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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

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

1           SECTION 1. Section 709-906, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending subsection (8) to read as follows:  
3           "(8) Where the physical abuse consists of intentionally or  
4 knowingly causing bodily injury by impeding the normal breathing  
5 or circulation of the blood [~~of the family or household member~~]  
6 by [~~applying~~]:  
7           (a) Applying pressure on the throat or the neck[~~7~~] with  
8           any part of the body or a ligature;  
9           (b) Blocking the nose and mouth; or  
10           (c) Applying pressure to the chest,  
11 abuse of a family or household member is a class C felony[~~-~~];  
12 provided that infliction of visible bodily injury shall not be  
13 required to establish offense under this subsection.  
14           For the purposes of this subsection, "bodily injury" shall  
15 have the same meaning as in section 707-700."



1           SECTION 2. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
2 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
3 begun before its effective date.

4           SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
5 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

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



**Report Title:**

Abuse of Family Member; Domestic Violence; Intimate Partner  
Violence; Strangulation

**Description:**

Amends the offense of strangulation of a family or household member to include causing bodily injury by blocking the nose or mouth of the person or applying excessive pressure to the chest. Clarifies that infliction of visible injury is not required to establish the offense. (SD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

