
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that data reporting of
2 domestic violence crime has not been well-documented, especially
3 for situations where the offense is not termed "domestic
4 violence," yet the cause of the wrongdoing is rooted in domestic
5 violence. The woefully few statistics that are available to
6 document and describe the occurrences of domestic violence
7 creates an obstacle for law enforcement and lawmakers who seek
8 to address the issues and take appropriate preventive measures.

9 At the law enforcement level, the identification of
10 criminal acts among household or family members by the use of a
11 domestic violence-specific tag or code would be an invaluable
12 step to achieve an understanding of the breadth of domestic
13 violence in the State. To be effective, it is imperative that
14 the identification of domestic violence acts not be limited to
15 the statute that prohibits abuse between family or household
16 members, section 709-906, Hawaii Revised Statutes. After



1 incidents are identified as domestic violence-related, data
2 compilation and analysis can be conducted.

3 The purpose of this Act is to:

4 (1) Require the use of a domestic violence identification
5 code on all incident and arrest reports where an
6 offense was committed or attempted between family or
7 household members; and

8 (2) Require the reporting of the coded information.

9 SECTION 2. Chapter 846, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated
11 and to read as follows:

12 "§846- Identification and reporting of incidents of
13 domestic violence. (a) Beginning on July 1, 2017, the chiefs
14 of police of the counties of the State and agencies of state and
15 county governments having power of arrest shall use a domestic
16 violence identification code or other measurable indicator, as
17 defined by the department of the attorney general, on all
18 incident reports and arrest reports to denote any instance where
19 a crime was committed or attempted between family or household
20 members. The department of the attorney general, after
21 consultation with law enforcement agencies and county



1 prosecutors, shall determine which crimes are to be identified
2 as domestic violence crimes for purposes of this section.

3 (b) Statistical information of all instances of domestic
4 violence identified by the chiefs of police or agencies that
5 occurred within the month shall be reported to the attorney
6 general within thirty days after the last day of the month
7 beginning with the report for the month of July 2017. The
8 information shall be reported in the manner and form prescribed
9 by the attorney general.

10 The attorney general may audit the reporting entities to
11 determine the accuracy of the reports and other information
12 required by this subsection.

13 (c) The entities required to report under this section
14 shall make the statistical information available to the public
15 and post the information on their respective websites.

16 (d) As used in this section, "family or household members"
17 shall have the same meaning as in section 709-906."

18 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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



Report Title:

Domestic Violence; Statistical Reporting

Description:

Requires recording of a domestic violence identification code on all arrest and incident reports of law enforcement contacts involving an offense between family members. Requires monthly statistical reports to the Attorney General and to the public. (HB2493 HD1)

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