

ACT 17

H.B. NO. 2869

A Bill for an Act Relating to Parentage.

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

SECTION 1. Section 584-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

**“§584-8 Jurisdiction; venue.** (a) Without limiting the jurisdiction of any other court, the family court has jurisdiction of an action brought under this chapter. The action may be joined with an action for divorce, annulment, separate maintenance, or support.

(b) A person who has sexual intercourse in this State thereby submits to the jurisdiction of the courts of this State as to an action brought under this chapter with

respect to a child who may have been conceived by that act of intercourse. In addition to any other method provided by statute, personal jurisdiction may be acquired by personal service outside this State or by service by certified or registered mail, postage prepaid, with return receipt requested.

(c) In addition to any other method of service provided by statute or court rule, if the defendant is not found within the circuit, service may be effectuated by registered or certified mail, with request for a return receipt and direction to deliver to addressee only. The return receipt signed by the defendant shall be prima facie evidence that the defendant accepted delivery of the complaint and summons on the date set forth on the receipt. Actual receipt by the defendant of the complaint and summons sent by registered or certified mail shall be equivalent to personal service on the defendant by an authorized process server as of the date of the receipt.

[(c)] (d) The action may be brought in the county in which the child, the mother, or the alleged father resides or is found[,] or in which the child was born or, if the father is deceased, in which proceedings for probate of his estate have been or could be commenced.”

SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved April 22, 1996.)