



# SB2630

Measure Title:	RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.
Report Title:	Corrections; Committed Persons; Sale of Crafts; Correctional Industries Program; Correctional Industries Revolving Fund
Description:	Allows committed persons to create approved products and crafts that may be sold through the correctional industries program to the public. Requires that all moneys collected from the sale of products and crafts to be deposited into either the correctional industries revolving fund or the committed person's account. Repeals the prohibition of the sale of such products on the open market.
Companion:	
Package:	None
Current Referral:	PSM, WAM
Introducer(s):	ESPERO, NISHIHARA



STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**  
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No. \_\_\_\_\_

TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2630  
RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

By  
Nolan P. Espinda, Director

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs  
Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair  
Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 2, 2016; 1:20 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Espero, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) **supports** Senate Bill (SB) 2630, which would allow committed persons to produce approved products and crafts that may be sold to the public through Hawaii Correctional Industries.

PSD would also like to suggest the following changes to Page 4 in order to more fairly address victim and other programming objectives, as well as, offender needs:

- “(A) Twenty-five percent (25%) to be deposited into the inmate’s trust account to address any victim restitution the inmate may owe;
- (B) The remaining amount to be debited for any indebtedness the inmate may owe to the department, which may include but not be limited to: medical, legal supplies, craft supplies, copying, etc.;
- (C) The remaining amount to be debited twenty-five (25%) for the Hawaii correctional industries revolving fund and ten percent (10%) for the department’s inmate activity revolving fund;
- (D) The remaining balance to be placed in the inmate’s trust account with fifty percent (50%) each placed in the spendable account (for immediate use) and the other fifty percent (50%) in the inmate’s restricted account (for later use for special needs, furlough release, etc.).”

Testimony on SB 2630 to  
Senate Committee on Public Safety,  
Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs  
February 2, 2016  
Page 2

In preparing inmates to reenter the community, it is PSD's charge to foster in them a sense of responsibility and proactive citizenship. By repaying the personal debts they have incurred as part of their incarceration, they will be learning real world life-management skills and financial responsibility.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

# COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

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## COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair

Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 2, 2016

1:20 p.m.

Room 229

### STRONG SUPPORT FOR SB 2630 - OPEN SALES OF PRODUCTS & CRAFTS

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Espero 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 almost two decades. This testimony is respectfully offered on behalf of the 6,000 Hawai'i individuals living behind bars or under the "care and custody" of the Department of Public Safety. We are always mindful that approximately 1,400 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 Native Hawaiians, far from their ancestral lands.

SB 2630 allows committed persons to create approved products and crafts that may be sold through the correctional industries (HCI) program to the public. Requires that all moneys collected from the sale of products and crafts to be deposited into either the correctional industries revolving fund or the committed person's account. Repeals the prohibition of the sale of such products on the open market.

Community Alliance on Prisons is in strong support of this measure. Hawai'i Correctional Industries (HCI) is a self-sustaining program that is finally back on track with a dynamite administrator who is committed to helping incarcerated individuals develop marketable job skills and a good work ethic. The core values of the program, *WORK THAT CHANGES LIVES*, as stated on their website <http://hawaiici.org/> are:

- KULEANA – Responsibility.  
We accept our responsibilities, and we will be held accountable.
- MĀLAMA – Stewardship.  
Serve, honor, protect, and care for resources; maintain fiduciary responsibility.
- KŪLIA I KA NU'U – Achievement.  
We pursue excellence in all we do. Strive to reach the summit.
- KA LĀ HIKI OLA – Optimism.  
We think positively.
- HO'OMAU – Perseverance.

These are exactly the values that “corrections” should be fostering, which is why this program is such a success. I have spoken to men who were in the program and many are now leading successful lives and contributing to their communities because of this values-based approach to rehabilitation.

This important bill changes the statute and allows open market sales of the products and crafts made by the people in the HCI program. This is great!

The allocation of the proceeds of the sales of these goods are also an incentive for someone to save so that he/she has some funds in his/her account to help with their reentry back to the community. The bill indicates that 25% go to funding the HCI program and 75% goes into the individual’s account. The sale of their work products also gives the person a sense of pride in their work that helps build their self-esteem and their sense of self-worth. All of these things help the transition from institutional to community life.

We hope the committee understands the importance of this program and supports the people in it who are working to change their lives!

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.

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**SB2630**

Submitted on: 2/1/2016

Testimony for PSM on Feb 2, 2016 13:20PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachel L. Kailianu	Ho`omana Pono, LLC	Support	No

Comments: It will allow our inmates to learn and market their skilled product enabling them to pay for their keep, and any incurred expenses.

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**SB2630**

Submitted on: 2/1/2016

Testimony for PSM on Feb 2, 2016 13:20PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Rachel L. Kailianu	Ho`omana Pono, LLC	Support	No

Comments: This is a great avenue to bring community and prisoners.

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**SB2630**

Submitted on: 1/29/2016

Testimony for PSM on Feb 2, 2016 13:20PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
E. Ileana Funakoshi	Individual	Support	No

Comments: COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS Sen. Clarence Nishihara, Chair Sen. Will Espero, Vice Chair Tuesday, February 2, 2016 1:20p.m. Room 229 STRONG SUPPORT SB 2630 - SALE OF CRAFTS BY INCARCERATED PERSONS Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Espero and Committee Members: I am e. Ileana funakoshi writing in strong support of SB 2630. This bill will give the inmates an opportunity to learn or teach a skill to benefit themselves and the community. At the present time, there is no incentive for them to better themselves since there are no "points" for good behavior. To be able to create something that others are willing to purchase will give them self worth and motivation to do better. The portion of the funds they earn will help them to sustain longer in placing themselves back into society. Since sales will be processed through the correctional industries program to the public, we can be assured that it will be well managed and accountable. I've seen where some states sell furniture and other items made by the prisoners and there is a great demand for their goods. This proposal is different, but it is a start to bring excitement into their lives which will bring more harmony within the facility. Thank you for opportunity to submit my testimony. Aloha and Mahalo, e. Ileana funakoshi

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**SB2630**

Submitted on: 2/1/2016

Testimony for PSM on Feb 2, 2016 13:20PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Gladys Coelho Baisa	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This program is self-sustaining and helps people to develop skills and learn work ethics. This bill allows open market sales of products and crafts made by incarcerated individuals. Twenty-five percent goes into the program fund and 75% goes to the individual's account. This is a great incentive!

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**SB2630**

Submitted on: 2/2/2016

Testimony for PSM on Feb 2, 2016 13:20PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Teri Heede	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**SB2630**

Submitted on: 2/1/2016

Testimony for PSM on Feb 2, 2016 13:20PM in Conference Room 229

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Peter Thoenen	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Hello. My name is Peter Thoenen and I oppose this bill on the general principle against further expansion of the state government. While the principle of the bill should be applauded this work would be better handled by the private and charity/NGO sectors. Money is not an unlimited resource and taxes used to fund the creation of nine funded positions plus support staff, county staff, resources, etc could be put to better use from helping DOE with HVAC for our keiki to fixing our atrocious roads to fully funding the state ethics commission.

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