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## SENATE RESOLUTION

ENCOURAGING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO SERIOUSLY  
CONSIDER THE ESTABLISHMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A STAND-  
ALONE REENTRY CENTER IN HONOLULU FOR RECOVERING CRIMINAL  
OFFENDERS, WHICH IS TO INCLUDE RESIDENTIAL AND DAY-  
REPORTING PROGRAM OPTIONS.

1           WHEREAS, reentry is an affordable, yet effective, process  
2 to promote public safety through collaborative partnerships that  
3 reflect a seamless system ensuring all returning offenders are  
4 law-abiding, productive community citizens; and  
5

6           WHEREAS, the State currently assumes responsibility for  
7 over 6,000 incarcerated individuals, an eighteen percent  
8 increase since fiscal year 2000, approximately 1,600 of whom  
9 remain housed in mainland prisons across the continental United  
10 States; and  
11

12           WHEREAS, in 2012, two Justice Reinvestment Initiative  
13 measures were enacted as Acts 139 and 140, Session Laws of  
14 Hawaii 2012, to increase the efficiency of Hawaii's correctional  
15 system by limiting the maximum probation term for certain Class  
16 B and Class C felonies, providing for intensive data-driven  
17 analyses by the Council of State Governments Justice Center,  
18 bringing home out-of-state prisoners, reducing corrections  
19 spending, reinvesting in effective strategies for reduced crime  
20 and recidivism, mandating reasonable timeframes for pre-trial  
21 risk assessments, requiring validation for these pre-trial risk  
22 assessments, limiting incarceration periods for first-time  
23 parole violators, and increasing restitution payments deducted  
24 from inmate earnings; and  
25

26           WHEREAS, reentry facilities house offenders in transitional  
27 environments while they learn to reengage with the community,  
28 find employment, and become familiar with the social services  
29 that will allow them to regain law abiding and productive  
30 lifestyles; and  
31

32           WHEREAS, community-based reentry centers are ideal short-  
33 term placement options for offenders scheduled for release upon



1 serving non-violent, non-sexual sentences at longer term  
2 institutions, requiring readjustment after violating community  
3 supervision terms or assigned from local detention, courts, or  
4 other proper jurisdictions; and

5  
6 WHEREAS, recidivism rates have been consistently  
7 demonstrated by reentry centers across the nation to decrease by  
8 more than fifty percent, over five year periods, when compared  
9 against baseline recidivism rates associated with traditional  
10 incarceration; and

11  
12 WHEREAS, community-directed housing facilities are  
13 significantly more cost-effective than hard bed incarceration;  
14 and

15  
16 WHEREAS, reentry centers provide a realistic mechanism for  
17 the Governor to address his goal of returning inmates on the  
18 mainland to Hawaii, since the one-time total architectural and  
19 engineering construction costs for a reentry facility able to  
20 accommodate five hundred live-in residents through a public-  
21 private partnership is estimated to be \$45,000,000, the  
22 equivalent to the cost of housing Hawaii inmates on the mainland  
23 for a single year; and

24  
25 WHEREAS, existing reentry processes in Hawaii operate  
26 through each prison, retaining offenders among the criminal  
27 elements reminiscent of their imprisonment terms; whereas a  
28 stand-alone reentry program would, by contrast, introduce  
29 recovering offenders to a more auspicious environment,  
30 facilitated by reentry specific case managers, counselors, job  
31 development specialists, medical professionals, maintenance  
32 staff, and security; and

33  
34 WHEREAS, proposed reentry initiatives highlight a "Three  
35 Phase Progressive Living" structure including: (1) intake  
36 processing periods not to exceed thirty days; (2) reentry  
37 readiness instructional programming and community service; and  
38 (3) community reintegration including financial  
39 responsibilities, counseling, and work experience; and

40  
41 WHEREAS, a day reporting program component overseeing  
42 nonresidential ex-offenders who continue treatment programs at  
43 the center around their work schedules would prove an invaluable  
44 addition to a reentry center for little additional cost; and



1  
 2 WHEREAS, day reporting programs provide almost daily  
 3 contact between offenders and their supervising staff members,  
 4 as well as intense individual and group counseling, drug  
 5 testing, and flash incarceration for those demonstrating  
 6 reemerged criminal behavior; now, therefore,

7  
 8 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-seventh  
 9 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2013,  
 10 that the Department of Public Safety be encouraged to consider  
 11 the construction and operation of a stand-alone community  
 12 reentry center in Honolulu for non-violent, non-sexual offenders  
 13 returning to the community after completing terms of  
 14 incarceration or returning to custody after violating their  
 15 terms of parole; and

16  
 17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that reentry programs may include  
 18 residential and non-residential programs for fully supervised  
 19 offenders and a day reporting program designed to accommodate  
 20 the schedules of reintegrated offenders living and working in  
 21 the community; and

22  
 23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 24 Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Director of Public  
 25 Safety.

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 27  
 28

OFFERED BY: Will Eyo

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