

Hawaii Women Inmates
Otter Creek Correctional Center
Corrections Corporation of America, Kentucky
P.O. Box 500
Wheelwright, Kentucky 41669

April 24, 2008

Senator Will Espero
Public Safety Committee
State Capitol
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Senator Espero,

We have been housed here in Kentucky since October, 2005. Early on, we had very unfortunate incidents happen regarding medical care and we were very vocal, screaming "mistreatment," alerting the news, our families, Kat Brady, really everyone and anyone who would listen. We believe that because of Sarah Ah Mau's death and our pleas for medical reform, we inadvertently fueled legislation to return all Hawaii women inmates housed out-of-state to the islands.

It is now April 2008 and so much has changed for the better. We attempted to explain our views to Representative Cindy Evans during her 2007 visit here at Otter Creek. Basically, we explained that women with shorter sentences or women who preferred to do their time in Hawaii should be given the *option* of doing so. Women with longer sentences or those who are seeking to "program" should be allowed to remain out-of-state, in this case, here in Kentucky, because the programs here are excellent and will produce highly employable individuals upon release.

The GED Program, under Principal Ms. Patty Rose, is well-staffed and since 2005, they have graduated on average, 20 Hawaiians a year.. Mr. Jerry Tackett supervises the Microsoft Office Specialist Program, which graduates nationally recognized certified MS Office operators. With so many in the community (and the world, for that matter) "going green," the Horticulture Department supervised by Mr. Jack Howard will graduate and certify individuals in this rapidly growing field. Mr. John Meade, supervisor and instructor for Construction Management certifies women in Tools for Success, Introduction to Crew Leading, Project Supervision and Project Management. Mr. Donald Hatfield, supervisor and instructor for the Carpentry Department graduates women who upon release will be eligible for apprenticeship in this field.

Chief of Security Tina Hodge, Warden III now oversees the Medical Unit, which in the past 2 years has taken strides in improving their health care services. We were seriously afraid of this department at one point, but they have since changed some of their personnel and modified procedures for the better.

Otter Creek also has a Residential Drug and Alcohol Program which has graduated and clinically discharged an average of 10-15 Hawaiians per each 9-month treatment program. Those who have graduated will attest to the success of this program, the recidivism rate is low amongst these graduates. The basis of RDAP's success (especially for the Hawaiians) is that for nine months, these women are separated from General Population, as well as being 5,000 miles away from the islands, they are completely out of their element and any temptations. By the time they graduate and are back in GP, they are more self-assured and confident about being clean and sober. By the time they return to Hawaii, they are emotionally stronger and can reasonably and cognitively deal with the temptation of "old haunts" and "friends.". These women will tell you that they are far more capable of reuniting with children and family, because they were given an opportunity to deal with themselves, first!

We have access to excellent religious and spiritual counseling. Chaplain Randy Hagan has set-up nightly church services of different denominations and an open religious materials library during the work week. Ms. Shonna Newsome is the supervisor of the law and leisure libraries, to which we have access Monday through Saturday.

As far as recreation is concerned, we have a well-stocked gym, organized sports (volleyball, softball), access to hobby and crafts materials, board games, cards, regular bingo games, step aerobics classes, exercise machines, a baseball field that doubles as a walking track, etc.. The beauty salon is also a part of the gym. We have Mr. Delmas Johnson and Mr. Jimmy Stumbo who both have exercised a whole lot of patience in keeping all these activities regular and ongoing. They have been instrumental in helping us keep our culture very much alive through regular hula practices and Kamehameha Day performances.

We are upon the 11th anniversary of the 1st group of 64 Hawaii women being "shipped" to Crystal City, Texas (May 1997), because of the overcrowding in the Hawaii prisons. It took much discussion and legislation at that time for the Governor to approve such a move; separating mothers from their children. At that time and for several years, the concept of mothers being housed so far away from their children was met with **very little public sympathy**. These women (we) have adapted and have grown accustomed to this manner of incarceration and really, we mature socially (perhaps it's because we must learn to live in other cultures) and return to Hawaii with a better chance of successful social integration.

Overall, this process of being housed out-of-state has evolved into a "way of life." Sadly and historically, the problem with overcrowding is that it will happen again.

What then? Do we spend more money getting housed at FDC, or will we need to re-introduce legislation AGAIN to look out-of-state?

Senator Espero, we are finding it very difficult to believe that there is current legislation that could undo previous legislation (1997) that is finally showing promise. Please do not let this happen. It does not seem feasible, especially of late, with the economy on the downslide. Please talk to your constituents and help get our message across. Since this is happening, the extra money can, instead, be used towards improvements at WCCC, the creation of furlough houses, or community-based housing, or more satellite time to "visit" with our families and friends.

Hawaii can and needs to be proud of the fact that it has developed a cost savings means of incarceration that is also producing women with a higher than high school level of education with a better chance of being contributing members of society.

We believe that whether we are to serve our time in Hawaii or out-of-state, should be a choice to those who have shorter sentences and are program compliant; and more or less mandatory for those with longer prison terms and/ or to those who need the programs offered in order to fulfill parole requirements. According to our most recent information, Hawaii pays CCA \$56.00 per head, per diem for each of us (approximately \$20,000 each per year); in Kentucky. All the previously mentioned programs are inclusive of the \$56.00. If we were to be brought back to Hawaii, housed at WCCC in Kailua, where access to programming is minimal and recreation or movement is "controlled", it would cost the state somewhere between \$100 to \$120 per inmate, per diem (approximately \$41,000 each per year). The other option for housing in Hawaii would be the Federal Detention Center, where it would cost \$80 per head, per diem, not including ANY programming (approximately \$29,000 each per year). It is not cost effective to house us all in Hawaii.

Senator Espero, we are asking you to please support us in our plea to keep at least a fixed amount of Hawaii women here in the states (100-120). We realize there will be less that 2 weeks before this legislative session is over and we are scrambling to persuade you and your constituents to change your platform before it's over.

The undersigned are the majority of women housed here in Kentucky. We are all in agreement that Hawaii should house women inmates in Kentucky for programming and long-term sentences.

	Print Name and DOC No.	Signature
1.	Rosalind Torres # A0203683	Rosalind Torres
2.	MONICA VANE PERACTO A0739128	Monica Peracto
3.	JENNIFER EDWARDS A1026258	Jennifer Edwards
4.	TUFONO FALE A1034640	Tufono Fa'ale

5.	Kimberly TAKATA	K. Takata
6.	CATHERINE SAMUEL A10143285	Catherine Samuel
7.	Lisa Ann Avilla	Lisa Ann Avilla
8.	Donna Sniffen	Donna Sniffen
9.	Regina Smith	Regina Smith
10.	Penelope Fammuria	Penelope Fammuria
11.	TIFFANY KAHALEHOE	Tiffany Kahalehoe
12.	Shantel Kea	Shantel Kea
13.	ARNETTE MORRIS	Arnette Morris
14.	KANDIS YAP	Kandis Yap
15.	Ruta Tupua	Ruta Tupua
16.	ULULANI WYNN	Ululani Wynn
17.	Levon Kahoe	L. Kahoe
18.	ELONA KENALILI	
19.	LAINALU REGHI	Lainalau Reghi
20.	Kakuaonalani Montevon	Kakuaonalani Montevon
21.	MAECELE KAWAHI	Macelele Kawaii
22.	Maggie Rodrigues A5013426	Maggie Rodrigues
23.	Kimberly Kim	Kimberly Kim
24.	CONNIE ARAGONA/A1049738	Connie Aragona
25.	Delphine T. Abbott / A1048173	Delphine T. Abbott
26.	MICHELLE PADILLA #A1025537	Michelle Padilla
27.	DANDA U. AILA A1012023	Danda U. Aila
28.	LARIK SAYERS A0198529	SAYERS, L.
29.	JAMILA WEAVER #A1058150	J. Weaver
30.	PULANI DUMING A1047678	P. D. D.
31.	LIEN THI WILLIAMS A0208697	L. Williams
32.	THAO-T NGUYEN. A0137486	Thao Nguyen
33.	Kellie Holborn A1066565	Kellie Holborn

34.	VANESSA PHILLIPS	VANESSA PHILLIPS A100165
35.	MANOURREEN KALIKINA	M. Kalikina A5006175
36.	JUANITA DAVIS	Juanita Davis A1053475
37.	EMMANUEL STEVENS	Emmanuel Stevens A4013763
38.	NICHELLE HOLTON	Nichelle Holton A0212738
39.	CHRIS NAWALI	Chris Nawali A0262392
40.	Lisa Lee A0151328	Lisa Lee
41.	STEPHAN TUFU A0186402	Stephan Tufu
42.	WAYLENE PAMUI A1023326	Waylene Pamui
43.	CAROLINE MONIZ A3000537	Carolee Muz A3000337
44.	ROWENA ROBINSON A0121600	R
45.	ALJOE STANLEY A0764359	Alejo Stanley A0764359
46.	HAUNANI KANOA A5005449	Haunani Kanoa A5005449
47.	JESSICA CALVES A3006723	Jessica Calves A3006723
48.	ERDINE QUINTAL A9007011	Erdine Quintal A9007011
49.	DAISY TUMAI A1038132	Daisy Tuma A1038132
50.	DARLENE PEREZ A5000457	Darlene Perez A5000457
51.	IDA MORE	IDA MORE A0089411
52.	MARY ANNE KAMUHA A0701605	Mary Anne Kamue
53.	JEAN L. MOONEY A0217245	Jean L. Mooney
54.	TISHA M. THOMPSON A1019852	Tisha Thompson
55.	SHERRICE C. WAIWAIDE A0739204	Sherrice C. Waiwade
56.	WAIOLA TINAO A4016549	Waola Tinao
57.	HAZEL PAULINO A0718294	Hazel Paulino
58.	CELESTE HEMMA #A1053155	Celeste Hemma
59.	HOLLIE SURATT A0723528	Hollie Suratt
60.	MARILYN PREM A0725623	Marilyn Prem
61.	ANGELIQUE FODDLE	ANGELIQUE FODDLE A0256480
62.	EVAN SIBES A0261580	E. Sibes

	Tioni Teixeira A1017260	Lioni Leimu
63.	Darnell Maluyo A105790	DARNELL MALUYO
64.	Pumehana Kido A105870	Pumehana Kido
65.	Bernadette K.G. Hatori A1044123	Bernadette K.G. Hatori
66.	Jamie Colett A077632	Jamie Colett
67.	Cynthia Shea A0259561	CYNTHIA SHEA
68.	DONNA LOND A1059029	Donna Lond
69.	WENDY Kuci Canon	Wendy K. Canon
70.	VANESSA A. WILLIAMS A0238293	Vanessa A. Williams
71.	Donna Manacle	Donna Manacle
72.	Stephanie Kama	Stephanie Kama
73.	FLANDERS, CAROLYN	Carolyn Flanders
74.	Allison Auna	Allison Auna
75.	Teena Kahela	Teena Kahela

Cc: Senate President Colleen Hanabusa
 Marcus Oshiro, Senate Finance
 Chairman Roz Baker, Ways and Means Committee
 House President Mr. Calvin Say
 Representative Cynthia Evans, Public Safety Committee
 Kat Brady, Inmate Advocate
 Clayton Frank, Director of Public Safety, Hawaii
 Shari Kimoto, Mainland Branch Director, DPS
 Howard Komori, Contract Monitor, Hawaii DPS
 Governor Linda Lingle, Hawaii
 Lt. Governor James "Duke" Aiona
 Warden Patterson; Women's Community Correctional Center, Hawaii
 Warden Jeff Little; Otter Creek Correctional Center, Kentucky
 Kevin Dayton, Honolulu Advertiser, Big Island Bureau Chief
 ACLU of Hawaii

	No.	SIGNATURE
76.	SUSAN FODOR A0761417	
77.	Crystal Abad A1024839	Crystal Abad
78.	Raquel C. Bracamonte A5016076	Raquel Bracamonte
79.	LORILEI BROWN A5001890	Lorilei K. Brown
80.	Paula Beers A0249067	Paula J. B.
81.	Kumpualohua Stanley A0764861	Kumpualohua Stanley
82.	Marissa C. Morton A0216984	Marissa Morton
83.	Keanu Lapilo A1016795	Keanu Lapilo
84.	Moana Kalukini A1004003	Moana Kalukini
85.	JAYNE ORAVEC A0203925	Jayne Orave
86.	Tajsha Bidasha A4000110	Tajsha Bidasha
87.	MIAMI RACE A0094942	Miami Race
88.	Darnell Feliziano A0596800	Darnell Feliziano
89.	CAROLINE BREWER A1052236	Caroline Brewer
90.	Lebrina FIAAH A0148002	Lebrina Fiaah
91.	Faith M. Nelson A3002703	FAITH NELSON
92.	TAMMY NAKASONE A0265093	Tammy Nakasone
93.	Raenette Ebright A1065638	Raenette Ebright
94.	DELLAH Yap A4006919	Dellah Yap
95.		
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99.		
100.		