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


Sincerely,

Nolan P. Espinda
Director

Enclosures
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
REPORT TO THE 2020 LEGISLATURE

IN RESPONSE TO HAWAII REVISED STATUTES 353-F2
CORRECTIONS POPULATION MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

December 2019
INTRODUCTION

In compliance with Section 353-5, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes and in accordance with Act 343, Session Laws of Hawaii 2013, the Legislature created the, "Corrections Population Management Commission" (hereinafter, “the Commission or “CPMC”), to be administratively attached to the Department of Public Safety (PSD) and tasked with establishing maximum offender population limits for each correctional facility. The CPMC is charged with formulating policies and procedures to prevent the offender population from exceeding the capacity of each correctional facility. The CPMC has been instructed to present to the Legislature, an annual report on their activities and recommended legislative proposals twenty (20) days prior to the convening of the regular session.

[§353F-3] Recommendations

Pursuant to Hawai‘i Revised Statute §353F-3, the CPMC shall recommend to the appropriate authorities, cost-effective mechanisms, legislation and policies to prevent the offender population from exceeding the limits established pursuant to Section 353F-2 and include estimates on the fiscal impact. In addition, the CPMC shall consider and make recommendations on the following:

(1) Strategies to manage the projected growth in the offender 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) Offender classification systems;
(8) Reintegration and treatment programs for offenders;
(9) Paroling policies and supervision programs; and
(10) Future construction of correctional facilities. [L1993, c 343, pt. of §2]

FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The December 2017 “Report to the 2018 Legislature” stated that there were no minutes generated in 2017, since all scheduled meetings failed to achieve quorum, precluding the conduct of business. The December 2018 “Report to the 2019 Legislature” stated that during the period from May 2017 to May 2018, the CPMC met only once, achieving quorum at a meeting on June 27, 2018. However, the minutes from the June 2018 meeting have not been approved nor posted to the PSD website, as no subsequent meeting achieved quorum. The problem of insufficient participation has persisted in 2019, likely due, in part, to one or more Commissioner vacancies.
Act 179, Session Laws of Hawaii 2019, created the Hawaii Correctional Oversight Commission to provide independent oversight of the state's correctional system. The law transfers all rights, powers, functions, and duties of both the CPMC and Reentry Commission to the Oversight Commission and sunsets both, effective January 1, 2020. As of that date, historical records of the CPMC will be available at:

http://dps.hawaii.gov/about/cpmc/