



DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
and
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
REPORT TO THE 2012 LEGISLATURE

ACT 240, Sessions Law of Hawaii
SERVICES FOR CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED PARENTS

December 2011

ACT 240

RELATING TO THE CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED PARENTS TASK FORCE

Act 240 calls for the Department of Public Safety (PSD) and the Department of Human Services (DHS) to re-establish the children of incarcerated parents task force previously established by Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 128 (2005) and Act 256, Session Laws of Hawaii 2006. The goal is to identify and develop programs and support services for children of incarcerated parents, as well as programs to strengthen the bond between the families.

During 2011, PSD and DHS was not able to effect substantial collaborative advancements in the re-establishment of the children of incarcerated parents task force. The economic exigencies (i.e. budget cuts and furloughs) created adverse challenges and circumstances for both Departments, which have resulted in further delays in achieving the goals related to this Act. The Act's provisions for the reimbursement of task force members' expenses (i.e. travel) necessary for the performance of their duties, and administrative, clerical, technical and professional support services from PSD to assist the task force were not viable during 2011. In addition, the number of designated Task Force members creates a logistic problem in achieving a quorum.