



STATE OF HAWAII
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TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 2630
RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

By
Nolan P. Espinda, Director

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 25, 2016; 1:00 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211

Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) **supports the intent** of 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 (HCI) and to permit such products to be sold to the general public.

PSD would like to clarify the difference between “industry products” and “inmate craft items” and suggests the following amendment to Page 2, Lines 19-21 to read:

“(A) Manufacturing or producing products, deemed appropriate by the director, for sale to the general public; and”

and adding the following to the same paragraph:

“(C) Facilitating the sale of personal inmate craft items deemed appropriate for sale by the director or designee;”

In addition, the Department would like to suggest an amendment to paragraph (10) on Page 3, Lines 19-21, as follows:

“(10) Ensure that the proceeds from the sale of inmate crafts pursuant to paragraph 6 (C) are deposited as follows:...”

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.).”

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.



SB2630
RELATING TO HAWAII PUBLIC SAFETY
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

February 25, 2016

1:00 p.m.

Room 211

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) **SUPPORTS** SB2630, which would allow the Hawai'i Correctional Industries (HCI) to sell goods and services to the general public and ensure that the program prioritizes job training and income for inmates. **This measure will enable the HCI job training and employment program to continue to financially sustain itself, while increasing valuable training opportunities for pa‘ahao.**

The HCI job training and employment program provides pa‘ahao with valuable opportunities to develop marketable skills, prosocial behaviors, and a positive work ethic while incarcerated. These opportunities give offenders a sense of agency and value, facilitating their rehabilitation. The valuable job skills they learn also help ease their transition upon re-entry into the community, reducing the likelihood of recidivism. Lastly, this program may provide the only source of income for many pa‘ahao to support their basic needs, pay child support, and make restitution payments while incarcerated. By expanding the types of goods and services HCI will be able to produce, allowing the goods and services produced to be sold to the general public, and ensuring that the proceeds from these sales will be paid to inmates or reinvested in the program, SB2630 will allow this important program to financially sustain itself, and expand its services for the benefit of both pa‘ahao and the general public.

Therefore, OHA respectfully urges the Committee to **PASS** SB2630. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this important measure.

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

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COMMITTEE ON WAM

Senator Jill Tokuda, Chair

Senator Donovan Dela Cruz, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 25, 2016

1:00 p.m.

Room 211

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

Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz 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 homes, their loved ones, and for Hawaiians, far, 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 to 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://hawaii.ci.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, especially since gate money is subject to legislative appropriation and no money has been appropriated for a long, long time.

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 and aid in the individual finding work.

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.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [WAM Testimony](#)
Cc: lady.flach@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB2630 on Feb 25, 2016 13:00PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 24, 2016 3:36:14 PM

SB2630

Submitted on: 2/24/2016

Testimony for WAM on Feb 25, 2016 13:00PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Teri Heede	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Subject: Submitted testimony for SB2630 on Feb 25, 2016 13:00PM
Date: Tuesday, February 23, 2016 4:44:51 PM

SB2630

Submitted on: 2/23/2016

Testimony for WAM on Feb 25, 2016 13:00PM in Conference Room 211

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
wini chung	Individual	Support	No

Comments: MY BROTHER WAS IN PRISON, BUT WHEN HE WAS RELEASED, HE HAD NO TRADE TO HELP HIM OBTAIN A JOB. SO, PASSAGE OF THIS BILL WILL HELP OTHERS HAVE SOME SKILLS BEFORE THEY ARE RELEASED.

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February 23, 2016
Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Chair
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Vice Chair
Ways and Means Committee.

RE: SB 2630 Open Sales of products and crafts
Thursday, February 25, 2016
Room 211

Dear Representative Tokuda, Dela Cruz, and Members of the Committee

I am testifying in support of SB 2630.

Aloha Chair Tokuda, Vice Chair Dela Cruz, and members of the Ways and Means Committee.

My name is Wyman Barros and I am a student at the University of Hawaii's school of social work. I am submitting testimony for SB 2630 for the open sales of crafts to the public. I feel that this program will benefit inmates to gain skills that can be applied when they are released from prison. Skills in marketing and work ethics. Also this will give them the opportunity to earn money, money that they can use to pay restitution if they have any. It will show them responsibility and may be just the thing to help them re-integrate back into society. This will also help support the program by financially sustaining itself because money would be put back into the program.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify on this bill.