

February 22, 2023

House Committee on Finance

Hearing Time: 02:30 p.m.

Location: State Capitol

Re: HB 1130 HD1, Relating to Corrections

Aloha e Chair Yamashita, and members of the Committee:

We are writing in **strong support of** HB 1130 HD1, Relating to Corrections.

This bill will appropriate moneys to the department of public safety to administer level I trauma-informed certification programs for adult corrections officers statewide.

The majority, if not all, of those in correctional facilities suffer from trauma of some sort. The people who interact with those in the facilities the most, the corrections officers, should have adequate training and be educated in safe and effective trauma-informed care. Trauma-informed trainings would greatly benefit the health and security of both the inmates and the officers.

Our collective, Opportunity Youth Action Hawaiʻi (OYAH), works to support young people under the age of 25 who are disconnected from school and work, referred to as “opportunity youth.” This developmental time period is extremely consequential to the individual growth and overall life chances of our children. **We support this measure.**

Opportunity Youth Action Hawaiʻi is a collaboration of organizations and individuals committed to reducing the harmful effects of a punitive incarceration system for youth; promoting equity in the justice system; and improving and increasing resources to address adolescent and young adult mental health needs. We seek to improve the continuity of programs and services for youth and young adults transitioning from minor to adult status; eliminate youth houselessness and housing market discrimination against young adults; and promote and fund more holistic and culturally-informed approaches among public/private agencies serving youth.

**Please support HB 1130 HD1.**