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GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
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No. _____

December 24, 2019

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

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

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

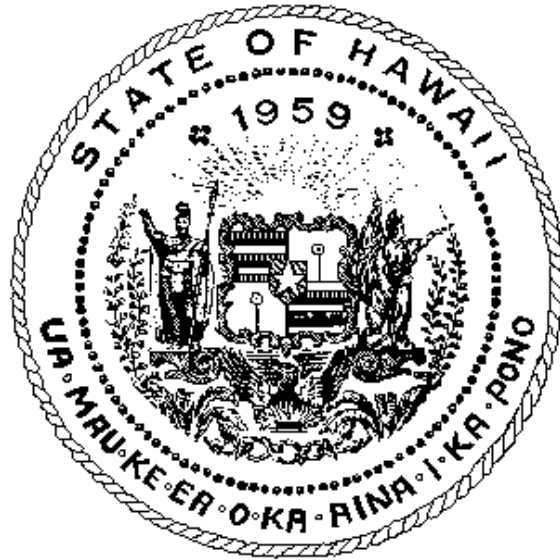
For your information and consideration, I am transmitting a copy of the **Hawaii Correctional Industries Former Inmate Employment Report on Pilot Project**, as required by Act 178, Session Laws of Hawaii 2018. In accordance with Section 93-16, Hawaii Revised Statutes, I am also informing you that the report may be viewed electronically at: [https://dps.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Hawaii Correctional Industries Report on Former Inmate Employment Pilot Project.pdf](https://dps.hawaii.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Hawaii-Correctional-Industries-Report-on-Former-Inmate-Employment-Pilot-Project.pdf).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nolan P. Espinda". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Nolan P. Espinda
Director

Enclosures



**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
REPORT TO THE 2020 LEGISLATURE**

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

**Department of Public Safety
Hawaii Correctional Industries
December 2019**

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 this time, HCI has no additional information to report.