

# SB 540

**Measure Title:**

RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY

**Report Title:**

Public Safety; Prisons; Residential Drug Abuse Program Reentry

**Description:**

Establishes a state residential drug abuse program with an in-community component to help inmates' reentry into the community upon their release from prison. Expands number of transition beds in module nineteen at the Oahu community correctional center.

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR



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**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL 540  
RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY**

By

Clayton A. Frank, Director  
Department of Public Safety

Senate Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs  
Senator Will Espero, Chair  
Senator Robert Bunda, Vice Chair

Thursday, February 5, 2009; 1:15PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229

Senator Espero, Senator Bunda, and Members of the Committee:

The Department of Public Safety (PSD) strongly opposes SB 540, which seeks to require the Department to develop and implement a community substance abuse treatment program with a community-based transition phase of the program where the offender completes at least six (6) months of the program while in the community.

This measure is misleading, clearly inaccurate, risks public safety, and cannot be accomplished without additional funds and possibly additional full-time staff to both provide security and administer the program.

First, Section 1 of SB 540 states, "one hundred and fifty inmates currently housed on the mainland at a medium security facility actually qualifies as low risk community custody inmates who are eligible to be placed in community programs in Hawaii." In reality, while their classification level may be minimum, they have not yet completed all the programs identified that will assist them with successful reintegration to be placed in a community setting. It is important to make a clear distinction between the identified program needs of offenders and their level of custody. An offender can have

a security classification of community custody, but may not be able to move on to a community custody level facility because they still have not completed all required programs, which may not be provided at a community custody level facility. To prematurely move and/or override an offender's custody level may place the staff, other inmates, and the public at risk.

Secondly, Section 1 of SB 540 is also misleading with respect to the statement "Short-term incarceration may be advantageous for nonviolent offenders with drug-related convictions, but long-term incarceration should be reserved for violent criminals. Unfortunately, all convicted felons are stereotyped as violent criminals, resulting in lengthy prison sentences for violent and nonviolent offenders, alike." However, the fact of the matter is, non-violent criminals are the most prolific of the offenders and usually have been provided multiple opportunities to remain free in the community on probation. Unfortunately, at times, these non-violent and supposedly low risk offenders continue to victimize the community. As a result when finally held accountable are their actions, they have usually managed to commit additional felony offenses, which warrant court imposed mandatory minimum sentences.

Third, Section 1 of this measure states "A 2006 poll by Zogby International for the National Council on Crime and Delinquency found that seventy percent of the individuals polled favored services both during incarceration and after release from prison." While this may be true on a national scale, there is no poll information from the hundreds of thousands of victims of crime in the State of Hawaii, nor has this committee or any other provided a forum for which victims of crime can come forward to provide their input and describe their experiences, sense of loss, utter frustration with the criminal justice system, and how they feel about a measure such as this and others that do not hold offenders accountable for their actions, but rather excuse their unacceptable behavior by rewarding them with early release to the very communities they so willingly victimized.

No information regarding the recidivism rate of those that participated in the federal program that this measure seeks to model is provided. It is also noted that this measure seeks to grant up to one (1) year reduction off an offenders sentence for completion of the program, yet the prosecutor's office, the victim(s), the Hawaii Paroling Authority, and the PSD are excluded from having any input into the reduction of the offender's sentence(s).

Further, section 1 of this measure is mistaken. In that, the PSD provides various levels of substance abuse treatment at all of our correctional facilities statewide and at the Saguaro (male) and Otter Creek (female) facilities. Section 1 also wrongly assumes that Module 19 of the Oahu Community Correctional Center (OCCC) can be used for the pilot program described in SB 540. At present, module 19 houses approximately 72 inmates that are members of various facility work lines, including, but not limited to the kitchen, maintenance, and grounds. Given PSD's current crowded conditions, we do not have the capacity to relocate the 72 inmates currently housed in module 19 to other areas within the OCCC, nor do we have the staff to take over the duties and functions performed by these 72 inmates if we were to disperse them to other correctional facilities statewide.

As written, the goals of this measure cannot be accomplished without substantial additional resources and displacement of 72 inmates who currently work on various critically important facility operational work lines. In these very difficult fiscal times, when funds are scarce and PSD lacks the facility space to relocate inmates to accommodate the provisions of this measure, coupled with the fact that the PSD already has a comprehensive offender reentry system plan, it would not be prudent to pursue enactment at this time. Therefore, the Department respectfully requests that his measure be held.

Finally, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this matter.

# COMMUNITY ALLIANCE ON PRISONS

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## COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Sen. Will Espero, Chair

Sen. Robert Bunda, Vice Chair

Tuesday, February 3, 2009

1:15 PM

Room 229

### STRONG SUPPORT

SB 540 - RDAP Reintegration Program at OCCC

[PSMTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:PSMTestimony@capitol.hawaii.gov)

Aloha Chair Espero, Vice Chair Bunda and Members of the Committee!

My name is Kat Brady and I am the Coordinator of Community Alliance on Prisons, a community initiative working to improve conditions of confinement for our incarcerated individuals, enhance our quality of justice, and promote public safety. We come today to speak for the 6,000+ individuals whose voices have been silenced by incarceration, always mindful that more than 2,000 of those individuals are serving their sentences abroad, thousands of miles from their homes and loved ones.

SB 540 establishes a state RDAP (Residential Drug Abuse Program) Reintegration Program that mirrors the successful federal program.

### A Reentry Plan Created as a Business Model

Community Alliance on Prisons strongly supports SB 540. The plan for this program was developed by Community Alliance on Prisons and a team from the UH Shidler College of Business. With our input, the team went to work developing a complete business model. Copies are available upon request (it is 58 pages).

Hawai'i offers RDAP treatment programs in many of its facilities, which teach individuals about drug abuse and how to identify the triggers that lead to using intoxicating substances. This bill would create the all-important application piece of treatment. A formerly incarcerated person described treatment to me as being given a book to learn how to drive. One might understand the written word, however, getting behind the wheel (the application of learned skills) is crucial to becoming a safe driver.

By establishing a six-month RDAP Reintegration/Reentry Program at OCCC after completion of the RDAP treatment phase, an individual gains experience and confidence in applying the skills learned in treatment. This program would be open only to non-violent drug offenders.

## **Reentry Programs Reduce Recidivism**

The federal RDAP Reintegration Program reports a recidivism rate of 37% - 40%. Hawai'i's recidivism rate is 65.7% for parolees and 48.2% for probationers in 2003 (the most recent numbers available), as reported to the Legislature on January 22, 2008 by the Intermediate Sanctions Policy Council.

The Classification Study that the Department is currently conducting with their consultants, Criminal Justice Institute Inc., is showing that Hawai'i has been over-classifying our incarcerated population. This is not correctional best practices.

Research by Keith Chen of Yale and Jesse Shapiro of the University of Chicago entitled, 'Does Prison Harden Criminals?' looked at 950 inmates with the same lengthy rap sheets and similar criminal histories but held in different classifications (some minimum custody and some low custody) and then studied them 1, 2, and 3 years after release to see if prison conditions and classification made them more apt for re-arrest. Their findings show that harsher prison conditions - classifications from low on up -- are associated with significantly more post-release crime. (Source: "Does Prison Harden Inmates? A Discontinuity-based Approach - [http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=470301](http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=470301))

## **Application - The Crucial Component of Reentry**

The purpose of establishing the RDAP Reintegration/Reentry Program at OCCC for non-violent drug offenders is to give the participants a chance to find work outside the facility, thereby facing the temptations, barriers and obstacles that will be presented when they are released from incarceration. The program would be a six-month follow up to treatment where the participants would continue living at OCCC, but would leave during the day to go work and return in the evening, where group therapy and other appropriate classes would be conducted. This gives an individual the chance to experience life on the outside, but with the support so desperately needed for successful transition.

## **Program Participants Can Contribute a Percentage of Their Wages Toward Program Costs**

The federal RDAP Reintegration Program also calls for the participants to pay 25% of their wages to the facility toward program costs. In these austere financial times, this could help maintain the program and, more importantly, help participants learn the reality of paying bills and supporting oneself, not to mention reducing recidivism, which would be a huge savings to Hawai'i.

## **How Hawai'i Can Save Millions of Dollars Every Year**

Upon successful completion of the program, participants will be granted one year off their sentence. If, for example, Module 19 was used for this purpose there would 144 participants going through the program each year (72 participants each 6 months). The Department of Public Safety reported to the Public Safety Committees in January that it costs \$50,000 a year to incarcerate a person in Hawai'i. If only 100 people of the 144 participants successfully transitions into the community and each has one year cut off his sentence, that is a savings of \$5 million a year. Even if it is only half that amount, an extra \$2.5 million a year would certainly help our ailing budget.

Of course the economics are important, but rebuilding lives and restoring families is the BIG savings. Reducing recidivism by assisting individuals who are working to change their lives will have huge benefits, especially in Hawai'i, where we see intergenerational incarceration all too often.

**The RDAP Reintegration Program Works**

The two tables below show the numbers from a study done in 2004. Treatment, followed by reentry services increases the success rate for individuals transitioning from incarceration to the community.

**Table 1. BOP Drug Treatment Received - 1999 Releasees (n=5320)**

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Completed RDAP - No transitional services	316	5.9%
Completed RDAP - Failed transitional services	445	8.4%
<b>Completed RDAP - Completed transitional services</b>	<b>2977</b>	<b>56.0%</b>
Failed RDAP - No transitional services	545	10.2%
Failed RDAP - Failed transitional services	19	.4%
Failed RDAP - Completed transitional services	33	.6%
Transitional services (TS) only - Failed	178	3.3%
Transitional services (TS) only - Completed	807	15.2%

*Table 1 provides information on the numbers of those receiving one or both of these services by completion status.*

- *More than half of those who received drug treatment completed both the in-prison and the halfway house treatment components.*
- *Another 14% completed RDAP but they either did not receive transitional services (5.9%) or they did receive TS but they did not successfully complete it (8.4%). We note that many of those who completed RDAP but did not receive TS did not receive a halfway house placement and thus could not receive TS.*
- *The majority of those who failed RDAP also did not receive TS.*
- *While 10.2% of those receiving treatment were RDAP failures who did not receive TS, only 1% were RDAP failures who received such services.*
- *Lastly, more than 18% of those receiving one of both types of services received services only during their halfway house placement (e.g., TS).*
- *We note that an additional 1% of the release cohort (n=294) received RDAP and/or TS in a previous incarceration. Many of these individuals were revoked and served an insufficient amount of time to be readmitted to RDAP.*

**Table2. AOUSC (Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts) Treatment Received Within 90 Days After Admission to Supervision: BOP RDAP and TS Recipients**

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Completed RDAP - No transitional services	51 ( 316)	16.1%
Completed RDAP - Failed transitional services	194 ( 445)	43.6%
<b>Completed RDAP - Completed transitional services</b>	<b>1160 (2977)</b>	<b>40.0%</b>
Failed RDAP - No transitional services	183 ( 545)	33.6%
Failed RDAP - Failed transitional services	8 ( 19)	42.1%
Failed RDAP - Completed transitional services	13 ( 33)	39.4%
Transitional services (TS) only - Failed	74 ( 178)	41.6%
Transitional services (TS) only - Completed	319 ( 807)	39.5%

*Table 2 provides information on treatment services received while under supervision for all those individuals who received treatment while under BOP custody. Information is provided for each of the BOP treatment categories contained in Table 1.*

*(Source: Interagency Priorities at the Crossroads: Aftercare Among Drug Users, Bernadette Pelissier, Federal Bureau of Prison, Timothy Cadigan, Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, February 2004)*

SB 540 will bring to fruition the original plan for OCCC – to create a community correctional center that would help to address individuals’ pathways to crime and become more of a transition center, than a prison.

Donald Moore, director of the Hawai`i Council on Crime and Delinquency, in his speech to the Honolulu chapter of the Public Relations Society of America in the 70’s said, *“To be sure, prisons will be needed. But not for so many or for so long (a period of confinement). We ought to punish criminal deviance, especially violence. But that punishment must be restrained and principled.”* He went on to say, *“...the extensive imprisonment which has become our policy not only does considerable harm but is likely to impede the discovery of the more rational solutions that currently elude us.”*

The 1974 Annual Action Program – Comprehensive Planning for a Statewide Corrections Master Plan (page C-89) states: *“The Objective: This is a continuation program to prove a comprehensive basis and framework for the development and implementation of a broad range of in-community, community based and institutional treatment programs designed to rehabilitate the offender and reintegrate him into the community.*

*The rationale underlying this program’s effort is that the rehabilitation of the offender, consistently with the protection of the society, is the most meaningful objective of the corrections system; and that the most promising method of rehabilitating the offender is through in-community and community based treatment programs which facilitate the offender’s interaction with his community. While this rationale is not new, it has not been consistently pursued. A comprehensive corrections plan is being developed to assure more consistent and uniform development and implementation of corrections programs which will promote the rehabilitation and reintegration of the offender.”*

So this bill would bring OCCC full circle, so to speak. The Business Plan concludes: *“The new re-entry program in an existing facility, such as Module 19, could be initiated immediately and implemented in six months to a year. This program could act as a pilot program that would give the Department of Public Safety the opportunity to learn from the implementation to better prepare for a program expansion of similar re-entry programs on a larger scale (i.e. The Annex) in alternate locations (i.e. the stronger communities). As the cost savings from the program would be generated and the funds could be used to seed additional program services for re-entry programs such as increased elements of family reunification or educational services. CAP supports a pilot that would be a cooperative effort between Public Safety officials and community leaders. The joint effort and monitoring in the initial years of implementation will allow for a variety of opinions and ideas related to best practices. Cooperation and non-partisan support for the success of the program is critical.”*

CAP would like the public record to reflect our deep appreciation to each of the amazing students who worked so hard and dedicated so much time to develop a business plan that is researched, analyzed, and comparative to similar services. The A Team was: Eric Wong, MBA, Accountant; Jonathan Spiker, MBA, Research Analyst & Trading Assistant; Emily Kukulies, MBA, Director of Student Life and Development at HCC; Marina Berkovich, MBA and JD.

SB 540 will add the much-needed reentry component to the existing RDAP that Hawai`i already has and will save the state money. Community Alliance on Prisons urges the committee to pass this important bill. We will happily give the department the business plan. We are extremely grateful to the brilliant students who created a plan that can enhance public safety and preserve precious resources.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.



## SB540 RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY.

Establishes a state residential drug abuse program with an in-community component to help inmates' reentry into the community upon their release from prison. Expands number of transition beds in module nineteen at the Oahu community correctional center.

### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

Senator Will Espero, Chair

Senator Robert Bunda, Vice Chair

DATE: Thursday, February 5, 2009  
TIME: 1:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.  
PLACE: Conference Room 229

## **Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition (HSAC)**

Aloha, Chair Espero, Vice Chair Bunda and distinguished members. My name is Alan Johnson, Chairperson of the Hawaii Substance Abuse Coalition, which is a hui of 22 treatment agencies throughout the state.

### **HSAC supports SB540**

Residential drug abuse programs in prisons, referred to Therapeutic Communities (TC) are most effective when in alignment with evidenced-based-practices (EBP) as defined by research, especially as determined by the federal agencies National Institute for Drug Abuse (NIDA) and Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

### **A successful TC will develop a therapeutic trustful environment:**

- Cognitive and behavioral therapies are key EBP
- Address perceptual, emotional and social issues
- Treat the whole person by understanding that virtually every aspect of person's life is affected
- Involve community partnerships
- Establish rational authority by the way staff make, communicate and follow up on decisions such as fair applications of discipline and promotions, participation in activities, demonstrating respect, openness to confrontation and willingness to listen and learn.
- Addresses Recovery: Changes in thinking, feeling, values, behavior and self-identity to build or rebuild a new life
- Addresses Right Living: honesty in word and deed, responsible concern for others, work ethic and active and continuous learning

## **Living in a TC with people of all backgrounds promotes recovery and right living.**

- Staff Competency: Understanding the need for a belief system within the community that promotes self-help and mutual help as well as promoting upward mobility and privilege system.
- Embraces structured socialization: step-by-step process through which offenders learn pro-social behaviors and attitudes that allow them to become productive members of mainstream society
- Create a physical setting that allows offenders to disengage from previous lifestyle, attain positive affiliation, achieve self-discipline and reinforce recovery principles and right living as well as restrict access to provide security for residents.
- Promote health relationships, especially through positive role modeling by staff and senior residents that “act as if,” show responsible concern for others and assumes responsibility in leadership roles.

A diverse community results in offender’s self-knowledge, self-acceptance, knowledge of how common issues can outweigh differences, and promotes mutual self-help.

## **It is critical to understand the relationship between belonging and individuality. Cultural competency is primary.**

An appropriate TC will benefit offenders/residents by instilling personal growth and self-learning, increased status in peer community, develop leadership skills, facilitate identity change and increase self-esteem.

In a therapeutic environment, offenders will learn:

- Show compassion and responsible concern
- Confront reality
- Be honest
- Seek self-awareness
- Resolve issues and concerns

The purpose of work is to reveal and address residents’ attitudes, values, and emotional growth issues:

- Shape personal behavior
- Promote positive interpersonal relationships
- Create a sense of community
- Instill attitudes that promote right living
- Teach job skills

## **Measuring Outcomes is Essential**

Program Graduates demonstrate positive outcomes:

- Have remained alcohol and drug free
- Are employed or are in school or a training program
- Have resolved legal problems
- Have resolved most of their practical problems
- Accept that they need to continue to work on specific problem areas and on themselves in general
- May have a regular therapist
- Are attending AA or NA or some sort of self-help meetings regularly
- Have a firm commitment to continued abstinence

A successful TC will help offenders make fundamental changes in the way they live and perceive themselves through emotional healing, social relatedness and caring, and subjective learning of self-efficacy and self-esteem. According to research using best practices, TC treatment is effective. This is best exemplified when the offender, now resident, exclaims: “I am making progress and I see benefits.”

We appreciate the opportunity to provide information and are available for questions, if needed.



the  
**Drug Policy  
Forum**  
of hawai'i

February 5, 2009

To: Senator Will Espero, Chair  
Senator Robert Bunda, Vice Chair  
And Members of the Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

From: Jeanne Ohta, Executive Director

RE: SB 540 RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY  
Hearing: February 5, 2009, 1:15 p.m., Room 229

Position: Support

I am Jeanne Ohta, Executive Director of the Drug Policy Forum of Hawai'i. Thank you for this opportunity to testify in support of SB 540 which establishes a state residential drug abuse program with an in-community component to help inmates' reentry into the community upon their release from prison. Expands number of transition beds in module nineteen at the Oahu Community Correctional Center.

Since 1993 the Drug Policy Forum has been dedicated to safe, responsible, humane, and effective drug policies. Establishing effective drug treatment programs are more effective and less costly than incarceration; reduces recidivism and enhances public safety.

This proposed reentry program would be based on the Federal Residential Drug Abuse or Alcohol Reintegration Program that is a six-month follow up to their treatment program; which assists participants in making a successful transition from prison back into the community.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse in its guide "Principles of Drug Abuse Treatment for Criminal Justice Populations" says that "drug abuse treatment is cost effective in reducing drug use and bringing about associated healthcare, crime, and incarceration cost savings. Positive economic benefits are consistently found for drug abuse treatment across various setting and populations."

I urge the committee to pass SB 540, which would save the state money and would help stop the revolving doors of our prison system.

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COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS  
Sen. Will Espero, Chair  
Sen. Robert Bunda, Vice Chair  
Thursday, February 5, 2009  
1:15 PM in Room 229

**STRONG SUPPORT SB 540 - RELATING TO PUBLIC SAFETY  
(Residential Drug Abuse Program with Community Component)**

Aloha Chair Espero, Vice Chair Bunda and Members of the Committee!

My name is Carrie Ann Shirota and I offer my strong support for SB 540. As a former deputy public defender and staff member of a re-entry program in Hawai'i, I have had direct contact with the prison population and their families.

SB 540 establishes a state residential drug abuse program with an in-community component to help inmates' reentry into the community upon their release from prison. It would also expand the number of transition beds in module nineteen at the O'ahu community correctional center.

Recent findings from the Urban Institute on Substance Abuse and Reentry provide support for SB 540:

- A majority of prisoners have extensive substance abuse histories.
- Prisoners identify drug use as the primary cause of many of their past and current problems
- Despite high levels of drug use, relatively few prisoners receive drug treatment while incarcerated. In Hawai'i, a report commissioned by PSD indicated that less than 15% of all prisoners receive substance abuse treatment. *See Ten Year Corrections Master Plan Update.*
- Consensus in the field holds that individualized in-prison treatment in concert with community based aftercare can reduce substance use and dependency.
- Those with substance abuse use histories and those who engage in substance use after release are at a high risk to recidivate.

Given the challenges that substance abuse among former prisoners presents to successful re-entry, particularly upon release into the community, I strongly encourage you to pass SB 540!

Sincerely,

Carrie Ann Shirota, Esq.  
Wailuku, Hawai'i  
(808) 269-3858

# **Hepatitis Prevention, Education, Treatment & Support Network of Hawai'i**

## **Prisoner Reintegration and Family Reunification Program**

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February 5, 2009

### COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

Senator Will Espero, Chair

Senator Bunda, Vice-chair

Thursday, February 5, 2009

1:15 p.m.

Conference room 229

SB 540

Relating to Public Safety

SUPPORT

My name is Andy Botts, Director of The Hepatitis Network's Prisoner Reintegration Program, and author of Nightmare In Bangkok. I strongly support implementation of the reintegration phase of RDAP within Hawaii's correctional system. As an RDAP participant and graduate, I know from experience that it is an exceptional program which boasts a success rate of over 60%. That rate may be even greater for Hawaii's inmates considering the cultural differences that we have from the mainland US. The Federal Bureau of Prisons adapted RDAP from the early 1990's, and continues to expand due to its phenomenal success. Additionally, RDAP's time-off incentive is strategic as well as rewarding due to the fact that it isn't vested until a participant successfully completes the program. This serves as a tool to prevent former addicts from relapse for at least 6 months, which statistics show is when they are most vulnerable. Furthermore, community based prison programs are a cost-effective alternative to incarceration, and a common sense approach to reduce recidivism.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in this matter, it is of great importance to consider.

Andy Botts, Director

Prisoner reintegration program

Author, Nightmare In Bangkok

**From:** Mary Elizabeth [mailto:nugayou@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 04, 2009 8:08 AM  
**To:** PSM Testimony  
**Subject:** SB 540 Testimony

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS  
Sen. Will Espero, Chair  
Sen. Robert Bunda, Vice Chair  
Thursday, February 5, 2009  
1:15 PM  
Room 229  
Bill # SB 540, Relating to Public Safety  
SUPPORT

Passage of this bill would help to cut down on recidivism. It is difficult for inmates to emotionally adjust socially to the "outside" world. Their frustration in finding a job is much more difficult with their past record. If we can start this program, their self worth of being socially accepted in addition to having a job would greatly increase their chances of staying out of prison and relieving the state of paying for their care.

Just this month, an inmate was returned to Suagaru Correctional Center after being released less than six months ago. The cost of the plane fare alone for his trip to Hawaii and back to Suagaru is in the thousands I hear. Granted, there are some who are repeat offenders, but there are those who try earnestly, but without a support system, they fail in their attempt.

I ask for your support and passage of this bill.

Elaine Funakoshi

Franklyn Jackson  
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February 5, 2009

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

Senator Will Espero, Chair

Senator Bunda, Vice-chair

Thursday, February 5, 2009

1:15 p.m.

Conference room 229

SB 540

Relating to Public Safety

SUPPORT

My name is Franklyn Jackson, and I strongly support any and all alternatives to incarceration. RDAP is a federally proven program that has the lowest rate of recidivism in the nation. Most offenders have a history of drug and/or alcohol dependence, and this proposal specifically addresses the typical non-violent drug offender. They aren't true criminals in regards to crime being their livelihood. Crime was the means to get drugs to satisfy the crave. The best approach to prevent relapse and reduce recidivism is to use different approaches, and the reintegration phase of RDAP will reduce recidivism while saving my taxdollars.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in this matter.

Franklyn Jackson