

ACT 56

H.B. NO. 845

A Bill for an Act Relating to Identification.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. Chapter 353H, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to part III to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

“§353H- Offender reentry; identification documents. (a) The department, in collaboration with the department of transportation and the examiner of drivers of each county, shall inform inmates that departmental assistance is available to obtain civil identification cards, in accordance with part XVI of chapter 286, and upon request shall issue civil identification cards to inmates who have one year or less prior to the inmate’s parole or release date remaining on their prison sentence.

(b) The department, in collaboration with appropriate federal, state, and county agencies, shall inform inmates of the availability of departmental

assistance to obtain the inmate's birth certificate, social security card, and any other relevant identification documents necessary for the inmate to transition into the workforce, access social services, and secure housing, and upon request shall assist the inmates who have one year or less prior to the inmate's parole or release date.

(c) For an inmate released to work furlough, extended furlough, or community placement programs, the department of public safety shall initiate the process of assisting the inmate pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) at least ninety days prior to the inmate being released."

SECTION 2. The director of public safety shall submit an annual report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of each regular session, starting with the regular session of 2019, that shall include:

- (1) The number of inmates who have been released from prison with, and without, civil identification cards, birth certificates, social security cards, and other relevant identification documents necessary for the inmates to transition into the workforce, access social services, and secure housing;
- (2) The identification of impediments encountered in assisting inmates in obtaining their documents and civil identification cards; and
- (3) Any recommendations, proposed legislation, and other relevant information deemed appropriate by the director of public safety.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$25,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 for the department of public safety, in collaboration with the department of transportation, examiner of drivers of each county, and other appropriate federal, state, and county agencies, to issue civil identification cards, in accordance with part XVI of chapter 286, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to inmates who have one year or less remaining on their prison sentence and to assist the inmates in obtaining their birth certificate, social security card, and any other relevant identification documents necessary for the inmates to transition into the workforce, access social services, and secure housing.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of public safety for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.¹

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2018.

(Approved June 22, 2017.)

Note

1. Edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5.