

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1597

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 27

, 2025

RE: H.R. No. 149

H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura  
Speaker, House of Representatives  
Thirty-Third State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2025  
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Public Safety, to which was referred H.R.  
No. 149 entitled:

"HOUSE RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO PERFORM A  
COMPREHENSIVE FORENSIC AUDIT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS  
AND REHABILITATION AND DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL  
SERVICES REGARDING SPENDING RELATED TO THE PLANNING, DESIGN,  
FINANCING, CONSTRUCTION, AND MAINTENANCE OF A NEW JAIL TO  
REPLACE THE OAHU COMMUNITY CORRECTIONAL CENTER,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to ensure taxpayer dollars are  
being used and managed responsibly by the Department of  
Corrections and Rehabilitation and the Department of Accounting  
and General Services with regards to the planning, design,  
financing, construction, and maintenance of a new jail to replace  
the Oahu Community Correctional Center.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure  
from the ACLU of Hawaii, Kauai Women's Caucus, and twenty-five  
individuals.

Your Committee finds that the Department of Corrections'  
plans for expansion and construction for the new Oahu Community  
Correctional Center have an estimated cost of \$1,000,000,000,  
making it the single largest public works project in state

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history. Your Committee also notes that this does not include the recurring costs of operation, and that the department has already expended \$25,000,000 on planning consultants alone, without providing a full accounting of how past funding relating to the proposed project has been spent.

Your Committee finds that increased transparency with regards to the proposed construction of a new Oahu Community Correctional Center is necessary to improve public trust, eliminate and prevent fraud, examine the realities of the return on taxpayers' investment, and ultimately ensure responsible use of public funds.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Replacing "forensic" with "management, performance, and financial" with regards to the descriptors of audit type, per the Office of the Auditor's comments.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Public Safety that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 149, as amended herein, and recommends that it be referred to your Committee on Finance in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 149, H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committee on Public Safety,



DELLA AU BELATTI, Chair



State of Hawaii  
House of Representatives  
The Thirty-third Legislature

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**Record of Votes of the Committee on Public Safety**

<b>Bill/Resolution No.:</b> <span style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">HR 149</span>	<b>Committee Referral:</b> <span style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">PBS, FIN</span>	<b>Date:</b> <span style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">3/21/2025</span>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
<b>The recommendation is to:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
PBS Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. BELATTI, Della Au (C)		✓		
2. IWAMOTO, Kim Coco (VC)	✓			
3. HASHEM, Mark J.				✓
4. ICHIYAMA, Linda	✓			
5. LAMOSAO, Rachele F.				✓
6. MORIKAWA, Dee				✓
7. POEPOE, Mahina	✓			
8. WOODSON, Justin H.				✓
9. SHIMIZU, Garner M.	✓			
10. SOUZA, Kanani	.	✓		
<b>TOTAL (10)</b>	4	2	0	4
<b>The recommendation is:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. <div style="text-align: center; font-size: 0.8em;">committee acronym(s)</div>				
<b>Vice Chair's or designee's signature:</b> <span style="font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;">Della A Belatti</span>				
<b>Distribution:</b> Original (White) – Committee             Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office             Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				