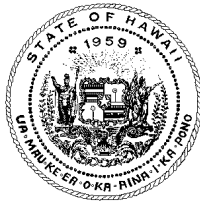


JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR



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, SD1  
RELATING TO GENDER PARITY IN PROGRAMS FOR INCARCERATED WOMEN

By  
Tommy Johnson, Director  
Department of Public Safety

Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair  
Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 22, 2023; 9:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 211 and Via Video Conference

**WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY**

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) supports the intent of Senate Bill (SB) 711, SD1, which appropriates funding to the Hawai'i Friends of Restorative Justice and the Women's Prison Project as a grant pursuant to Chapter 42F, Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) 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

Testimony on SB 711, SD1  
Senate Committee on Ways and Means  
February 22, 2023  
Page 2

Checklist Committee (CPC) to review documents, observe program components, interactions, and interview staff and participants in order to evaluate effective programming practices in the delivery of quality programs offered to persons incarcerated at correctional facilities in the State. More importantly, if any area of improvement, range, or disparity is identified, PSD will assist the contractor in addressing area/s in need of improvement and any potential sources of funding to facilitate parity in the range and quality of programming that is offered to female and male inmates in the State shall require PSD approval and a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP).

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on SB 711, SD1.

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS  
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Gilbert Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Wednesday, February 15, 2023, 9:30AM  
Via videoconference, Conference Room 211  
State Capitol

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

Women's Prison Project 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.

Women's Prison Project supports the appropriation of \$120,000 to Hawaii Friends of Restorative Justice to conduct a study 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 use the House Concurrent Resolution No. 85 (2019) task force's report as a model to 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

**LATE**

**SB-711-SD-1**

Submitted on: 2/21/2023 5:06:35 PM

Testimony for WAM on 2/22/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Michael Golojuch Jr	Testifying for Stonewall Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Aloha Senators,

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 1.

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