
SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EARNED TIME PROGRAM.

1 WHEREAS, many correctional jurisdictions in the United
2 States use an incentive system that rewards inmates for positive
3 behavior, commonly known as credit for good time served; and
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5 WHEREAS, an earned time credit system was first implemented
6 in the eighteenth century to relieve overcrowding, reward
7 inmates who have no behavioral infractions, and encourage
8 participation in inmate rehabilitation programs; and
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10 WHEREAS, Hawaii does not have an earned time program
11 incentive to provide eligibility for parole of an inmate before
12 the expiration of that inmate's maximum sentence imposed by the
13 court; and
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15 WHEREAS, an earned time program provides for the
16 opportunity for an inmate to earn a credit against their maximum
17 sentence through demonstrating progress toward satisfactory
18 rehabilitation; and
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20 WHEREAS, an earned time program is necessary for inmates to
21 have a sense of accomplishment and achievement, both of which
22 are critical to successful rehabilitation and re-entry into the
23 community; now, therefore,
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25 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-sixth
26 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2011,
27 that the Department of Public Safety is requested to:
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29 (1) Review statutory provisions relating to sentences of
30 imprisonment and mandatory imprisonment sentences;
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32 (2) Plan and implement an earned time program as described
33 in this measure for committed persons who have been
34 sentenced for longer than one year and who have
35 successfully completed the recommended programming
36 while incarcerated; and
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- 1 (3) Make recommendations to the Legislature on suggested
- 2 legislation to enable an earned time program to be
- 3 implemented; and
- 4

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public
6 Safety's plan for the earned time program include developing,
7 establishing, and implementing the following standards and
8 procedures for the earned time program:

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- 10 (1) Objective standards for measuring progress in each of
- 11 the following categories, to the extent that the
- 12 services are available at the committed person's
- 13 correctional facility:
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- 15 (A) Work, vocational, or occupational training and
- 16 skills, including consideration of factors such
- 17 as attendance, promptness, performance,
- 18 cooperation, care of materials, and safety;
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- 20 (B) Social adjustment, including skills such as group
- 21 living, housekeeping, personal hygiene, and
- 22 cooperation;
- 23
- 24 (C) Participation in counseling sessions and self-
- 25 help groups;
- 26
- 27 (D) Therapeutic and other similar departmental
- 28 programs; and
- 29
- 30 (E) Education or literacy programs;
- 31
- 32 (2) Procedures for evaluating, recording, and certifying
- 33 progress under the earned time program; and
- 34
- 35 (3) Procedures for awarding earned time credits and
- 36 recording and applying days earned under the earned
- 37 time program; and
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39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public Safety
40 annually review the performance of each person committed to its
41 custody to date and grant, withhold, withdraw, or restore an
42 earned time credit from the person's maximum term of
43 imprisonment; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following information about
2 the earned time program be made available in writing to all
3 eligible committed persons upon request:
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5 (1) Departmental standards and procedures for the earned
6 time program; and
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8 (2) Equivalencies between:
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10 (A) Days served in accordance with earned time
11 program requirements and credits earned; and
12

13 (B) Credits earned and days earned; and
14

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public
16 Safety:
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18 (1) Describe its progress in implementing an earned time
19 program in its Re-Entry Master Plan; and
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21 (2) Report to the Legislature no later than twenty days
22 prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2012
23 on its progress in establishing and implementing an
24 earned time program consistent with this measure; and
25

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
27 Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Public Safety and
28 Administrator of the Hawaii Paroling Authority.

