

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



KEITH T. HAYASHI  
SUPERINTENDENT

STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
KA 'OIHANA HO'ONA'AUAO  
P.O. BOX 2360  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

**Date:** 03/29/2023

**Time:** 02:00 PM

**Location:** 308 VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

**Committee:** House Finance

**Department:** Education

**Person Testifying:** Keith T. Hayashi, Superintendent of Education

**Title of Bill:** SB 0710, SD2, HD1 RELATING TO INCARCERATED WOMEN.

**Purpose of Bill:** Appropriates moneys for an education and reentry program for incarcerated women. Effective 6/30/3000. (HD1)

**Department's Position:**

The Hawaii State Department of Education (Department) supports SB 0710, SD2, HD1.

The Department supports an appropriation to the University of Hawaii Windward Community College for an education and reentry program for incarcerated women.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure.



# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII SYSTEM

## ‘ŌNAEHANA KULANUI O HAWAII

### Legislative Testimony

### Hō'ike Mana'o I Mua O Ka 'Aha'ōlelo

Testimony Presented Before the  
House Committee on Finance  
Wednesday, March 29, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

By

Della Teraoka, Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs, Community Colleges  
University of Hawai'i System

#### SB 710 SD2 HD1 – RELATING TO INCARCERATED WOMEN

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

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of SB 710 SD2 HD1, which provides for supportive education and re-entry of incarcerated women, as developed by Hawai'i Friends of Restorative Justice (HFRJ).

This program supports incarcerated women to achieve the high school equivalency and then to continue on to college while incarcerated, as well as to further studies post-incarceration. In the program developed by HRFJ in collaboration with Windward Community College (WCC), passing the General Education Development test (GED) is just a first step to college going and lifelong learning. This is not a GED test program. GED testing is offered by PSD and paid for with vouchers from McKinley School for Adults. WCC and HFRJ do not proctor or offer the GED, ensuring testing integrity and removing conflicts of interest.

WCC and HFRJ have partnered to grow students through collaborative learning and peer tutoring techniques, which not only helps women study for and successfully pass the GED, but also builds workforce readiness skills. The students learn leadership, collaboration, alternative strategy development and effective methods for promoting learning. Recognizing these skills, we created a certificate for those who complete the HFRJ peer tutor training program which documents the training and experience as a qualification for student employee positions in college level tutoring. During their incarceration, the certificate allows them to serve as tutors both in the GED program and also in college level classes which they complete post-GED. Post-release, this helps students to find campus-based work in order to pursue their college studies. This can help them to comply with post-release work requirements and to survive economically.

In addition to supporting GED attainment and leadership building, the program actively promotes enrollment in college pre- and post-incarceration. Students are supported to enroll in WCC coursework at WCCC. The methodology used also helps the students support each other in these college courses.

When there are not enough students to offer a needed class in person at the facility, this program provides tuition for students to enroll in college level coursework via correspondence. This allows all students to progress toward their degree efficiently when incarcerated.

The program then further helps students again when they are ready to transition post-release, counseling them on educational opportunities post-incarceration and on making appropriate decisions as they transition to re-entry.

The GED is only the first stepping stone for women at WCCC to be able to continue on and then benefit from higher education. Through the program offered by HFRJ, women have been able to attain their GED at greater rates and in shorter time periods than previously. Furthermore, they then work to support other women to complete as well. This cycle of achievement and giving promotes a better living and learning environment. Education has been shown to decrease violence and negative behavior patterns while incarcerated and lead to better outcomes post-incarceration.

The University of Hawai'i supports the intent of SB 710 SD2 HD1, as long as its passage does not replace or adversely impact priorities as indicated in our BOR Approved Budget.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 710 SD2 HD1.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR  
KE KIA'ĀINA



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**  
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No. \_\_\_\_\_

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 710, SENATE DRAFT 2, HOUSE DRAFT 1  
RELATING TO INCARCERATED WOMEN

By

Tommy Johnson, Director  
Department of Public Safety

House Committee on Finance  
Representative Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair  
Representative Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

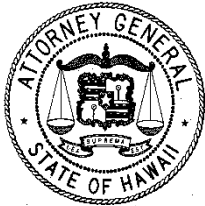
Wednesday, March 29, 2023; 2:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308 and Via Video Conference

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

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) supports Senate Bill (SB) 710, Senate Draft (SD) 2, House Draft (HD), 1 which appropriates funding for an education and reentry program for incarcerated women and offers the following comments.

As written, SB 710, SD2, HD1 appropriates funds to be administered by the University of Hawai'i Windward Community College (WCC) for education and reentry programs and expended by the University of Hawai'i. PSD welcomes the expansion of offering more college opportunities to its offender population and providing additional reentry and transition services for those that would like to continue their post-education after release from incarceration.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 710, SD2, HD1.



**TESTIMONY OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
KA 'OIHANA O KA LOIO KUHINA  
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE, 2023**

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**ON THE FOLLOWING MEASURE:**

S.B. NO. 710, S.D. 2, H.D. 1, RELATING TO INCARCERATED WOMEN.

**BEFORE THE:**

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

**DATE:** Wednesday, March 29, 2023      **TIME:** 2:00 p.m.

**LOCATION:** State Capitol, Room 308

**TESTIFIER(S):** Anne E. Lopez, Attorney General, or  
Candace J. Park, Deputy Attorney General

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Chair Yamashita and Members of the Committee:

The Department of the Attorney General provides the following comments.

The purpose of this bill is to appropriate moneys for an education and reentry program for incarcerated women to be administered by the University of Hawai'i Windward Community College.

Section 6 of article X of the Hawai'i State Constitution gives the Board of Regents of the University of Hawai'i "exclusive jurisdiction over the internal structure, management, and operation of the university." Section 6 further provides: "[t]his section shall not limit the power of the legislature to enact laws of statewide concern. The legislature shall have the exclusive jurisdiction to identify laws of statewide concern." If the Committee decides to pass this bill, we recommend an amendment that adds a statement identifying this bill as a law of statewide concern.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments.

# COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

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## COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rep. Kyle Yamashita, Chair

Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 29, 2023

Room 308 and Videoconference

2:00 PM

## **STRONG SUPPORT FOR SB 710 SD2 HD1 - EDUCATING WOMEN AT WCCC**

Aloha Chair Yamashita, Vice Chair Kitagawa, 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 4,036 Hawai'i individuals living behind bars<sup>1</sup> and under the "care and custody" of the Department of Public Safety/Corrections and Rehabilitation on any given day. We are always mindful that 914 - 26.4% of the male imprisoned population<sup>2</sup> - 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.

Mahalo nui for scheduling this important bill! Community Alliance on Prisons appreciates the opportunity to testify in strong support of SB 710 SD2 HD1 that has successfully assisted many women at WCCC to earn their GEDs and has developed a Peer Tutor program where women are able to serve as tutors to other incarcerated women seeking to earn their GEDs.

For many of these women, going to college was not even on their radar as they never thought they would be able to attain entrance into higher education. This program has not only opened doors, it has opened the minds of the women at WCCC to their own abilities. It has helped them dream of a better life for themselves and their families.

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<sup>1</sup> Department of Public Safety, Weekly Population Report, March 20, 2023.

[https://dps.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Pop-Reports-Weekly-2023-03-20\\_George-King.pdf](https://dps.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Pop-Reports-Weekly-2023-03-20_George-King.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Why are 26.4% of Hawai'i's male prison population sent thousands of miles from home when the following prisons in Hawai'i have room here: Halawa is at 77%; Halawa Special Needs Facility is at 58%; Kulani is at 44%; Waiawa is at 51% of operational capacity.

Education is the pathway to economic mobility and since many Moms are imprisoned, programs like this are important to open up opportunities for woman who never thought they would go to college.

*“There is a logical argument for prison education: It is a cost-effective way to reduce crime and leads to long-term benefits across the entire U.S. population. In 2016, the RAND Corporation produced a report<sup>3</sup> that showed that individuals who participate in any type of educational program while in prison are 43 percent less likely to return to prison.*

*In addition to reducing recidivism, education can improve outcomes from one generation to the next. Research shows that children with parents with college degrees are more likely to complete college, which can create social mobility for families.*

*Prisons with college programs have less violence among incarcerated individuals, which creates a safer environment for both incarcerated individuals and prison staff.*

*The significant personal benefits of prison education include increased personal income, lower unemployment, greater political engagement and volunteerism, and improved health outcomes.”*

Some of the women who have graduated from this program and are now Peer Tutors have offered compelling testimonies at committees about how their lives have changed when they now saw possibilities they never imagined for themselves.

Poverty is one of the drivers of mass incarceration and education is the route out of poverty and onto the economic mobility track. This successful program has graduated 20 women with their GED’s and many are taking college courses in anticipation of going to college when they are released.

This is a dream that many women thought impossible for themselves and this peer tutoring program has helped them realize their own potential. This program is the route out of poverty for women and their families, enabling them all to dream of and work toward a better life.

Community Alliance on Prisons urges the committee to pass SB 710 SD2 HD1 for the betterment of all in Hawai`i nei!

Mahalo!

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<sup>3</sup> The Case for Correctional Education in U.S. Prisons, RAND Review, January 16, 2016.  
<https://www.rand.org/blog/rand-review/2016/01/course-correction-the-case-for-correctional-education.html>



### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Honorable Senator Kyle T. Yamashita, Chair  
Honorable Senator Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

HEARING DATE: Wednesday, March 29, 2023

TIME: 2:00 PM, Via Videoconference & Conference Room 308

### STRONG SUPPORT FOR SB 710, SD2, HD1 RELATING TO INCARCERATED WOMEN

Hawai'i Friends of Restorative Justice (HFRJ) strongly supports this measure appropriating \$225,000 for the third year of this four-part higher and continuing education pilot program at the Women's Community Correctional Center (WCCC), which includes the extraordinarily successful GED peer tutoring.

HFRJ is an educational non-profit entity that has decades of experience collaborating with other community partners to develop, apply, measure, and report on the outcomes of innovations to assist people in accessing justice. HFRJ's work has been replicated in other states and countries and is described in 50 academic articles. HFRJ uses restorative justice theory and practices in its innovations that are ideal for accessing justice. HFRJ is not a permanent service provider and only provides temporary services to develop evidence-based interventions. This unique education program seeks to motivate and support women in prison and after release to earn college degrees with innovative learn processes in prison and reentry support. The pilot program was recently described in a peer reviewed article. More papers are being drafted.

HFRJ supports the intent of this bill to fund the program by either giving HFRJ a 42F grant or giving the money to WCC—we are the two main partners in the project with WCCC. We have a strong history of collaboration and mutual goals, which does not exist with the department of education (DOE). Therefore, we ask the funding be given to either HFRJ directly by 42F or via WCC and not through the DOE. We still have not received any funds from last year's appropriation that went to the DOE. HFRJ has supported this program since last year with a small grant that is running out.

Because state agencies have submitted confusing testimony about the GED and its testing and “counseling” at hearings to continue funding this project, we clarify that HFRJ has nothing to do with implementing the GED and it does not provide “counseling services”. Its involvement in the project was to design and pilot an innovative and more successful learning and education project at WCCC for three years. This bill is to only to fund year three of the project.

To date 23 women in WCCC have passed the GED within 12 months of the program's application, while previously one to two women earned GEDs. More women are studying for GEDs at WCCC than all other state prisons combined. Since October 2021, about 100 imprisoned women have participated in the program. Almost all the tutors released from WCCC are currently attending college with five enrolled at Windward Community College (4 full-time and 1 part-time). We urge the Committee to please pass this bill and contact Lorenn Walker, JD, MPH, at lorenn@hawaii.edu or (808) 218-3712 if you have questions about the project.



COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
Rep. Kyle T. Yamashita,  
Chair Rep. Lisa Kitagawa, Vice Chair

Wednesday, March 29, 2023 2:00 p.m.  
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE Conference Room 30  
State Capitol

**Strong Support for SB710, SD2, HD1 Relating to Incarcerated Women**

Women's Prison Project strongly supports SB710, SD2, HD1 which appropriates funds to continue the highly successful education and academic counseling program at the Women's Community Correctional Center. The program is a partnership that includes Hawaii Friends of Restorative Justice, Windward Community College and the College of Social Sciences, University of Hawai'i at Manoa. The program includes educational counseling provided by Windward Community College (WCC), the very successful cooperative learning GED Peer Tutoring Program, access to college courses leading to an associate degree from Windward Community College, academic advising for women transitioning from WCCC, and facilitation of their post-incarceration enrollment in community college or the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

**Research has demonstrated that individuals engaged in education while incarcerated and after transition to the community have significantly lower recidivism rates.** This program has had remarkable results including 20 women passing the GED within 10 months of its inception, while the prison averaged only two women a year passing previously. The unique education program being piloted at WCCC has dramatically increased women's enrollment in GED preparation, applications for GED testing and enrollment in college courses. Women transitioning out of prison are continuing their higher education with the support of academic advising by the Windward Community College counselor.

Incarcerated people in Hawai'i have significant educational deficits. By the state's own reporting, the average incarcerated person reads at the 5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade level. The program's experience working at WCCC shows that many women have significant deficits in reading, and are especially deficient in math. **About 60% of WCCC residents are high school dropouts. Without ad-**

**ditional education, these women face difficulty finding employment.** If they find employment it is likely to pay minimum wage.

**Recidivism among women is often characterized by what researchers have called “survival crimes” related to poverty.** Faced with Hawaii’s high cost of living, women in low-paying minimum wage jobs are often unable to meet basic needs for housing, food, transportation, etc. for themselves and their children. Returning to low level, non-violent crime can be seen as a survival alternative. Women engaged in the collaborative program between Windward Community College, Hawaii Friends for Restorative Justice, and the College of Social Sciences have a better alternative—higher education and the potential for employment that will provide stability in their lives. The benefits of education go far beyond economics. Women in this program are discovering their strengths, their intelligence, and their abilities. They are developing future goals and experiencing pride in their accomplishments. They are learning to believe a different life path is really possible.

Women’s Prison Project urges this joint Committee to pass SB710, SD2, HD1 and appropriate the requested funding to Windward Community College.

Mahalo for this chance to testify in strong support of SB710, SD2, HD1.

Linda Rich  
On behalf of the Women’s Prison Project

**SB-710-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/27/2023 10:54:54 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Tadia Rice	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support SB710 SD2 HD1 and urge the the Legislature to do so by providing sufficient and necessary funds that will further allow the successful partnership between Windward Community College, WCCC, and the Hawaii Friends of Restorative Justice. This innovative collaborations has benefitted the incarcerated with low level education and at the same time benefits society by reducing recidivism upon release. Education is the singular component that provides skillsets and knowledge to not only better one's life, but contribute to society as well. Online GED classes have proven to do this and everyone in Hawai`i deserves that.

**SB-710-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 6:12:21 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Colleen Rost-Banik	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha, my name is Colleen Rost-Banik, and I write in support of SB710. Through Windward Community College, I have taught sociology courses at the Women's Community Correctional Center for the past 5 years. I have seen an interest grow in GED and college courses over the number of years that I have been there. Pursuing more education, which also results in lower rates of recidivism (for a number of reasons), is motivating many women within WCCC to critically think, gain basic skills, and build stronger relationships.

I urge you to support SB710. Supporting people who are incarcerated to pursue education improves the social fabric of the entire society.

Mahalo for your time.

Colleen Rost-Banik, PhD

**SB-710-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 7:49:27 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Valerie Wayne	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This excellent bill, which I strongly support, will help incarcerated women get their GEDs and take online courses through a partnership between WCCC, Windward Community College, and HI Friends of Restorative Justice. Please pass this bill!

**SB-710-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 8:48:19 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Melanie Dorado Wilson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support SB710, which provides funds for services to women at the Women's Community Correctional Center to support them from GED through re-entry and will improve outcomes for incarcerated women. Mahalo!

**SB-710-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 9:24:24 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Will Caron	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Please support SB710 SD2 HD1.

**SB-710-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 9:49:22 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Elizabeth Nelson	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I support this bill. Getting an education can be so important in helping to turn a life around.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Nelson



**SB-710-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 9:54:04 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Nancy Taylor	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

SB710 supports such an innovative program!!! Mpotivated women who are incarcerated and want to better their lives by getting a GET are able to reach this goal through this program at WIndward Community College. Graduates of this program have turned their lives around in inspiring ways.

Thank you for you consideration of my strong support of SB710.

# ***A'O AKU, A'O MAI...* We teach, and we learn.**

## **STRONG SUPPORT OF SB710**

Aloha my name is Simone' "Nanilei" Kamaunu and I am sharing on how this program has helped me as a person, built up my confidence and helped me further my education.

I have been trying to get my GED for about 17 years. I tried books, taking classes in and out of prison, online, and in person tests but just couldn't get it.

While incarcerated recently at the Women's Community Correctional Center I heard about a program that will have tutors helping with GEDs.

This I thought, hey why not I tried about everything else. So, I signed up. And it was one of the best choices I've ever made.

The first day I was kind of surprised at how many others signed up too.

I walked in to this class not knowing how much this would change my life.

I was a part of the first group of tutees. The tutors were other inmates so this kind of made me feel comfortable to be okay with not knowing things.

It's a little bit more difficult when you don't want to seem dumb in front of strangers. Well for myself it was. That day I also met Lorenn Walker. She had a plan on a way of how the tutors would work with us and it was definitely different. After breaking off to where I fit in and where I needed help, it was personal. My tutor didn't judge me for how much or how little I knew.

After about a month of working with my tutor I felt I was ready to take my test. Again, I failed but this time I knew I had it in me. My tutor broke it down on where I was missing and we focused on that area.

Trying again I got it!! I passed. The team of tutors kept cheering me on and didn't let me give up on myself when I could of. I passed my GED within a two and half months' time of starting this program.

Getting my GED opened doors for me to be a part of cohort 2. And I became a tutor! The styles and methods of teaching and learning were working and I have had the opportunity of helping one of my tutees get her GED.

That felt AWESOME to be able to give back what was giving to me, that sparked something in me. I wanted to further my education and now was able to do so by signing up for college classes.

Taking classes, getting certified, teaching, helping others, and training cohort 3 & 4 have lit a fire in me and made me feel good. My confidence was boosted, I believed in myself and others, my family was proud and everything was falling into place.

I didn't want to go back to my old life style and I found a way that I didn't have too. EDUCATION. Being a part of this program didn't just help me with my GED, I had a job, it helped me set goals, rebuild my relationship with my 'Ohana through Huikahi Circles, obtain 6 college credits before leaving the facility, getting 2 different certifications, helped me earn money while inside, helped me set a foundation, helped with reintegrating into society, kept me responsible and so much more.

Now that I have integrated back into society, I am a fulltime student at Windward Community College pursuing my degree in Hawaiian Language. I am also a Hawaiian studies student assistant at Windward.

My family relations are healthy, I'm clean and sober, living my best life. This is all because of this program that believed in me.

This has definitely been a life changing experience. Mahalo nui loa for taking my testimony into consideration and lastly, I ask you to pass SB710 out of this committee.

Forever grateful,

Simone' Nanilei' Kamaunu

**SB-710-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/28/2023 12:44:45 PM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Kanela Kamahalohanuilai	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

**Aloha, Chair and members of the Senate Committee:**

**My name is Kanela Kamahalohanuilai, I am testifying in support of SB 710.**

**I have heard of the benefit that inmates have when they gain access to college education while incarcerated. As a family member of someone in that position I was proud to hear that my family was attending college classes while in prison. This allows time for them to grow, and have hope that they are doing something different then what they did before.**

**Allowing more options for inmates to build their confidence and gain a strong network inside of the prison system and outside will help our community to gain a person with lived experience and educational background.**

**I am personally encouraged to support this bill and watch the support and resources help this community to grow to benefit the bigger community of the State of Hawaii.**

**Mahalo,**

**Kanela K.**

**SB-710-HD-1**

Submitted on: 3/29/2023 8:48:56 AM

Testimony for FIN on 3/29/2023 2:00:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Diana Bethel	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in strong support of SB710 SD2 HD1, which provides funding for the final year of an innovative three-year education and reentry program for incarcerated women at the Women's Community Correctional Center (WCCC). This highly successful pilot program was developed and is being administered by the Hawai'i Friends of Restorative Justice (HFRJ).

Given that last year's funding (2022-2023) for this program was given to the McKinley Community School for Adults—where it was withheld until several weeks ago—the program was only able to continue thanks to a donation which kept things going for a time. But since then, the peer tutors, who are paid a mere pittance in accordance with prison requirements, have not been paid for the last four months. It is shameful that government entities are setting such a poor example. What was the reason for this shocking display of bureaucratic delay and indifference?

I urge the Finance Committee to award the funding to Windward Community College, which has a clearly demonstrated long history and strong commitment to providing educational opportunities for incarcerated people in our state. Please pass SB710 SD2 HD1 to fund this innovative and successful pilot program.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Diana Bethel, Honolulu