

[CHAPTER 489N]
INTERNATIONAL MATCHMAKING ORGANIZATIONS

Section

- 489N-1 Definitions
- 489N-2 Dissemination of criminal record and marital history
information
- 489N-3 Jurisdiction
- 489N-4 Penalties
- 489N-5 Other relief available

" **§489N-1 Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

"Hawaii resident" includes aliens lawfully admitted for permanent residence and residing in Hawaii.

"International matchmaking organization" means a corporation, partnership, or other legal entity, whether or not organized under the laws of the United States or any state, that does business in the United States and for profit offers to residents of this State, dating, matrimonial, or social referral services involving citizens of a foreign country or countries who are not residing in the United States, by:

- (1) An exchange of names, telephone numbers, addresses, or statistics;
- (2) Selection of photographs; or
- (3) A social environment provided by the organization in a country other than the United States.

"Marital history information" means a declaration of a Hawaii resident's current marital status, the number of times the Hawaii resident has previously been married, the number of domestic abuse orders of protection issued against the Hawaii resident, and whether any previous marriages by the Hawaii resident occurred as a result of receiving services from an international matchmaking organization.

"Recruit" means a noncitizen, nonresident person, recruited by an international matchmaking organization for the purpose of providing dating, matrimonial, or social referral services. [L 2003, c 149, pt of §1; am L 2006, c 74, §1]

" **§489N-2 Dissemination of criminal record and marital history information.** (a) Each international matchmaking organization doing business in this State shall:

- (1) Notify all recruits that criminal history record information and marital history information is available upon request;
- (2) Provide the notice required by paragraph (1) in the recruit's native language and display it in a manner that separates it from other information, is conspicuous, and in lettering not less than one-quarter of an inch high;
- (3) Upon request, disseminate to a recruit in the recruit's native language all criminal conviction information and marital history information in the possession of the international matchmaking organization relating to a Hawaii resident about whom any information is provided to the recruit;
- (4) Require a Hawaii resident requesting the services of an international matchmaking organization to submit or authorize the international matchmaking organization

access to the resident's complete criminal history and marital history information; and

(5) Submit an annual report on its business activities to the department of commerce and consumer affairs.

(b) Upon receipt of a request for criminal conviction or marital history information from a recruit, an international matchmaking organization shall refrain from providing any further services to the recruit or the Hawaii resident with regard to facilitating future interaction between the recruit and the Hawaii resident until the Hawaii resident has submitted to the organization:

(1) The complete transcript of any criminal history record of the Hawaii resident or a statement that there is no record of convictions; provided that these are obtained from the Hawaii criminal justice data center based on a submission of fingerprint impressions and sent directly to the organization by the Hawaii criminal justice data center; and

(2) The Hawaii resident's marital history information, accompanied by an affirmation by the Hawaii resident that any marital history information provided is complete and accurate and includes information regarding the Hawaii resident's marriages, annulments, dissolutions, and the number of domestic abuse orders of protection issued against the Hawaii resident that occurred in this State or in any other state or country. [L 2003, c 149, pt of §1; am L 2006, c 74, §2]

" **§489N-3 Jurisdiction.** (a) An international matchmaking organization shall be deemed to be doing business in Hawaii if it contracts for matchmaking services with a Hawaii resident or is considered to be doing business under any other law of this State.

(b) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, Hawaii residents using the services of an international matchmaking organization shall be subject to the laws of this State. [L 2003, c 149, pt of §1; am L 2006, c 74, §3]

" **[§489N-4] Penalties.** (a) Any person who violates this chapter shall be deemed to have engaged in an unfair or deceptive act or practice in the conduct of any trade or commerce within the meaning of section 480-2(a).

(b) A wilful violation of this chapter shall be punishable by a fine of up to \$500 and up to thirty days imprisonment. [L 2003, c 149, pt of §1]

" **[\$489N-5] Other relief available.** The penalties provided in this chapter are in addition to penalties and remedies otherwise available against the same conduct under the common law or other state or federal statutes or rules. [L 2003, c 149, pt of §1]