

JAN 19 2022

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

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RELATING TO THE CHILDREN'S JUSTICE PROGRAM.

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

1       SECTION 1. Section 588-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

3       "(b) The ~~[purpose]~~ purposes of the program shall be to:

4       (1) Develop, achieve, and maintain interagency and  
5 interprofessional cooperation and coordination in the  
6 investigation of and ~~[ease]~~ management of  
7 ~~[intrafamilial and extrafamilial]~~ cases involving  
8 suspected or confirmed:

9       (A) Victims of child sex abuse [and], serious  
10       physical child abuse [eases;], child sex  
11       trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation of  
12       children, and other child maltreatment; and

13       (B) Child witnesses to crime or violence;

14       (2) Facilitate in an impartial manner the professional  
15 gathering of information by public and private  
16 agencies and their providers for court proceedings  
17 involving child victims and witnesses;



- 1           (3) Reduce to the absolute minimum the number of  
2           interviews of child [~~sex abuse~~] victims and witnesses  
3           so as to minimize revictimization of the child;
- 4           (4) Coordinate the therapeutic and treatment program for  
5           child [~~sex abuse~~] victims and witnesses and their  
6           families;
- 7           (5) Provide for a multidisciplinary team and case  
8           management approach [~~which is focused first, on the~~  
9           ~~alleged or suspected child sex abuse victim's needs~~  
10          ~~and conditions,~~] that focuses on the needs of, first,  
11          the child victim or witness; second, [on the] family  
12          members who are supportive of the child and whose  
13          interests are consistent with the best interests of  
14          the child; and third, [on] law enforcement and  
15          [~~prosecutorial needs,~~] prosecuting agencies;
- 16          (6) Provide for the training and continuing education of  
17          skilled professional interviewers of child [~~sex abuse~~]  
18          victims[+] and witnesses; and
- 19          (7) Serve as the focus of information and referral for  
20          child [~~sex abuse~~] victim and witness programs."



1       SECTION 2. Section 588-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended to read as follows:

3       "**§588-4 Duties of the director.** The director shall:

- 4       (1) Enter into agreements with police departments,  
5 departments of the prosecuting attorneys and county  
6 corporation counsels, the departments of the attorney  
7 general, health, and human services, and other public  
8 and private agencies, including agreements for the  
9 temporary assignment of appropriate personnel from  
10 each agency to the program;
- 11       (2) Enter into contracts for the provision of specialized  
12 training and continuing education for interviewers of  
13 child [~~sex-abuse~~] victims and [~~child~~] witnesses from  
14 both public and private agencies and providers;
- 15       (3) Arrange for interviews of child [~~sex-abuse~~] victims  
16 and [~~child~~] witnesses in an appropriate setting;
- 17       (4) Promote interagency cooperation and coordination,  
18 including information sharing and gathering, among the  
19 public and private agencies and their providers that  
20 deliver investigative, case management, and  
21 therapeutic services;



- (5) Coordinate the flow of information between the agencies responsible for criminal prosecution and the agencies responsible for protective action in civil proceedings, including those professionals providing services to children and their families;
- (6) Arrange for the exchange of information, to include statistical data from public and private agencies involved in child ~~[sex abuse]~~ victims' and witnesses' programs and issues;
- (7) Develop recommendations and plans for action to assist the public and private agencies involved in cases of child ~~[sex abuse and serious physical child abuse,]~~ victims and witnesses; and
- (8) Prepare and maintain records and reports for the program."

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

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

INTRODUCED BY:

  
By Request



# S.B. NO. 2114

**Report Title:**

Judiciary Package; Children's Justice Program; Purposes

**Description:**

Updates the purpose of the children's justice program to include investigation and management of cases involving suspected or confirmed child sex trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation of children, other child maltreatment, and child witnesses to crime or violence. Makes conforming amendments.

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

