ACT 193

S.B. NO. 2124

A Bill for an Act Relating to Disposition of Defendants.

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

SECTION 1. Section 706-669, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (5) to read as follows:

"(5) [The] After sixty days notice to the prosecuting attorney, the authority in its discretion may reduce the minimum term fixed by its order pursuant to subsection (1)."

SECTION 2. Section 706-670, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended as follows:

1. By amending subsection (1) to read:

"(1) Parole hearing. A person sentenced to an indeterminate term of imprisonment shall receive an initial parole hearing at least one month before the

expiration of the minimum term of imprisonment determined by the Hawaii paroling authority pursuant to section 706-669. If parole is not granted at that time, additional hearings shall be held at twelve-month intervals or less until parole is granted or the maximum period of imprisonment expires. The State shall have the right to be represented at the <u>initial parole</u> hearing <u>and all subsequent parole hearings</u> by the prosecuting attorney, who may present written testimony and make oral comments, and the authority shall consider [such] <u>the</u> testimony and comments in reaching its decision. The authority shall notify the appropriate prosecuting attorney of the hearing at the time the prisoner is given notice of the hearing."

2. By amending subsection (4) to read:

"(4) Authority's decision; initial minimum term of parole. The authority shall render its decision regarding a prisoner's release on parole within a reasonable time after the parole hearing. A grant of parole shall not be subject to acceptance by the prisoner. If the authority denies parole after the hearing, it shall state its reasons in writing. A verbatim stenographic or mechanical record of the parole hearing shall be made and preserved in transcribed or untranscribed form. The authority [may], in its discretion, may order a reconsideration or rehearing of the case at any time[.] and shall provide reasonable notice of the reconsideration or rehearing to the prosecuting attorney. If parole is granted by the authority, the authority shall set the initial minimum length of the parole term."

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 Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed.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

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

(Approved June 17, 1996.)