DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
REPORT TO THE 2017 LEGISLATURE

RESPONSE TO SECTION 353F-5
HAWAII REVISED STATUTES

Annual Report on the Corrections Population
Management Commission

December 2016
INTRODUCTION

This report has been prepared in compliance with Section 353 F5, Hawaii Revised Statutes. The Legislature enabled the creation of a commission to establish maximum inmate population limits for each correctional facility and to formulate policies and procedures to prevent the inmate population from exceeding the capacity of each correctional facility, known as the Corrections Population Management Commission, (hereinafter “the Commission” or “CPMC”). The CPMC was administratively attached to the Department of Public Safety (PSD), and its membership was amended in 2013. The Commission was tasked with:

[§353F-3] Recommendations. The commission shall recommend to the appropriate authorities, cost-effective mechanisms, legislation, and policies to prevent the inmate population from exceeding the limits established pursuant to section 353F-
2. These recommendations shall include estimates of fiscal impact. In addition, the commission shall consider and make recommendations on the following to the appropriate authorities:

(1) Strategies for the management of projected growth in the inmate population;
(2) Bail and other pretrial release programs;
(3) Legislation relating to sentencing;
(4) Judicial sentencing policies;
(5) Intermediate punishments and other alternatives to incarceration;
(6) Probation programs;
(7) Inmate classification systems;
(8) Reintegration and treatment programs for inmates;
(9) Paroling policies and supervision programs; and
(10) Future construction of correctional facilities. [L1993, c 343, pt of §2]

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The incoming Ige Administration had many new appointments to make, beginning with the Governor’s Cabinet, which required Senate consent. This process extended over the course of the 2015 Legislative session. The process of appointing board members and commissioners followed and is now completed except for one appointment, which was caused by the vacancy created when newly-appointed commissioner Fred Hyun was later appointed to be the chair of the Hawaii Paroling Authority.
New members of the CPMC are Senator Clarence Nishihara (replacing Senator Will Espero), Representative Gregg Takayama (replacing Representative Henry Aquino), First Circuit Court Judge Rom Trader (replacing retired Judge Steven Alm), and Sidney Nakamoto (replacing Probation Administrator Cheryl Marlow).

CPMC met twice in 2016 and achieved quorum on both dates. At the April 2016 meeting, the commission recommended to the Department that the population capacity of the Kulani Correctional Facility, reopened in July 2014, be raised from 160 to 200 since the facility’s capacity was increased during its occupation by Hawaii Youth Challenge beginning in 2009.

CPMC met again on September 19, 2016 and received presentations by consultants regarding the OCCC relocation project and the release of certain misdemeanants by Public Safety. No recommendations were made at this meeting.