

ACT 380

S.B. NO. 154

A Bill for an Act Relating to the Establishment of a Computerized Fingerprint Identification System.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the establishment of a computerized fingerprint identification system using an automatic fingerprint identification system to apply modern technology to law enforcement is a matter of compelling interest to assure the safety and protection of persons and property in Hawaii. Fingerprint evidence is the best tool available to law enforcement agencies for the identification, apprehension, prosecution, and conviction of criminal offenders. Furthermore, the legislature finds that such vital evidence is seriously underutilized by state and county law enforcement agencies due to the archaic manual methods currently used for reading, classifying, storing, retrieving, and comparing fingerprint evidence. The legislature finds that modernization of fingerprint evidence processing increases significantly the speed and accuracy of criminal investigations; makes possible the solution of previously unsolvable cases; increases the amount of stolen property recovered; increases the rate of successful prosecutions; deters criminal activity; and enhances cooperative efforts among federal, state, and county law enforcement agencies.

Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to establish a computerized fingerprint identification system through the purchase of an automatic fingerprint identification system.

SECTION 2. Chapter 846, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

“§846- Computerized fingerprint identification system. There is established within the Hawaii criminal justice data center a computerized fingerprint identification system. The computerized fingerprint identification system shall use as its primary resource an automatic fingerprint identification system. The department of the attorney general shall coordinate the use of this system and equipment with federal, state, and county law enforcement agencies.”

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$4.5 million, or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 1987-1988, for the purpose of this Act. The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of the attorney general for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored¹.

SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 1987.

(Became law on July 7, 1987, without the Governor’s signature, pursuant to Art. III, §16, State Constitution.)

Note

1. Edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5.