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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SEARCH WARRANTS.

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

1           SECTION 1. Section 803-31, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended to read as follows:  
3           "§803-31 Search warrant; defined. A search warrant is an  
4 order in writing made by a judge or other magistrate, directed  
5 to an officer of justice, commanding the officer to search for  
6 certain articles supposed to be in the possession of, or [~~which~~  
7 ~~are~~] anticipated to be in the possession of, one who is charged  
8 with having obtained them illegally, or who keeps them  
9 illegally, or with the intent of using them as the means of  
10 committing a certain offense. A search warrant may identify an  
11 individual or entity authorized pursuant to section 803-37 to  
12 provide technical assistance to the officer."

13           SECTION 2. Section 803-34, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
14 amended to read as follows:  
15           "§803-34 Contents. The warrant shall be in writing,  
16 signed by the judge or magistrate, with the judge's or  
17 magistrate's official designation, directed to [~~some~~] a sheriff



1 or other officer of justice, and commanding the sheriff or other  
 2 officer to search for and bring before the judge or  
 3 magistrate[~~7~~] the property or articles specified in the  
 4 affidavit, to be disposed of according to justice, and also to  
 5 bring before the judge or magistrate for examination the person  
 6 in whose possession the property or articles may be found. The  
 7 warrant shall identify any individual or entity authorized  
 8 pursuant to section 803-37 to provide technical assistance to  
 9 the sheriff or officer."

10 SECTION 3. Section 803-35, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
 11 amended to read as follows:

12 "§803-35 Deputies or police officers may serve. If the  
 13 search warrant is directed to a sheriff or chief of police, it  
 14 may be executed by the sheriff or chief of police or any of the  
 15 sheriff's deputies or [~~chief's deputies.~~] the chief's police  
 16 officers. An individual or entity authorized pursuant to  
 17 section 803-37 to provide technical assistance may assist a  
 18 deputy or police officer."

19 SECTION 4. Section 803-37, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
 20 amended to read as follows:



1           "§803-37 Power of officer serving. The officer charged  
2 with the warrant, if a house, store, or other building is  
3 designated as the place to be searched, may enter it without  
4 demanding permission if the officer finds it open. If the doors  
5 are shut, the officer [~~must~~] shall declare the officer's office  
6 and the officer's business[~~7~~] and demand entrance. If the  
7 doors, gates, or other bars to the entrance are not immediately  
8 opened, the officer may break them. When entered, the officer  
9 may demand that any other part of the house, or any closet[~~7~~] or  
10 other closed place in which the officer has reason to believe  
11 the property is concealed, may be opened for the officer's  
12 inspection, and if refused the officer may break them. If an  
13 electronic device or storage media is designated as the item to  
14 be searched, the court may authorize the officer to obtain  
15 technical assistance from individuals or entities, located  
16 within or outside the State, in the examination of the item;  
17 provided that the officer shall submit a sworn statement to the  
18 judge or magistrate, certifying the reliability and  
19 qualifications of the individuals or entities and the reason  
20 their assistance is necessary; provided further that no



1 individual or entity shall be compelled to provide technical  
2 assistance without their consent."

3 SECTION 5. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
4 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
5 begun before its effective date.

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

8 SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

Honolulu Prosecuting Attorney Package; Search Warrants;  
Technical Assistance

**Description:**

Allows courts to authorize a qualified person or entity other than a sheriff deputy or an officer to provide technical assistance to the deputy sheriff or officer in examining an electronic device or storage media that is the subject of a search warrant. (SB488 HD1)

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