
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FENTANYL.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that fentanyl posses a
2 grave threat to the health and safety of the residents of
3 Hawaii. Fentanyl is a type of synthetic opioid that have been a
4 major cause of drug overdose deaths in the United States. In
5 2021, more than 100,000 people died from opioid overdoses in the
6 United States, and of these deaths, the CDC estimates over
7 71,000 were from fentanyl. The increase in overdose deaths from
8 2020 to 2021 represents a nearly fifteen per cent increase.

9 The legislature also finds that historically, Hawaii has
10 suffered from multiple drug epidemics. A report from 2002
11 discussed the various illegal drug threats to the state,
12 including methamphetamine, marijuana, heroine, cocaine, and
13 other dangerous drugs. In order to address the presence of drugs
14 and evil substances in the community, it is imperative that the
15 legislature take action against opioids.

16 The purpose of this Act is to establish the class A felony
17 offenses of possession and distribution of fentanyl.



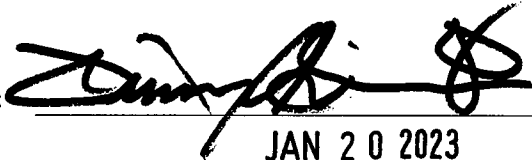
1 SECTION 2. Section 712, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended
2 by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to
3 read as follows:

4 "§712- Fentanyl Possession. (1) A person commits the
5 offense of fentanyl possession if the person knowingly
6 possesses, produces, or distributes fentanyl in any amount.
7 (2) Fentanyl possession is a class A felony."

8 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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

10

INTRODUCED BY: 
JAN 20 2023



H.B. NO. 506

Report Title:

Fentanyl possession; class A felony.

Description:

Establishes the offense of Fentanyl Possession as a Class A felony.

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HB HMIA 2023-42-02

