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GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

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No. \_\_\_\_\_

December 27, 2018

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,  
President and Members of the Senate  
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki, Speaker  
and Members of the House of  
Representatives  
Twenty-Ninth State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 431  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

For your information and consideration, I am transmitting a copy of the **Correctional Industries Former Inmate Employment Pilot Project**, as required by Act 178, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018.

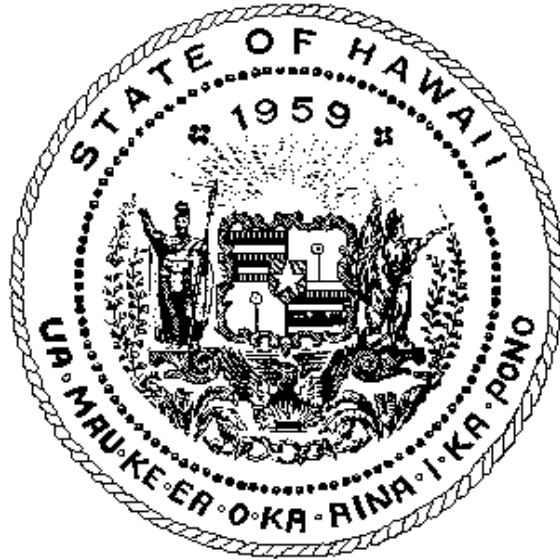
In accordance with Section 93-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, I am also informing you that the report may be viewed electronically at: <https://dps.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Correctional-Industries-Former-Inmate-Employment-Pilot-Project-Report.pdf>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nolan P. Espinda".

Nolan P. Espinda  
Director

Enclosures



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY  
REPORT TO THE 2019 LEGISLATURE**

**ACT 178, SESSION LAWS OF HAWAII 2018  
CORRECTIONAL INDUSTRIES FORMER INMATE  
EMPLOYMENT PILOT PROJECT**

**Department of Public Safety  
Hawaii Correctional Industries  
December 2018**

## **INTRODUCTION**

In 2018, the Twenty-Ninth Legislature passed House Bill 2454, House Draft 1, Senate Draft 1, Conference Draft 1 (Act 178) with the purpose of establishing a three-year pilot project, within the Department of Public Safety (PSD), Hawaii Correctional Industries (HCI) program, to provide full-time equivalent employment for up to five qualified former inmates, in order to enhance their skills development, including serving as peer mentors and role models for current inmate participants.

The pilot project is intended to:

- 1) Provide former inmates with an opportunity for career advancement and necessary training and job skills so they may become economically self-sufficient and productive members of society;
- 2) Provide for the safety of the former inmates, staff, and the community;
- 3) Be self-funded by the Hawaii Correctional Industries program;
- 4) Pay former inmates fair wages comparable to wages for similar work within the private sector; and
- 5) Serve the purposes of the HCI program pursuant to Section 354D-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Act 178 also requires PSD to evaluate the project annually and to submit a report of the project's effectiveness to the Legislature no later than 20 days prior to the convening of the Regular Sessions of 2019, 2020, and 2021, to include:

- 1) Findings as to whether the former inmates employed in the pilot project received fair and adequate wages, showed lower recidivism rates, and had reduced contact with the criminal justice system;
- 2) Findings as to whether the pilot project helped achieve the purposes of the HCI program pursuant to Section 354D-1, HRS; and
- 3) Any other data and analysis that PSD deems necessary.

## **PROGRESS**

Since the July 10, 2018 enactment, Hawaii Correctional Industries and PSD's Corrections Division have worked with other Departmental programs, such as Furlough and the Reentry Coordination Office, the Hawaii Paroling Authority, and community-based partners, to develop policies and procedures for implementing this innovative employment/mentoring project.

At the same time, HCI has been working to develop retail products and to seek potential retail space for use in the pilot project. Since the project began only six months ago and is not yet operational, the foregoing information is submitted as a preliminary Report to the Legislature, pursuant to Act 178, SLH 2018.