipment,
8 machines, files, supplies, contracts, books, papers, documents,
9 maps, and other personal property heretofore made, used,
10 acquired, or held by the department of the attorney general
11 relating to the functions transferred to the department of human
12 services shall be transferred with the functions to which they
13 relate.

14 SECTION 5. All employees who occupy civil service
15 positions and whose functions are transferred to the department
16 of human services by this Act shall retain their civil service
17 status, whether permanent or temporary. Employees shall be
18 transferred without loss of salary, seniority (except as
19 prescribed by applicable collective bargaining agreements),
20 retention points, prior service credit, any vacation and sick
21 leave credits previously earned, and other rights, benefits, and



1 privileges, in accordance with state personnel laws and this
2 Act; provided that the employees possess the minimum
3 qualifications and public employment requirements for the class
4 or position to which transferred or appointed, as applicable;
5 provided further that subsequent changes in status may be made
6 pursuant to applicable civil service and compensation laws.

7 Any employee who, prior to this Act, is exempt from civil
8 service and is transferred as a consequence of this Act may
9 retain the employee's exempt status, but shall not be appointed
10 to a civil service position as a consequence of this Act. An
11 exempt employee who is transferred by this Act shall not suffer
12 any loss of prior service credit, vacation or sick leave credits
13 previously earned, or other employee benefits or privileges as a
14 consequence of this Act; provided that the employees possess
15 legal and public employment requirements for the position to
16 which transferred or appointed, as applicable; provided further
17 that subsequent changes in status may be made pursuant to
18 applicable employment and compensation laws. The director of
19 human services may prescribe the duties and qualifications of
20 these employees and fix their salaries without regard to chapter
21 76, Hawaii Revised Statutes.



1 SECTION 6. All rules, policies, procedures, guidelines,
2 and other material adopted or developed by the department of the
3 attorney general to implement provisions of the Hawaii Revised
4 Statutes that are reenacted or made applicable to the department
5 of human services by this Act shall remain in full force and
6 effect until amended or repealed by the department of human
7 services pursuant to chapter 91, Hawaii Revised Statutes. In
8 the interim, every reference to the department of the attorney
9 general or attorney general in those rules, policies,
10 procedures, guidelines, and other material is amended to refer
11 to the department of human services or director of human
12 services, as appropriate.

13 SECTION 7. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
14 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

15 SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.
16

INTRODUCED BY:

 _____

JAN 27 2021



H.B. NO. 1389

Report Title:

AG; DHS; Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission;
Transfer

Description:

Transfers the administrative attachment of the Hawaii
correctional system oversight commission from the department of
the attorney general to the department of human services.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is
not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*



HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 9:08:17 AM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carrie Ann Shirota	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Ohno, Vice Chair Ganadan and Committee Members:

I am writing in support of HB 1389 that would transfer the administrative attachment of the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission from the Department of the Attorney General to the Department of Human Services.

The Oversight Commission should not be administratively attached to the Attorney General's office for the following reasons: 1) it is not a priority of the Attorney General's office and 2) there is a perceived conflict of interest and potential actual conflict of interest having Attorney General counsel provide advise and counsel to the Oversight Commission while also representing the State of Hawaii Department of Public Safety.

Years ago, our correctional system was under the Department of Human Services. At that time, there was a greater focus on providing meaningful rehabilitation and opportunities to successfully reitegrate into the community. Eventually, the Department of Public Safety was created to house several "law enforcement" entities - Sheriffs, Corrections, etc. and there was a marked shift in philsofophy. We moved from rehabilitation to punishment, and an increase in the incarcerated populaiton and high recidivism rates.

The Oversight Commission's mission is more aligned with the mission and function of the Department of Human Services - both in philosophy and finding resources to meet the holistic needs of persons impacted by the criminal legal system.

Alternatively, another option is to administratively attach the Oversight Commission to the Ombudsman's office.

Please support this bill and transfer the Oversight Commission to the Department of Human Services or the Ombudsman's Office.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Carrie Ann Shirota, Esq.

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 9:28:06 AM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Mary Whispering Wind	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support HB1389.

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 9:32:22 AM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Polk	Individual	Comments	No

Comments:

Chair Ohno and Vice Chair Ganaden,

Thank you for hearing HB1389 to move the Correctional System Oversight Commission out of the office of the Attorney General. I strongly support such a move, but believe that DHS is probably not the right place to house it. It needs to be as far from the Governor's Office as possible, with it's funding not combined with that of departments that have little in common with it. It has been suggested that it be housed in the Ombudsman's Office. If that would increase it's autonomy and further ensure its funding, then I would encourage amending the bill for that purpose.

Thank you again,

Barbara Polk

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 9:37:34 AM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Brian Murphy	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please, support HB1389.

LATE

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 11:36:39 AM
Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diana Bethel	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Ohno, Vice Chair Ganaden, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of HB 1389 which would transfer the administrative attachment of the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission from the department of the attorney general to the department of human services.

It is undeniable that the Attorney General's office has been uncooperative and an obstacle to the work of the Hawaii Correctional System Oversight Commission. Perhaps another more responsive department with an interest in improving Hawaii's criminal justice system would be a more appropriate home for the Oversight Commission.

The Community Alliance on Prisons (CAP) has suggested that a better fit might be the Ombudsman's office whose mission is to oversee the executive branch agencies. I agree with CAP's recommendation that the Legislature fund and staff the Oversight Commission as was dictated by Act 179, passed in mid-2019.

Mahalo for your consideration.

Diana Bethel, Honolulu

LATE

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 2:19:16 PM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
janice palma-glennie	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

aloha,

i strongly support this bill which would help move prisoners out of the criminal justice system and into a system of rehabilitation.

mahalo for supporting this bill.

sincerely,

janice palma-glennie

LATE

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 2:36:23 PM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Meredith Buck	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB1389.

LATE

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/4/2021 3:50:47 PM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
jessica hernandez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill because incarcerated people are human beings who still deserve some semblance of dignity. The state is responsible for their health and well-being, and it makes sense that the Department of *Human* Services take on that responsibility.

LATE

HB-1389

Submitted on: 2/5/2021 8:35:02 AM

Testimony for CMV on 2/5/2021 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
John A. H. Tomoso	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

02-05-21

RE: HB 1389 RELATING TO THE HAWAII CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM OVERSIGHT COMMISSION.

Aloha

I am support of this Bill. In my experience of being civically, and with intentionality, engaged with my government at all levels, I have come to the increasing realization that government Boards and Commissions, and other apointed and confirmed bodies, are how the people's "voice" is formally heard. This "voice", then, takes its rightful place within the formation and enactment of public policy and statutes that are reflective of the "lived experience" of citizens within the varrious jurisdictions that governments find their legitimacy. So, too, with the Hawai'i Correctional System Oversight Commission. I do know that its very being arises out of the various publics that our "voice" takes its shape, within governmental and intergovernmental discussions and actions.

Mahalo

John A H Tomoso+, MSW

51 Ku'ula Street, Kahului, HI 96732-2906

john.a.h.tomoso@gmail.com, 808-280-1749

CC: Maui Reentry Hui