

---

---

# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO EXECUTIVE PARDONS.

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 28, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended  
2 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to  
3 read as follows:

4 "§28- Pardons; reference to attorney general. The  
5 attorney general shall consider and, if necessary, investigate  
6 every application for pardon referred by the governor to the  
7 attorney general and shall furnish the governor, as soon as may  
8 be after the reference, a recommendation regarding whether to  
9 grant or refuse the pardon."

10 SECTION 2. Chapter 801, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
11 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
12 and to read as follows:

13 "§801- Pardons; application process. (a) An  
14 application for pardon shall be addressed to the governor and  
15 filed with the Hawaii paroling authority. Each application for  
16 pardon shall contain:

17 (1) The first and last name of the applicant;



1        (2) A brief history of the case or cases for which pardon  
2            is being sought;

3        (3) Any reason for seeking pardon; and

4        (4) Any other relevant information that the Hawaii  
5            paroling authority may require.

6        (b) For each offense for which an applicant is seeking  
7 pardon, the applicant shall provide satisfactory proof to the  
8 Hawaii paroling authority that a copy of each portion of the  
9 application that contains the first and last name of the  
10 applicant, a brief history of the case or cases for which pardon  
11 is being sought, and any reason for seeking pardon, was provided  
12 to the:

13        (1) Prosecuting attorney of the county where each offense  
14            occurred; and

15        (2) Court that entered judgment in each case.

16        (c) Within thirty days of receiving a copy of the portions  
17 of the application required by this section, the prosecuting  
18 attorney of the county in which each offense occurred and the  
19 court that entered judgment in each offense may submit to the  
20 Hawaii paroling authority any relevant information or materials  
21 to be added to the application.

1        (d) Upon receiving a copy of the portions of the  
2 application required by this section, the prosecuting attorney  
3 of the county in which each offense occurred shall make  
4 reasonable efforts to contact any victim involved in each  
5 offense for which pardon is being sought. Should any victim  
6 choose to provide additional information for consideration, the:

7        (1) Victim shall be afforded a reasonable length of time  
8        to submit the information; and

9        (2) Prosecuting attorney shall promptly inform the Hawaii  
10       paroling authority that additional materials are  
11       forthcoming from the victim.

12       (e) The governor may refer applications for pardon,  
13 including materials or documents provided by any relevant  
14 prosecuting attorney, court, or victim, to the attorney general,  
15 director of public safety, and Hawaii paroling authority for  
16 consideration, investigation, and recommendation.

17       (f) Thirty days after all application materials and  
18 supporting documents are received by the Hawaii paroling  
19 authority, the application shall be considered complete and  
20 eligible for consideration or recommendation by the governor,  
21 attorney general, director of public safety, and Hawaii paroling



1 authority, as applicable. Investigation may commence any time  
2 after the person applying for pardon first submits relevant  
3 documents to the Hawaii paroling authority.

4 (g) If an application for pardon is denied by the  
5 governor, the Hawaii paroling authority may not accept a repeat  
6 application for pardon for the same person until two years have  
7 elapsed from the date of the denial. The chairman of the Hawaii  
8 paroling authority may waive the two-year requirement if the  
9 applicant offers in writing new information that:

10 (1) Was unavailable to the applicant at the time of the  
11 filing of the prior application; and

12 (2) The chairman determines to be significant.

13 (h) Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit  
14 the power of the governor to grant a pardon pursuant to the  
15 state constitution."

16 SECTION 3. Section 353-72, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
17 amended to read as follows:

18 "§353-72 Pardons; reference to paroling authority. The  
19 director of public safety and the Hawaii paroling authority  
20 shall consider and, if necessary, investigate every application  
21 for pardon [~~which~~] that may be referred to them by the governor



1 and shall furnish the governor, as soon as may be after [~~such~~]  
2 the reference, all information possible concerning the prisoner,  
3 together with a recommendation as to the granting or refusing of  
4 the pardon."

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

8 SECTION 5. If any provision of this Act, or the  
9 application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held  
10 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or  
11 applications of the Act that can be given effect without the  
12 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions  
13 of this Act are severable.

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

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



**Report Title:**

Honolulu Prosecuting Attorney Package; Executive Pardon;  
Criminal Procedure; AG; DPS; Hawaii Paroling Authority

**Description:**

Allows the governor to refer applications for pardon to the attorney general for consideration and investigation, and requires the attorney general to make a recommendation. Establishes a comprehensive application process for executive pardons. Requires the director of public safety and Hawaii paroling authority to investigate every application for pardon referred to them by the governor, if necessary. Takes effect on 7/1/2050. (HD1)

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

