
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SENTENCING OF REPEAT OFFENDERS.

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

1 SECTION 1. Insurance fraud is reported to cost every
2 United States household an average of \$500 per year. In Hawaii,
3 the cost of motor vehicle insurance fraud alone has been
4 estimated to be over \$164 annually per household. In
5 recognition of the impact that fraud has on the cost of motor
6 vehicle insurance, Act 251, Session Laws of Hawaii 1997, was
7 enacted to establish an insurance fraud investigations unit, and
8 motor vehicle insurance fraud violations and penalties. Act 155
9 and Act 275, Session Laws of Hawaii 1998, were enacted the
10 following year to clarify the penalties for the offense of motor
11 vehicle insurance fraud and enhance and clarify the powers and
12 purpose of the insurance fraud investigations unit to combat
13 motor vehicle insurance fraud.

14 Insurance fraud also has increasingly affected costs within
15 the health insurance industry. Industry healthcare fraud losses
16 are estimated to be as much as fourteen per cent of the
17 \$1,200,000,000,000 in annual national healthcare costs. This is
18 equivalent to approximately \$36,000,000,000 to \$144,000,000,000



1 annually. In Hawaii, based on the conservative estimate that
2 insurance fraud amounts to three per cent of annual Hawaii
3 healthcare costs, health insurance fraud causes losses that
4 exceed \$60,000,000 annually. Because insurance fraud is a
5 growing problem in the area of health insurance, the legislature
6 enacted health insurance fraud provisions in Act 125, Session
7 Laws of Hawaii 2003. Similar fraud provisions are in place for
8 workers' compensation insurance.

9 Nationally, many repeat offender criminals and organized
10 crime entities are now engaging in various insurance fraud
11 schemes as a way to generate quick and safe money to fund other
12 criminal endeavors. More and more criminals are turning to
13 white collar crime such as insurance fraud and identity theft as
14 a way of defrauding and stealing from both the government and
15 the general public.

16 In Hawaii, insurance fraud is not listed as one of the
17 class C felony crimes that is covered as one of the repeat
18 offender offenses. Knowing that many criminals and criminal
19 entities utilize insurance fraud as a way to fund often more
20 dangerous or violent crimes and that many white collar criminals
21 see this as a crime where the punishment is minimal, action
22 should be taken to toughen the penalties for those who engage in



1 repeated attempts to commit insurance fraud.

2 The purpose of this Act is to amend the sentencing of
3 repeat offenders to include the insurance fraud penalty
4 provisions located in chapters 386, 431, 432, and 432D, Hawaii
5 Revised Statutes.

6 SECTION 2. Section 706-606.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
7 amended by amending subsection (1) to read as follows:

8 "(1) Notwithstanding section 706-669 and any other law to
9 the contrary, any person convicted of murder in the second
10 degree, any class A felony, any class B felony, or any of the
11 following class C felonies: section 188-23 relating to
12 possession or use of explosives, electrofishing devices, and
13 poisonous substances in state waters; section 386-98(d)(1)
14 relating to fraud violations and penalties; section
15 431:10A-131(b)(2) relating to insurance fraud; section
16 431:10C-307.7(b)(2) relating to insurance fraud; section
17 432:1-106 relating to insurance fraud; section 432D-18.5(b)(2)
18 relating to insurance fraud; section 707-703 relating to
19 negligent homicide in the second degree; section 707-711
20 relating to assault in the second degree; section 707-713
21 relating to reckless endangering in the first degree; section
22 707-716 relating to terroristic threatening in the first degree;



1 section 707-721 relating to unlawful imprisonment in the first
2 degree; section 707-732 relating to sexual assault or rape in
3 the third degree; section 707-752 relating to promoting child
4 abuse in the third degree; section 707-757 relating to
5 electronic enticement of a child in the second degree; section
6 707-766 relating to extortion in the second degree; section
7 708-811 relating to burglary in the second degree; section
8 708-821 relating to criminal property damage in the second
9 degree; section 708-831 relating to theft in the first degree as
10 amended by Act 68, Session Laws of Hawaii 1981; section 708-831
11 relating to theft in the second degree; section 708-835.5
12 relating to theft of livestock; section 708-836 relating to
13 unauthorized control of propelled vehicle; [+]section[+]
14 708-839.8 relating to identity theft in the third degree;
15 [-]section[-] 708-839.55 relating to unauthorized possession of
16 confidential personal information; section 708-852 relating to
17 forgery in the second degree; section 708-854 relating to
18 criminal possession of a forgery device; section 708-875
19 relating to trademark counterfeiting; section 710-1071 relating
20 to intimidating a witness; section 711-1103 relating to riot;
21 section 712-1203 relating to promoting prostitution in the
22 second degree; section 712-1221 relating to gambling in the



1 first degree; section 712-1224 relating to possession of
2 gambling records in the first degree; section 712-1243 relating
3 to promoting a dangerous drug in the third degree; section
4 712-1247 relating to promoting a detrimental drug in the first
5 degree; section 134-7 relating to ownership or possession of
6 firearms or ammunition by persons convicted of certain crimes;
7 section 134-8 relating to ownership, etc., of prohibited
8 weapons; section 134-9 relating to permits to carry, or who is
9 convicted of attempting to commit murder in the second degree,
10 any class A felony, any class B felony, or any of the class C
11 felony offenses enumerated above and who has a prior conviction
12 or prior convictions for the following felonies, including an
13 attempt to commit the same: murder, murder in the first or
14 second degree, a class A felony, a class B felony, any of the
15 class C felony offenses enumerated above, or any felony
16 conviction of another jurisdiction, shall be sentenced to a
17 mandatory minimum period of imprisonment without possibility of
18 parole during such period as follows:

19 (a) One prior felony conviction:

20 (i) Where the instant conviction is for murder in the
21 second degree or attempted murder in the second
22 degree—ten years;



- 1 (ii) Where the instant conviction is for a class A
- 2 felony—six years, eight months;
- 3 (iii) Where the instant conviction is for a class B
- 4 felony—three years, four months;
- 5 (iv) Where the instant conviction is for a class C
- 6 felony offense enumerated above—one year, eight
- 7 months;
- 8 (b) Two prior felony convictions:
- 9 (i) Where the instant conviction is for murder in the
- 10 second degree or attempted murder in the second
- 11 degree—twenty years;
- 12 (ii) Where the instant conviction is for a class A
- 13 felony—thirteen years, four months;
- 14 (iii) Where the instant conviction is for a class B
- 15 felony—six years, eight months;
- 16 (iv) Where the instant conviction is for a class C
- 17 felony offense enumerated above—three years, four
- 18 months;
- 19 (c) Three or more prior felony convictions:
- 20 (i) Where the instant conviction is for murder in the
- 21 second degree or attempted murder in the second
- 22 degree—thirty years;



1 (ii) Where the instant conviction is for a class A
2 felony—twenty years;

3 (iii) Where the instant conviction is for a class B
4 felony—ten years;

5 (iv) Where the instant conviction is for a class C
6 felony offense enumerated above—five years."

7 SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
8 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

9 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.



Report Title:

Increased Sentencing

Description:

Specifies that any person committing felony insurance fraud in motor vehicle insurance, private health insurance, mutual benefit health insurance, health maintenance organization health insurance, and worker's compensation insurance lines will be subject to repeat offender increased sentencing guidelines if that person has a previous conviction for the crime of felony insurance fraud. (SD1)

