

3/13/23

House Committee on Judiciary

Hearing Time: 10:00 AM

Location: State Capitol

Re: SB 712 SD2 Relating to Corrections

Aloha Chair Hashem, Vice Chair Chun and members of the Committee:

We are writing in **strong** support of SV 712 SD2 relating to corrections;

This bill will appropriate funds for the trauma-informed certification program at Windward Community College for adult corrections officers.

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 on trauma-informed care.

Providing trauma-informed care training can further help to reduce retraumatizing vulnerable individuals and ensure a successful rehabilitation process. Ultimately, the training will provide a higher sense of safety and well-being for incarcerated individuals and staff.

The Opportunity Youth Action Hawaii Hui 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.

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