

A Bill for an Act Relating to Prosecution of Consumer Complaints by the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:*

SECTION 1. Purpose. The purpose of this bill is to ensure that the attorneys hired by the department of commerce and consumer affairs have such authority as is necessary to fully and effectively discharge their duties.

SECTION 2. Section 26-9, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (g) to read as follows:

“(g) The director may appoint a complaints and enforcement officer not subject to chapters 76 and 77 who shall facilitate the receipt, arbitration, investigation, prosecution, and hearing of complaints regarding any person who furnishes commodities or services for which a license is required from the department or any board or commission thereunder. In representing the State in bringing any action to enjoin unlicensed activities, the department of commerce and consumer affairs’ attorneys shall be empowered to exercise all authority granted to the attorney general and to the director of consumer protection under sections 487-12, 487-14, 480-3.1, 480-15, 480-15.1, 480-20(c), and 480-22, as such sections now exist and as they may be subsequently amended.”

SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

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

(Approved June 8, 1983.)