

MAR 04 2025

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND REHABILITATION TO COLLABORATE WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION TO USE INMATE WORK FURLOUGH PROGRAMS FOR STATE ROADWAY AND HIGHWAY MAINTENANCE.

1 WHEREAS, an enormous factor in an inmate's rehabilitation
2 is the inmate's ability to access work preparation and career
3 development programs; and
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5 WHEREAS, inmates often encounter difficulties when
6 reentering society upon release due to the lack of adequate
7 support programs, including but not limited to inmate work
8 furlough and reentry programs; and
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10 WHEREAS, these difficulties often lead to high rates of
11 recidivism, or the tendency of individuals to reoffend or
12 recommit crimes even after release from incarceration; and
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14 WHEREAS, according to a study that was conducted by a task
15 force on prison reform established pursuant to H.C.R. No. 85,
16 H.D. 2, S.D. 1 (2016), Hawaii faces a recidivism rate of over
17 fifty percent; and
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19 WHEREAS, the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
20 has implemented work furlough programs across the State with the
21 intention of enhancing the systemic reorientation process for
22 inmates who pose minimal risk to local communities but not
23 necessarily for the risk to recidivate; and
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25 WHEREAS, the inmate work furlough programs provide eligible
26 inmates with an opportunity to actively job seek, establish
27 financial stability, develop social connections, and find
28 appropriate housing prior to release from incarceration; and
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30 WHEREAS, it is critical for highway maintenance, whether
31 pothole management or vegetation control, to have a robust
32 workforce in order to sustain safer roadways; and
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S.R. NO. 18

1 WHEREAS, providing the Department of Transportation with
2 additional workforce through the Department of Corrections and
3 Rehabilitation's inmate workforce furlough programs is a
4 reliable avenue to improve the State's roadways and highways
5 while providing inmates access to beneficial work that would
6 assist their reentry into society upon release from
7 incarceration; now, therefore,

8
9 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
10 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025,
11 that the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation is
12 requested to collaborate with the Department of Transportation
13 to use inmate work furlough programs for state roadway and
14 highway maintenance; and

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16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
17 Resolution be transmitted to Director of Corrections and
18 Rehabilitation and Director of Transportation.

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OFFERED BY: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'R. D. D.', written over a horizontal line.