

JAN 24 2007

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SEXUAL ABUSE.

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

1 SECTION 1. In Hawaii, hundreds of children are sexually
2 abused. These cases are often the most difficult cases to
3 manage and sexually abused children have the most difficult time
4 accessing services and treatment. A critical function of victim
5 advocacy is to ensure that crime victims and supportive family
6 members receive the support and intervention they need to remedy
7 the effects of crime. Victims and supportive family members who
8 receive appropriate support are better able to cooperate with
9 the criminal justice system, which enables the system to do its
10 job more effectively and efficiently. In addition, child sexual
11 abuse is a crime that frequently results in serious long-term
12 mental health problems for victims and their families. The
13 legislature finds that providing treatment services for child
14 victims of sexual abuse is crucial in ameliorating these mental
15 health problems. Therefore, helping child sexual abuse victims
16 receive the mental health treatment they need is an important



1 component of victim advocacy and benefits both the children and
2 their families.

3 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds for
4 treatment services for child victims of intrafamilial sexual
5 abuse and sexually reactive children who are not covered under
6 the child protective services system of the department of human
7 services. These services include, but are not limited to,
8 psychological treatment and case management services for child
9 victims and their families.

10 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
11 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$208,000, or so much
12 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2007-2008, and the
13 same sum, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year
14 2008-2009, to provide treatment services for child victims of
15 intrafamilial sexual abuse and sexually reactive children who
16 are not covered under the child protective services system of
17 the department of human services, including, but not limited to,
18 psychological treatment and case management services.

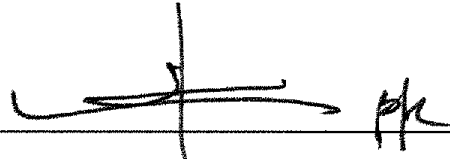
19 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the judiciary
20 via the children's justice center in accordance with chapter
21 103F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for the purposes of this Act.



1 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

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INTRODUCED BY:


Joanne Chin Oakland



Report Title:

Sexual Abuse; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds to provide treatment services for child victims of sexual abuse, including psychological treatment and case management services for child victims and their families.

