

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY
1177 Alakea Street, First Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

EDMUND "FRED" HYUN
CHAIR

JOYCE K. MATSUMORI-HOSHIJO
MICHAEL A. TOWN
ANNELLE C. AMARAL
FITUINA F. TUA
MEMBERS

TOMMY JOHNSON
ADMINISTRATOR

No. _____

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 320, HD2
A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO OFFENDER REENTRY
BY
HAWAII PAROLING AUTHORITY
Edmund "Fred" Hyun, Chairman

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 12, 2019, 1:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Room 229

Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the committee:

The Hawaii Paroling Authority (HPA) supports House Bill 320, HD2, which seeks to require the Department of Public Safety provide a certificate of completion to each inmate upon completion of rehabilitative programs. The HPA believes that this prudent and thanks the legislature for addressing the concerns the HPA and others raised with the language contained in the House Draft I version of this measure. As currently written, House Bill 320, HD2 addresses our previous concerns and protects inmates for potential unauthorized disclosure of protected health care related information.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 320, HD2.

COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

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COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL & MILITARY AFFAIRS

Senator Clarence Nishihara, Chair

Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 12, 2019

1:15 pm

Room 229

SUPPORT- HB 320 HD2 - REHABILITATION CERTIFICATES

Aloha Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai 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 more than two decades. This testimony is respectfully offered on behalf of the families of **ASHLEY GREY, DAISY KASITATI, JOEY O'MALLEY, JESSICA FORTSON AND ALL THE PEOPLE WHO HAVE DIED UNDER THE "CARE AND CUSTODY" OF THE STATE** as well as the approximately 5,500 Hawai'i individuals living behind bars or under the "care and custody" of the Department of Public Safety on any given day. We are always mindful that more than 1,600 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 Kanaka Maoli, far, far from their ancestral lands.

HB 320 HD2 requires the department of public safety to issue certificates to incarcerated persons upon completion of rehabilitation programs.

Community Alliance on Prisons supports this measure that helps incarcerated people track their own success. In some cases, receiving a certificate of completion might be the first time the individual has ever been awarded anything.

The very best part of this acknowledgement is the hope and pride it instills in someone showing that they *can* complete something!

We urge the committee to pass this simple, but important bill!

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

HB-320-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 11:49:12 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	Testifying for O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments:

HB-320-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 7:14:12 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
E. Ileina Funakoshi	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my comments.

I support this bill, as amended. This will be something the individual can show to family and friends that he did something they can be proud of,

e. ileina funakoshi

HB-320-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/10/2019 11:18:51 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Raelyn Reyno Yeomans	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Strong Support!

HB-320-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 9:53:57 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carla Allison	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support HB320 HD2. Incarcerated persons who complete programs should receive completion certificates. Awarding certificates of completion are part of everyday life in school, work, athletics, etc. Why would those incarcerated be treated differently? Completion certificates help incarcerated persons track their own success and gives documented proof that they have successfully completed a program.

Please move HB320 HD2 forward.

ROBERT K. MERCE
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Telephone: (808) 732-7430
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March 11, 2019

TO: Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
RE: HB 320, HD 2
HEARING DATE: Tuesday, March 12, 2019
TIME: 1:15 p.m.
CONF. ROOM: 229
POSITION: **SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Nishihara, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

I support HB 320, HD 1 which would require the Department of Public Safety to issue certificates to inmates who complete certain rehabilitation programs.

Certificates of completion provide formal recognition and proof of an inmate's achievement. In my experience, they are also a source of pride for inmates, and they can be useful to inmates seeking a commutation of sentence or pardon in that they are uncontroverted documentary evidence of programs completed while in prison.

Thank you for allowing me to testify on this measure.

HB-320-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 11:40:34 AM

Testimony for PSM on 3/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Barbara Polk	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Nishihara and Vice Chair Wakai,

When I served as Provost of Leeward Community College, I had the opportunity to conduct a graduation ceremony for Halawa inmates who had completed the College's Certificate and Degree programs. I saw first hand how important these credentials and the evidence of their success were to the graduates. Based on that experience, I strongly support providing certificates to inmates for completion of other programs run by DPS or the State. Ideally, DPS would hold periodic ceremonies, with family invited, to publicly award the certificates.

I urge you to support HB320.

HB-320-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 1:08:27 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Diana Bethel	Individual	Support	No

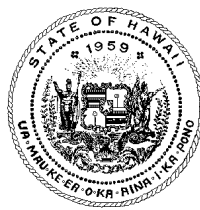
Comments:

HB320 HD2 provides encouragement and support for incarcerated persons who are making an effort to better themselves.

Awarding completion certificates to persons satisfactorily completing educational and other programs would provide additional incentive and self-esteem for them to continue their pursuit of knowledge and skills that will help them start a new life upon release.

Awarding certificates would require minimal effort but have an enormous benefit not only for the individuals but also for public safety in the community.

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
919 Ala Moana Boulevard, 4th Floor
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NOLAN P. ESPINDA
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Renee R. Sonobe Hong
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No. _____

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE BILL 320, HOUSE DRAFT 2
RELATING TO OFFENDER REENTRY.

By
Nolan P. Espinda, Director

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senator Glenn Wakai, Vice Chair

Tuesday, March 12, 2019; 1:15 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

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

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) supports House Bill (HB) 320, House Draft (HD) 2, which requires PSD to issue certificates of completion to offenders who have completed a prison rehabilitative program with an established curriculum, such as, substance abuse, mental health, sex offender, vocational, religious, nutritional, or other program conducted by PSD or a service provider contracted by PSD, upon completion of the program.

The Department already maintains careful records of inmate program completion, as these are key to tracking the inmate's progress in working towards furlough and other reentry programs. The issuance of certificates would formalize the process of recognizing an inmate's achievement and forward progress. PSD also notes that certificates of completion are commonly issues at other correctional institutions.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this testimony.

HB-320-HD-2

Submitted on: 3/12/2019 4:18:54 PM

Testimony for PSM on 3/12/2019 1:15:00 PM

LATE

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Fukuzawa	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Legislative Members,

I am in support of this bill. As a retired Substance Abuse Specialist - 5 of the Department of Public Safety, I used to manage the Bridge Program at LWFC when I used to work for the Department. When I was the program manager of the program, we (my staff and I) used to always present the offenders who completed the program with both certificates and discharge summaries stating completion of the program, and clinically discharged. If this no longer is the practice, I do not know why that would be occurring. I think more investigation by the legislature should be conducted to check into the re-entry program of the the offenders who are leaving the department of public safety - at least at the convicted felons status.

Sincerely,

David J Fukuzawa, SAS-5 Retired