

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CRAIG K. HIRAI  
DIRECTOR

GLORIA CHANG  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM  
HAWAII EMPLOYER-UNION HEALTH BENEFITS TRUST FUND  
OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC DEFENDER

**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE**  
P.O. BOX 150  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810-0150

ADMINISTRATIVE AND RESEARCH OFFICE  
BUDGET, PROGRAM PLANNING AND  
MANAGEMENT DIVISION  
FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION DIVISION  
OFFICE OF FEDERAL AWARDS MANAGEMENT (OFAM)

**WRITTEN ONLY**  
TESTIMONY BY CRAIG K. HIRAI  
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE  
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
ON  
SENATE BILL NO. 2637, S.D. 1, H.D. 2

**March 31, 2022**  
**2:30 p.m.**  
**Room 308 and Videoconference**

RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

The Department of Budget and Finance (B&F) offers comments on Senate Bill (S.B.) No. 2637, S.D. 1, H.D. 2.

S.B. No. 2637, S.D. 1, H.D. 2, amends Section 353-6.5, HRS, by mandating a community-based work furlough program for women offenders in the State; and appropriates an unspecified amount of general funds to the Department of Public Safety for FY 23 to ensure the continuation and expansion of community-based work furlough for women. This bill intends to ease family reunification efforts and provide for gender-responsive, community-based programs, including a community-based work furlough program, for the eventual integration of women offenders back into the communities.

B&F notes that, with respect to the general fund appropriation in this bill, the federal Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act requires that states receiving Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) II funds and Governor's Emergency Education Relief II funds must maintain state support for:

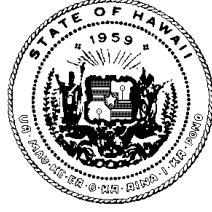
- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

Further, the federal American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires that states receiving ARP ESSER funds must maintain state support for:

- Elementary and secondary education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for elementary and secondary education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19; and
- Higher education in FY 22 and FY 23 at least at the proportional level of the state's support for higher education relative to the state's overall spending, averaged over FYs 17, 18 and 19.

The U.S. Department of Education has issued rules governing how these maintenance of effort (MOE) requirements are to be administered. B&F will be working with the money committees of the Legislature to ensure that the State of Hawai'i complies with these ESSER MOE requirements.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.



‘O kēia ‘ōlelo hō’ike no ke  
**Komikina Kūlana Olakino o Nā Wāhine**

Testimony on behalf of the  
**Hawai‘i State Commission on the Status of  
Women**

Support for S.B. 2637 SD1, HD2  
March 29, 2022

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Honorable Members:

The Hawai‘i State Commission on the Status of Women supports S.B. 2637 SD1, HD2, which mandates that there be a community-based work furlough program for all incarcerated women in the State.

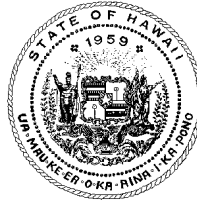
This bill will institutionalize a critical program that advances gender and racial equity that is owed by the State to disenfranchised communities. Women’s agencies, services and programs are often the first to be cut and last to receive adequate investment when economic crisis hits. This was clear during the COVID-19 crisis when the Fernhust program for women transitioning to post-prison life was inaccurately dubbed a “casualty” of the pandemic. This is sexism, not scarcity.

Accordingly, the Commission asks that the Committee pass S.B. 2637 SD1, HD2.

Sincerely,

Khara Jabola-Carolus  
Executive Director

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

1177 Alakea Street, 6th Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**MAX N. OTANI**  
DIRECTOR

**Maria C. Cook**  
Deputy Director  
Administration

**Tommy Johnson**  
Deputy Director  
Corrections

**Jordan Lowe**  
Deputy Director  
Law Enforcement

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

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2637, SENATE DRAFT 1, HOUSE DRAFT 2  
RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

by  
Max N. Otani, Director

House Committee on Finance  
Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
Representative Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair

March 31, 2022; 2:30 p.m.  
Via Videoconference

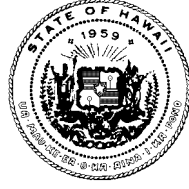
Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) has reviewed Senate Bill (SB) 2637, Senate Draft (SD) 1, House Draft (HD) 2, which seeks to require community-based work furlough programs for incarcerated women in the State and appropriates an unspecified amount of funding for this purpose.

PSD supports the intent of this measure and notes that most the items/services listed in Section 2 of SB 2637, SD 1, HD 2 are already being provided during the offender's term of incarceration. The Department will continue its efforts to address further concerns in these areas and ensure the treatment, rehabilitative, and reentry needs of female offenders are being met. PSD further notes, any increase in the current level of programs and/or services provided to women offenders must be supported by appropriate permanent funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on SB 2637, SD 1, HD 2.

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR



CATHY BETTS  
DIRECTOR

JOSEPH CAMPOS II  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

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

March 29, 2022

TO: The Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Cathy Betts, Director

SUBJECT: **SB 2637 SD1 HD2 – RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.**

Hearing: March 31, 2022, 2:30 p.m.  
Via Videoconference, State Capitol

**DEPARTMENT'S POSITION:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) supports the measure's intent, offers comments, requests clarifications, and defers to the Department of Public Safety. The Department requests that any appropriation not reduce or replace priorities identified in the executive budget.

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the bill is to mandate a community-based work furlough program for incarcerated women in the State. Appropriates funds. Effective 7/1/3000. (HD2)

The SD1 amended the measure by:

- (1) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to facilitate further discussion on the measure; and
- (2) Making a technical non-substantive amendment for purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

The HD1 amended the measure by:

- (1) Removing the mandate that a community-based work furlough program be made available to all female offenders;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (3) Making technical, non-substantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

The HD2 amendments are:

- (1) Updating references of "female" offenders to "women" offenders as it is more inclusive; and
- (2) Making technical, non-substantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

Improving contacts and relationships between children and families with their incarcerated parents will benefit multiple generations and are the first steps to improving the child's and family's overall well-being and the incarcerated individuals' return to society.

The Department does not fund reentry programs or programs targeting the reentry population. However, DHS has existing programs that may serve the population, such as the First To Work programs for families with children, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program's Employment & Training, child care subsidies, and rehabilitation services for individuals with disabilities. In addition, the Med-QUEST Division works with PSD to facilitate Medicaid applications so eligible individuals exit prison with Medicaid coverage.

Successful diversion, reentry, and rehabilitation services need cross-sector collaboration, including community-based organizations to support returning individuals and their families. Therefore, the Department will continue to work with the Department of Public Safety, the Judiciary, and community organizations to assist individuals with accessing available public benefits as soon as they are released.

DHS also supports HB1741 Relating To Children And Family Of Incarcerated Individuals, which proposes a similar pilot with the Department of Public Safety and community providers. This measure aims to establish a pilot Visitation and Family Resource Center at Waiawa Correctional Facility on Oahu to address the visitation and support needs of children and families of incarcerated individuals. Community-based models such as these provide opportunities for families to increase social connections. Having positive social connections is an often overlooked protective factor. However, having friends and community members to turn to in a time of need is even more important during this time of reduced community activities and cautious social interactions. Coordinating our efforts will improve outcomes, increase confidence in government services, and strengthen families and communities.

Here is a link to the HCR 205/SCR7 (2019) Report to the Legislature:

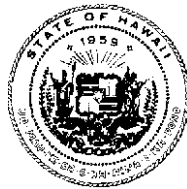
<https://humanservices.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/Visiting-Centers-at-all-State-Correctional-Facilities.pdf>. The workgroup participants worked collaboratively over the summer of 2019 to address this long-standing and important social issue.

The Department is committed to a multigenerational approach to ending poverty in Hawaii. It is well known that growing up with an incarcerated parent is an adverse early childhood experience that has a long-lasting impact on children into adulthood. DHS will continue to work with family members, community stakeholders, members and staff of the Legislature, the Office of Youth Services (OYS), the Department of Public Safety, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, and other interested parties. It will take a committed community effort to address root causes to reduce the impact of incarceration on Hawaii's children and families, especially native Hawaiian families who are overrepresented in the criminal justice system.

DHS respectfully requests that any appropriation of general funds not replace budget priorities identified in the Executive Budget. It will take sustained investment by the Legislature to support this ongoing work to build a comprehensive and successful evidence-based approach to support families involved and impacted by the justice system.

We also ask for the Legislature's support for DHS administration measure SB3111/HB2143 Relating to Family Resource Centers. DHS, the Department of Education, the Department of Health, and community providers are partnering to pilot a family resource centers network of school- and community-based family resource centers. If both measures pass, the Waiawa family resource center will be a part of the broader network of family resource centers. Family Resource Centers aim to provide support and services to families in familiar settings of their schools and communities, with people they trust.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**STATE OF HAWAII**  
**HAWAII CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM OVERSIGHT COMMISSION**

March 31, 2022

TO: Honorable Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair  
House Committee on Finance

FROM: Mark Patterson, Chair, Hawaii Correctional System Oversight  
Commission

SUBJECT: **SB 2637 SD1,, HD2 RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY**

POSITION: STRONG SUPPORT

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita and Members of the Committee:

The Hawaii Corrections System Oversight Commission was created by Act 179, SLH 2019, to provide independent oversight over our correctional system. The Commission's statutory responsibilities include monitoring and reviewing the comprehensive offender reentry program of the Department of Public Safety and ensuring that the comprehensive offender reentry system under chapter 353H is working properly to provide programs and services that result in the timely release of inmates on parole. [See Hawaii Revised Statutes 353L-3(b).]

The Commission strongly supports SB 2637 SD1, HD2 which would require community-based work furlough programs for incarcerated women in Hawaii. This mandate would be consistent with the requirement in HRS 353H-3 that the Department of Public Safety develop a "comprehensive network of transitional programs to address the needs of individuals exiting the correctional system." Such a network promotes community safety by facilitating the adjustment from the highly structured prison setting to independent living. These transitional services work best when located in the communities into which the inmates will return. In these settings programs can provide navigational supports as the inmate adjusts to the demands of life in the community; and much needed emotional support.

Very frequently, such services are best provided by non-profit agencies whose focus is on assisting inmates within their communities. Hawaii has a rich history of such services. They include the Fernhurst YWCA in Honolulu; the Maui Best program on Maui, and the Going Home Consortium on Hawaii Island. These agencies have been a critical part of the correctional system "infrastructure" for years. For example, the Fernhurst program and its predecessors have provided services since the 1970s. They



have struggled, and often they are underutilized. But they remain resilient because they are dedicated to their mission and many in the communities recognize their value.

SB 2637 SD1, HD2 will be an important step toward ensuring that this network of community-based services can not only survive, but perhaps thrive. They will play a central role as Hawaii moves to a rehabilitative and therapeutic model of corrections. We urge you to pass this bill.

Statement Before The  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Thursday, March 31, 2022

2:30 PM

Conference Room 308 and Via Videoconference

in consideration of  
**SB 2637, SD1, HD2**  
**RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.**

Chair LUKE, Vice Chair YAMASHITA, and Members of the House Finance Committee

Common Cause Hawaii supports SB 2637, SD1, HD2, which mandates that there be a community-based work furlough program for all incarcerated women in the State and appropriates funds.

Common Cause Hawaii is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, grassroots organization dedicated to reforming government and strengthening our representative democracy. We need a democracy that guarantees a more equitable and just society. The mass criminalization and incarceration of especially black and brown communities disenfranchises and disempowers millions of people and undermines the promise of a democracy that works for everyone.

Community-based work furlough programs provide benefits for incarcerated women. Studies show that “Offenders who worked for private companies while imprisoned obtained employment more quickly, maintained employment longer, and had lower recidivism rates than those who worked in traditional correctional industries or were involved in ‘other-than-work’ (OTW) activities.” See <https://web.connectnetwork.com/prison-work-programs/> (retrieved Jan. 31, 2022). Community-based work furlough programs also provide:

- preparation for handling responsibility outside of the correctional facility
- practical and functional life skills-training
- general technical skills knowledge

*Id.*

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2637, SD1, HD2. If you have questions for me, please contact me at [sma@commoncause.org](mailto:sma@commoncause.org).

Very respectfully yours,

Sandy Ma  
Executive Director, Common Cause Hawaii

# COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

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

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



## COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Representative Sylvia Luke, Chair

Representative Kyle Yamashita, Vice Chair

Thursday, March 31, 2022

2:30 PM

### **STRONG SUPPORT - SB 2637 HD2 - WORK FURLOUGH FOR WOMEN**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita 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 3,993 Hawai`i individuals living behind bars<sup>1</sup> under the “care and custody” of the Department of Public Safety on any given day. We are always mindful that 1,110 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 appreciates this opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 2637 HD2 that expands work furlough and a gender-responsive continuum of care for women incarcerated by Hawai`i.

The system is normed to medium security, violent males, so their numbers (3,597) are far greater and males get more attention than incarcerated women (396). The department’s March 21, 2022 population report showed that women represented about 9.6% of the total incarcerated population (3,993).

We know that many of the women are mothers, therefore, helping them develop work skills to facilitate their reentry is a win-win situation for themselves, their families, and the community!

We respectfully ask the committee to pass this measure with appropriate funding to expand work furlough and create a gender-responsive continuum of care for our women caught in the criminal legal web.

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<sup>1</sup> Department of Public Safety, Weekly Population Report, March 21, 2022.

<https://dps.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Pop-Reports-Weekly-2022-03-21.pdf>



**SB2637 SD1 HD2 Work Furlough Program WCCC**

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair

Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair

Thursday, Mar 31 2022: 2:30 : Videoconference

**Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition Supports SB2637 SD1 HD2:**

*ALOHA CHAIR, VICE CHAIR AND DISTINGUISHED COMMITTEE MEMBERS. My name is Alan Johnson. I am the current chair of the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition (HSAC), a statewide organization for substance use disorder and co-occurring mental health disorder treatment and prevention agencies.*

HSAC supports a women's work furlough programming that establishes community-based work programs and wrap-around support services for women returning to the community after incarceration.

As substance use disorder and co-occurring mental health disorders treatment providers (treatment is residential and outpatient that addresses criminality too) as well as agencies who provide recovery-oriented services such as harm reduction, outreach, and case management, we stand ready to assist as best we can.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide testimony and are available for further questions.

**SB-2637-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 1:46:33 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2022 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Linda Rich	Women?s Prison Project	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Sylvia Luke, Chair

Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita, Vice Chair

HEARING DATE: March 31, 2022

TIME: 2:00 PM,

PLACE: Via Videoconference

CONFERENCE ROOM 308

STATE CAPITOL

**SUPPORT FOR SB2637.SD1.HD2 RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY**

The Women’s Prison Project is in **STRONG SUPPORT** of **SB2637.SD1.HD2 RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY** which would ensure community-based work furlough programs are provided by the Department of Public Safety for all women under its supervision.

To desist from crime a formerly incarcerated person is helped when she has employment that is meaningful to her, relationships with law abiding others, and a self-narrative that is positive and strength-based (Maruna, 2001). Because most incarcerated women come from families that are economically disadvantaged and many are single parents who will be raising children, it is especially important that they have and can keep employment. Opportunities to work, and having practice being an employee after being incarcerated are vital for individuals to succeed in desisting from crime (McNeill, et al, 2012).

Work furlough programs for women are most successful when they include therapeutic interventions that address, in a gender responsive manner, the issues of trauma, relationships, parenting, and the substance abuse and mental health needs of women. Community-based

programs offer the formerly incarcerated positive employment opportunities as seen from the success of programs on O`ahu . The Fernhurst YWCA,`s work furlough program has demonstrated that gender responsive programs can achieve a low rate of recidivism among graduates.

Please support SB2637.SD1.HD1 to ensure more gender responsive work furlough opportunities are developed and sustained by our community to help make our community safer and healthier.

Thank You for considering our thoughts on this bill.

Linda Rich, for Women`s Prison Project

House Committee on Finance  
Thursday, March 31, 2022, 2:30pm  
Conference Room 308, Via Videoconference

### **Testimony in Support of SB 2637 SD1 HD2**

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita, and members of the committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in **support of SB 2637 SD1 HD2**, mandating that there be a community-based work furlough program for all incarcerated women in the State.

YWCA O'ahu is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom, and dignity for all. In 1900 we opened our doors to provide opportunity to women for growth, leadership and power to change. Today, over a century later, the YWCA O'ahu is the largest and oldest women's membership organization in the State of Hawaii. We are a charter member of the YWCA USA and is one of more than 200 community associations nationwide that share the mission of empowering women and eliminating racism.

As a new core of women are preparing for our future, we are committed to reinventing the YWCA for the 21<sup>st</sup> century so it remains relevant to all women as their lives and needs change. The YWCA offers a unique place – a place where women and girls can build relationships for life and have opportunities to move forward in life and give back to their community. Our three centers at the YWCA, Fernhurst, Kokokahi and Laniakea, provide valuable programs and services that develop women and girls' social, economic, leadership and community skills.

In December of 2018, the HCR 85 Task Force released its findings and final report to the legislature. In this report they stated that while they came from diverse backgrounds and viewpoints that they all agreed that "Hawaii's correctional system is not producing acceptable, cost-effective, or sustainable outcomes and needs immediate and profound change". The primary recommendation from the task force was to "begin to transition from a punitive to a rehabilitative correctional system".

We are in strong support this bill, mandating that there be a community-based work furlough option for women in Hawaii. Community-based work furlough is an option that should always be available for women leaving incarceration in our State. We appreciate the funding that this bill provides towards community-based work furlough for women. Our hope is that one day soon we will increase our investment in community-based work furlough even further so it can be made available in all counties to provide women from neighbor islands the opportunity to successfully transition from incarceration back into the community closer to their families and support networks.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB 2637 SD1 HD2.

Jen Wilbur  
Director of Advocacy  
YWCA O'ahu



Committee: Committee on Finance  
Hearing Date/Time: Thursday, March 31, 2022 at 2:30 p.m.  
Place: Conference Room 308 & Via videoconference  
Re: ***Testimony of the ACLU of Hawai'i; Support for SB 2637 S.D. 1, HD2 Relating to Public Safety with a Proposed Amendment***

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Yamashita and members of the Committee:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i ("ACLU of Hawai'i) supports **SB2637 S.D. 1, HD2** which mandates that there be a community- based work furlough program for all incarcerated women in the State.

The ACLU of Hawai'i is committed to transforming Hawaii's criminal legal system and building a new vision of safety and justice. First and foremost, we advocate for decarceration strategies to reduce the number of people in our jails and prisons, the majority of whom are Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders and people of color. Simultaneously, we advocate for tailored conditions of community supervision, humane conditions of confinement, meaningful rehabilitation opportunities, and comprehensive re-entry support services that starts from the first day of incarceration.

***Consequently, we should prioritize diverting women from jails and prisons in the first place and providing support services within our community.*** Many of the women at WCCC, most of whom are mothers and survivors of physical and sexual assaults – are better served in the community. Native Hawaiian women are 19% of the female population in Hawai'i, yet 44% of the female incarcerated population in Hawai'i. **If we invest in comprehensive bail, diversion, probation and parole reform, the female population in our jails and prisons would be significantly reduced without compromising community safety.**



Re-entry and reintegration programs that help people secure jobs, treatment, housing<sup>1</sup> and education<sup>2</sup>, have proven effective in facilitating the successful transition of formerly incarcerated people out of jails and prisons, and back to their families and communities. Moreover, comprehensive support services have been shown to reduce recidivism.

Prioritizing reentry planning and comprehensive treatment, education and support services should start at day one of incarceration.<sup>3</sup> This reentry principle and best practice is not only humane – it makes our communities safer, and is essential now more than ever during the COVID pandemic.

Given that ninety-five percent of people incarcerated in our state jails and prisons will eventually be released and return home, we should invest in comprehensive reentry programs and services from day one of their incarceration.<sup>4</sup>

For these reasons, we urge the Committee to implement Smart Justice laws that divert and release women from our jails and prisons, and in the rare circumstances where women are incarcerated, **expand community-based work-furlough and other re-entry services operated by community based providers in the community.**

### **Proposed Amendment**

Please include the following amendment to strengthen this bill, and to assist in the collection of data to make informed policy reentry decisions. “The department of public safety, and any organization that receives moneys appropriated by this Act shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations, including how the funds have been expended, the list of providers, how many people have been served, a description of services provided, any measurable outcomes, any barriers to individual’s successful participation in the community based work-furlough programs, and any proposed

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<sup>1</sup> Nathan James, *Offender Reentry: Correctional Statistics, Reintegration into the Community and Recidivism*, Congressional Research Service (2015). <https://sgp.fas.org/crs/misc/RL34287.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Patrick Oakford, Cara Brumfield, Casey Goldvale, Laura Tatum, Margaret diZerega and Fred Patrick, *Investing in Futures: Economic and Fiscal Benefits of Postsecondary Education in Prison*. New York: Vera Institute of Justice, 2019, <https://www.vera.org/publications/investing-in-futures-education-in-prison>

<sup>3</sup> Interagency Council on Intermediate Sanctions, *State of Hawaii, FY 2016 Cohort, 2019 Recidivism Update*. Recidivism rates are highest for persons with maximum term releases compared to persons under probation or parole supervision. Recidivism is defined as a new arrest, or the revocation of probation or parole, within three years of the start of supervision. The total recidivism rate in 2015 was 53.8%, 54.6% for Probationers, 50.1% for Parolees and 57.1% for people with Maximum Term releases.

<sup>4</sup> Timothy Hughes and Doris James Wilson, *Reentry Trends in the United States*, U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Statistics (last revised Dec. 29, 2020), <https://bjs.ojp.gov/content/pub/pdf/reentry.pdf>

Chair Luke and Members of the Finance Committee  
March 31, 2022, 2:30 P.M.

legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the regular session of 2024.”

Thank you for the opportunity to express support of SB2637 SD1HD2 with the proposed amendment.

Sincerely,

*Carrie Ann Shiota*

Policy Director  
ACLU of Hawai'i  
cshiota@acluhawaii.org

*The mission of the ACLU of Hawai'i is to protect the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the U.S. and State Constitutions. The ACLU of Hawai'i fulfills this through legislative, litigation, and public education programs statewide. The ACLU of Hawai'i is a non-partisan and private non-profit organization that provides its services at no cost to the public and does not accept government funds. The ACLU of Hawai'i has been serving Hawai'i for over 50 years.*

American Civil Liberties Union of Hawai'i  
P.O. Box 3410  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96801  
T: 808.522.5900  
F: 808.522.5909  
E: [office@acluhawaii.org](mailto:office@acluhawaii.org)  
[www.acluhawaii.org](http://www.acluhawaii.org)

**SB-2637-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/29/2022 3:53:38 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2022 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ellen Godbey Carson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please pass this bill. It provides much-needed assistance for community work furloughs for women who are incarcerated. For many of them, their offense is non-violent, and these work furlough programs provide a means of rehabilitation that serves both them and the community. Without these programs, they are simply discharged with no recent work history, and often become homeless and subject to trafficking and abuse.

Thank you for consideration of this measure to make Hawaii a better place for all of us.

**SB-2637-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 9:31:19 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2022 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Barbara Polk	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I urge you to pass SB2637,SD1, HD2 to require the establishment and support of community work furlough programs for incarcerated women. It is important for women to have these opportunities prior to release.

**SB-2637-HD-2**

Submitted on: 3/30/2022 10:59:32 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/31/2022 2:30:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Wendy Gibson-Viviani	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

TO: COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

FROM: Wendy Gibson-Viviani RN/BSN

RE: SB2637 (In Support)

Hearing: March 31, 2022 at 2:30 p.m.

Dear Chair Rep. Sylvia Luke, Vice-Chair Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita, and Members of the Committee,

I am Wendy Gibson-Viviani, a healthcare professional (RN) who has lived and worked in Hawaii for 29 years. I support SB2637 because:

According to the Community Alliance on Prisons

- Women are approximately 10% of the incarcerated population
- Prisons and jails are normed to male, violent, medium-security men
- Women's needs are very different, especially since most women are mothers
- Community-Based Work Furlough helps women acquire skills to help themselves and their families

I believe that

- Community-based furlough programs help prepare incarcerated men and women to be independent in the community and may help reduce recidivism.
- More programs are needed for women.

Thank you for allowing me to testify on this important matter. Please support SB2637

Wendy Gibson-Viviani RN/BSN

Kailua