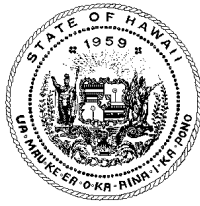


JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR
KE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Ka 'Oihana Ho'opalekana Lehulehu
1177 Alakea Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

TOMMY JOHNSON
DIRECTOR

Melanie Martin
Deputy Director
Administration

Michael J. Hoffman
Acting Deputy Director
Corrections

William F. Oku
Deputy Director
Law Enforcement

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 711, SENATE DRAFT 2
RELATING TO GENDER PARITY IN PROGRAMS FOR INCARCERATED WOMEN

By

Tommy Johnson, Director
Department of Public Safety

House Committee on Corrections, Military & Veterans
Representative Mark J. Hashem, Chair
Representative Cory M. Chun, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 15, 2023; 10:00 a.m.
CR 430 and Via Video Conference

Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Chun, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) supports Senate Bill (SB) 711, Senate Draft (SD) 2, which appropriates funding to the Hawai'i Friends of Restorative Justice as a grant pursuant to Chapter 42F, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), expended by the Judiciary, to conduct a study of programming offered to persons incarcerated at correctional facilities and to convene a group of incarcerated women for the purpose of identifying gaps in programming offered to female inmates using House Concurrent Resolution No. 85 (2019) task force's report as a model to provide recommendations and offers the following comments.

PSD believes a study of correctional programming to include any proposed legislation and funding will assist our efforts to create successful pathways for offenders as they re-enter the community. To maintain the integrity and validity of a study of programming for incarcerated men and women for the purpose of identifying gaps in programming offered to female inmates, PSD strongly supports the inclusion of the Interagency Council on Intermediate Sanctions (ICIS) and its Correctional Program Checklist Committee (CPC) to review documents, observe program components, interactions, and interview staff and participants to evaluate effective programming

Testimony on SB 711, SD2
House Committee on Corrections, Military & Veterans
March 15, 2023
Page 2

practices in the delivery of quality programs offered to persons incarcerated at correctional facilities in the State.

PSD respectfully requests the committee consider including \$100,000.00 for the purposes of this measure and requires that the report be due by June 30, 2024.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 711, SD2.

COMMITTEE ON CORRECTIONS, MILITARY & VETERANS
Rep. Mark J. Hashem, Chair Rep. Cory M. Chun, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 15, 2023 10:00 AM
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE Conference Room 430
State Capitol
415 South Beretania Street

SRRONG SUPPORT, SB711 RELATING TO GENDER PARITY IN PROGRAMS FOR
INCARCERATED WOMEN

Women's Prison Project (WPP) strongly supports SB711 which would fund a study of programming currently offered to incarcerated women within the state's correctional system, identifying gaps and making recommendations for additional gender responsive programming to meet women's identified needs and reduce risk of recidivism.

WPP recommends amending the reporting date for the study be moved to June, 2024, to allow sufficient time for funds to be received and the study completed.

Women's Prison Project supports the appropriation of \$100,000 to Hawaii Friends of Restorative Justice to conduct a study in collaboration with Women's Prison Project, of programming offered to persons incarcerated at correctional facilities including focus groups of incarcerated women to help identify gaps in programming offered to female inmates. Women's Prison project is a volunteer group and is not a 501(c)(3) and therefore cannot receive appropriated funds.

Hawaii Friends of Restorative Justice in partnership with Women's Prison Project shall provide recommendations to improve outcomes for incarcerated women, with the goal of reducing recidivism, and equipping incarcerated women to transition successfully into the community. Hawaii Friends of Restorative Justice shall consult the interagency council on intermediate sanctions and correctional program checklist committee when conducting the study and making recommendations to improve outcomes for incarcerated women. The Hawaii Friends of Restorative Justice in collaboration with Women's Prison Project shall submit the study, including any proposed legislation, to the legislature

Women's Prison Project urges the legislature to pass this bill which will move women's corrections toward evidence based, more effective rehabilitation programming.

Mahalo for considering this testimony.

Linda Rich
On Behalf of Women's Prison Project

SB-711-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/14/2023 9:06:45 AM

Testimony for CMV on 3/15/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Michael Golojuch Jr	Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Aloha Representatives,

The Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai‘i; Hawai‘i’s oldest and largest policy and political LGBTQIA+ focused organization fully supports SB 711 SD 2.

We hope you all will support this important piece of legislation.

Mahalo nui loa,

Michael Golojuch, Jr.
Chair and SCC Representative
Stonewall Caucus for the DPH

SB-711-SD-2

Submitted on: 3/13/2023 10:05:34 PM

Testimony for CMV on 3/15/2023 10:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Mike Golojuch, Sr.	Rainbow Family 808	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Rainbow Family 808 supports SB711. Please pass this bill.

Mike Golojuch, Sr., Secretary/Board Member

Hawai'i Psychological Association

For a Healthy Hawai'i

P.O. Box 833
Honolulu, HI 96808

www.hawaiipsychology.org

Phone: (808) 521-8995

LATE

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HOMELESSNESS

Rep. Della Au Belatti, Chair

Rep. Jenna Takenouchi, Vice Chair

March 15, 2023 10:00 A.M. - VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE – Rm 430

The Hawai'i Psychological Association (HPA) strongly supports SB711 RELATING TO GENDER PARITY IN PROGRAMS FOR INCARCERATED WOMEN

The HPA fully supports the efforts of the state to conduct a study on the current programming and psychological treatment offered to incarcerated women for the purpose of identifying the mental health needs of this population.

Various national estimations indicate **over 53% of incarcerated women have been found to experience trauma in their life** and would benefit from ongoing psychological treatment while incarcerated.

Nationally, incarcerated individuals experience greater levels of mental illness than the general population including PTSD, depression, psychosis, and personality disorders.

Increased programming, psychological treatment, and changes from a punitive approach to a therapeutic approach has been found to reduce recidivism, while national estimates of around 70% of those released are at risk of recidivism during the first 5 years.

For evidentiary support for this proposal, the HPA directs this committee to the information reflected in an article entitled, "Outcomes of Psychological Therapies for Prisoners with Mental Health Problems: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis in the *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*."¹

With no opposition, and the full support of multiple organizations in the state, including the Department of Public Safety (PSD), the University of Hawaii System, the Department of the Attorney General, and Chaminade University – we strongly encourage its passage.

Sincerely,



Alex Lichton, Ph.D.

Chair, HPA Legislative Action Committee

¹ This article is summarized here: <https://div12.org/can-prisoners-with-mental-health-problems-benefit-from-psychological-therapy-yes-but-health-and-justice-need-to-be-closer-friends/#:~:text=Can%20prisoners%20with%20mental%20health,Society%20of%20Clinical%20Psychology>