

JAN 30 2013

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO CONTINUE AND
EXPAND ITS STRUCTURED COMMUNITY PLACEMENT PROGRAMS.

1 WHEREAS, programs that effectively assist the transition of
2 formerly incarcerated persons into the community are critically
3 needed to address the problems associated with reentry and the
4 high rate of recidivism; and

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6 WHEREAS, the costs of incarceration can be dramatically
7 reduced through the implementation of programs and services that
8 assist formerly incarcerated persons transition back into
9 society; and

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11 WHEREAS, a multitude of various issues are associated with
12 female incarceration, often involving unresolved sexual or
13 physical trauma as well as substance abuse; and

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15 WHEREAS, in a majority of cases in the State, female
16 offenders commit non-violent crimes and do not pose a threat to
17 the community; and

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19 WHEREAS, recent data from the Justice Reinvestment
20 Initiative show that incarceration is not an effective method
21 for rehabilitating substance abuse addictions, and community-
22 based substance treatment programs are more effective than in-
23 prison treatments; and

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25 WHEREAS, these programs are crucial for non-violent female
26 offenders to break the cycle of substance abuse, crime, and
27 incarcerations because many female offenders return to
28 incarceration if their drug or alcohol dependencies are not
29 treated and their recovery is not supported during their
30 transition; and

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1 WHEREAS, the risk of females becoming repeat offenders due
2 to substance abuse presents economic and societal costs to the
3 public and the State's social service system; and
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5 WHEREAS, the majority of incarcerated female offenders are
6 mothers of minor children, and issues that stem from fragmented
7 families often become intergeneration problems, which is
8 evidenced by the fact that the women's community correctional
9 center has had mothers and daughters serving sentences together;
10 and
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12 WHEREAS, structured community placement helps formerly
13 incarcerated females adjust to greater independence as they
14 transition and reunite with their children and families and
15 creates a more integrated and seamless resocialization and
16 reentry process; and
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18 WHEREAS, T.J. Mahoney and Associates' Ka Hale Hoala Hou No
19 Na Wahine program has successfully transitioned formerly
20 incarcerated female offenders through structured community
21 placement; and
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23 WHEREAS, as of November 19, 2012, there were seven hundred
24 six women under the care and custody of the Department of Public
25 Safety; and
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27 WHEREAS, the Department of Public Safety has reported the
28 cost of incarceration at \$127 per day for each female inmate,
29 compared to a reported structured community placement program
30 cost of \$50 per day per female inmate; and
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32 WHEREAS, the Department of Public Safety could save \$28,105
33 annually for each female transferred from incarceration to a
34 structured community placement program; now, therefore,
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36 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh
37 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013, the
38 House of Representatives concurring, that this body encourages
39 the expansion of structured community placement programs for use
40 in transitioning formerly incarcerated female inmates back into
41 society; and
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43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public Safety
44 is encouraged to continue its structured community placement



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1 programs in support of transitioning formerly incarcerated
2 female offenders back into society to more effectively assist
3 these women in reintegrating into society, and to benefit from
4 associated cost savings; and

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6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
7 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Public
8 Safety.

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OFFERED BY: Will Ezyro
Rosalyn H. Baker
Josh M.
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