



**GOV. MSG. NO. 1126**

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

May 28, 2021

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi,  
President  
and Members of the Senate  
Thirty First State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 409  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

The Honorable Scott K. Saiki,  
Speaker and Members of the  
House of Representatives  
Thirty First State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 431  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

This is to inform you that on May 28, 2021, the following bill was signed into law:

HB975 HD1 SD1

RELATING TO REPORTS OF CHILD ABUSE  
**ACT 026(21)**

Sincerely,

DAVID Y. IGE  
Governor, State of Hawai'i

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO REPORTS OF CHILD ABUSE.

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

1       SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the Child Abuse  
2       Prevention and Treatment Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-247), as amended,  
3       provides federal funding to states for prevention, assessment,  
4       investigation, prosecution, and treatment activities for child  
5       abuse and neglect. On January 7, 2019, the Victims of Child  
6       Abuse Act Reauthorization Act of 2018 (P.L. 115-424), was  
7       enacted, further amending certain provisions of the Child Abuse  
8       Prevention and Treatment Act. The 2019 amendment provides  
9       immunity from civil and criminal liability "for individuals  
10      making good faith reports of suspected or known instances of  
11      child abuse or neglect, or who otherwise provide information or  
12      assistance, including medical evaluations or consultations, in  
13      connection with a report, investigation, or legal intervention  
14      pursuant to a good faith report of child abuse or neglect."  
15      The legislature further finds that due to the impact of the  
16      coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic on the Hawaii state  
17      legislature's regular session of 2020, the Children's Bureau of



1 the Administration for Children and Families of the United  
2 States Department of Health and Human Services, granted the  
3 department of human services an extension until June 30, 2021,  
4 to bring Hawaii's law into compliance with federal law.

5 The purpose of this Act is to bring state law into  
6 compliance with the most recent amendments to the Child Abuse  
7 Prevention and Treatment Act by no later than June 30, 2021.

8 SECTION 2. Section 350-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
9 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

10 "(a) Anyone participating in good faith in the making of a  
11 report pursuant to this chapter shall have immunity from any  
12 liability, civil or criminal, that might be otherwise incurred  
13 or imposed by or as a result of the making of such report[-],  
14 including persons who otherwise provide information or  
15 assistance, including medical evaluations or consultation, in  
16 connection with a report, investigation, or legal intervention  
17 pursuant to a good faith report of child abuse or neglect. Any  
18 such participant shall have the same immunity with respect to  
19 participation in any judicial proceeding resulting from such  
20 report."



1       SECTION 3. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
2 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.  
3       SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 2021.

APPROVED this 28 day of MAY, 2021

*David I. Ige*

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF HAWAII



HB No. 975, HD 1, SD 1

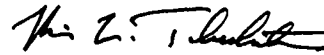
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

Date: April 27, 2021  
Honolulu, Hawaii

We hereby certify that the above-referenced Bill on this day passed Final Reading in the House of Representatives of the Thirty-First Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021.



Scott K. Saiki  
Speaker  
House of Representatives




Brian L. Takeshita  
Chief Clerk  
House of Representatives

**THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I**

Date: April 13, 2021  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

We hereby certify that the foregoing Bill this day passed Third Reading in the Senate  
of the Thirty-First Legislature of the State of Hawai'i, Regular Session of 2021.

  
President of the Senate

  
Clerk of the Senate