

JAN 22 2007

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO THE PENAL CODE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Protect Victims
2 of Domestic Violence Act."

3 SECTION 2. Section 707-701, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by amending subsection (1) to read as follows:

5 "(1) A person commits the offense of murder in the first
6 degree if the person intentionally or knowingly causes the death
7 of:

8 (a) More than one person in the same or separate incident;

9 (b) A law enforcement officer, judge, or prosecutor
10 arising out of the performance of official duties;

11 (c) A person known by the defendant to be a witness in a
12 criminal prosecution and the killing is related to the
13 person's status as a witness;

14 (d) A person by a hired killer, in which event both the
15 person hired and the person responsible for hiring the
16 killer shall be punished under this section; [~~or~~]

17 (e) A person while the defendant was imprisoned[~~-~~];

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(f) A person who the defendant has been restrained, by order of any court, including an ex parte order, from contacting, threatening, or physically abusing pursuant to chapter 586;

or

(g) A person who is being protected by a police officer ordering the defendant to leave the premises of that protected person pursuant to section 709-906(4), during the effective period of that order."

SECTION 3. Section 707-701.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (1) to read as follows:

"(1) A person commits the offense of murder in the second degree if:

(a) Except as provided in section 707-701, [a person commits the offense of murder in the second degree if] the person intentionally or knowingly causes the death of another person[-]; or

(b) The person recklessly causes the death of:

(i) A person who the defendant has been restrained, by order of any court, including an ex parte order, from contacting, threatening, or

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1 physically abusing pursuant to chapter 586; or
2 (ii) A person who is being protected by a police
3 officer ordering the defendant to leave the
4 premises of that protected person pursuant to
5 section 709-906(4), during the effective period
6 of that order."

7 SECTION 4. Section 707-711, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended by amending subsection (1) to read as follows:

9 "(1) A person commits the offense of assault in the second
10 degree if:

- 11 (a) The person intentionally or knowingly causes
12 substantial bodily injury to another;
- 13 (b) The person recklessly causes serious or substantial
14 bodily injury to another person;
- 15 (c) The person intentionally or knowingly causes bodily
16 injury to a correctional worker, as defined in section
17 710-1031(2), who is engaged in the performance of duty
18 or who is within a correctional facility;
- 19 (d) The person intentionally or knowingly causes bodily
20 injury to another person with a dangerous instrument;
- 21 [~~e~~]

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1 (e) The person intentionally or knowingly causes bodily
2 injury to an educational worker who is engaged in the
3 performance of duty or who is within an educational
4 facility. For the purposes of this paragraph,
5 "educational worker" means: any administrator,
6 specialist, counselor, teacher, or employee of the
7 department of education [+]or [+] an employee of a
8 charter school; a person who is a volunteer in a
9 school program, activity, or function that is
10 established, sanctioned, or approved by the department
11 of education; or a person hired by the department of
12 education on a contractual basis and engaged in
13 carrying out an educational function[-]; or

14 (f) The person intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly
15 causes bodily injury to:

16 (i) A person who the defendant has been restrained,
17 by order of any court, including an ex parte
18 order, from contacting, threatening, or
19 physically abusing pursuant to chapter 586; or

20 (ii) A person who is being protected by a police
21 officer ordering the defendant to leave the
22 premises of that protected person pursuant to

1 section 709-906(4), during the effective period
2 of that order."

3 SECTION 5. Section 707-716 Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4 amended by amending subsection (1) to read as follows:

5 "(1) A person commits the offense of terroristic
6 threatening in the first degree if the person commits
7 terroristic threatening:

8 (a) By threatening another person on more than one
9 occasion for the same or a similar purpose;

10 (b) By threats made in a common scheme against different
11 persons;

12 (c) Against a public servant arising out of the
13 performance of the public servant's official duties.
14 For the purposes of this paragraph, "public servant"
15 includes but is not limited to an educational worker.
16 "Educational worker" has the same meaning as defined
17 in section 707-711; [~~or~~]

18 (d) With the use of a dangerous instrument [-]; or

19 (e) By threatening:

20 (i) A person who the defendant has been restrained,
21 by order of any court, including an ex parte
22 order, from contacting, threatening, or

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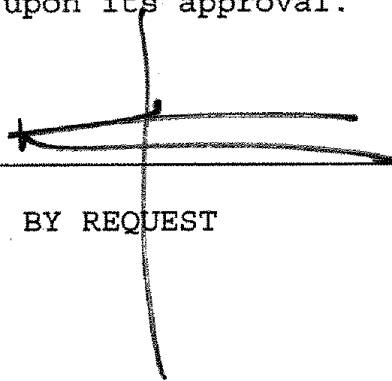
1 physically abusing pursuant to chapter 586; or
2 (ii) A person who is being protected by a police
3 officer ordering the defendant to leave the
4 premises of that protected person pursuant to
5 section 709-906(4), during the effective period
6 of that order."

7 SECTION 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
8 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

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INTRODUCED BY: _____

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BY REQUEST

JUSTIFICATION SHEET

DEPARTMENT: Attorney General

TITLE: A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO THE PENAL CODE.

PURPOSE: To provide greater protections to victims of domestic violence who the court is already attempting to keep safe through protective orders.

MEANS: Amend sections 707-701(1), 707-701.5(1), 707-711(1), and 707-716(1), Hawaii Revised Statutes.

JUSTIFICATION: Victims of domestic violence often endure extended periods of mental abuse, intimidation, harassment, terrorization, and physical violence before they reach out for help. It can take a great deal of courage, strength and desperation to seek the help of the police, the court system, and others. And often, even with intervention by the police and judges, the abuse and violence do not end. Current laws do not provide adequate deterrent. This bill is intended to do that.

This bill, the "Protect Victims of Domestic Violence Act," amends the offenses of Murder in the First Degree, Murder in the Second Degree, Assault in the Second Degree, and Terroristic Threatening in the First Degree to include conduct committed against victims who the courts and police are attempting to keep safe with protective orders. It makes clear that crimes against these victims are very serious. It is intended to provide a greater deterrent to such violence against a particularly vulnerable class of victims in a high risk situation. When these victims cry for help, they should be able to get the protection that they are seeking and be safe from their abusers.

Impact on the public: Victims of domestic violence are more likely to seek help from the police and the courts and actually get that help, if the abusers are deterred from violating protective orders for fear of harsh criminal prosecution.

Impact on the department and other agencies: Hopefully, more victims seeking protection of the police and courts; and there will be fewer crimes of domestic violence against those victims.

GENERAL FUND: None.

OTHER FUNDS: None.

PPBS PROGRAM
DESIGNATION: None.

OTHER AFFECTED
AGENCIES: None.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon approval.